

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 26, 2019

ILLINOIS ROUTE 56 RAMP WORK SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK ON THE REAGAN MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-88) IN SUGAR GROVE

Ramps will remain open during improvements, with work scheduled to be complete this year

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway is scheduled to begin ramp reconstruction and repair work at the Illinois Route 56 Interchange on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) in Sugar Grove next week.

The Illinois Route 56 Interchange, a partial interchange with ramps providing I-88 access to and from the east, will remain open during construction. Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place to alert drivers in advance.

Weather permitting, Monday, April 1, shoulder closures will begin on the ramps connecting Illinois Route 56 to eastbound I-88 and westbound I-88 to Illinois Route 56 to prepare for a traffic shift. Once that work is complete, traffic on both ramps will be reduced to one lane and shifted. Traffic is expected to remain in this configuration through summer.

Work at the Illinois Route 56 Interchange includes rebuilding portions of both ramps and repairing the ramp bridge carrying westbound I-88 traffic to southbound Illinois Route 56, as well as providing new LED lighting and drainage improvements.

The improvements on I-88 will extend the life of the interchange improving travel in the area and providing convenient access to local communities and support economic opportunities. This work is part of the Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future.*

Construction is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Kane County, Village of Sugar Grove, as well as local fire and police departments.

Maps and construction information about the I-88 Interchange Improvements is available on the Tollway's website at <u>Illinoistollway.com</u> via the Interactive Tollway map and under "Projects Overview" in the Explore Projects section.

Work Zone Safety

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) and other area roadways remain safe for both drivers and workers during construction, which is part of the agency's overall commitment to roadway safety.

Construction zone speed limits are in effect in all construction zones 24/7 and drivers should continue to watch for changing traffic patterns and use caution, especially when workers are present.

The Illinois Tollway reminds motorists that the "Move Over Law" requires motorists to change lanes or to slow down and proceed with caution when passing any vehicle on the side of the road with hazard lights activated. If you see flashing lights ahead, please move over or slow down.

Illinois State Police have zero tolerance for drivers speeding in work zones or failure to comply with the Move Over Law.

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The minimum penalty for speeding in a work zone is \$375. Posted signs advise drivers of a \$10,000 fine and a 14-year jail sentence for hitting a roadway worker.

Penalties for failure to slow down or move over for a vehicle on the shoulder with flashing lights includes up to a \$10,000 fine, 2-year suspension of driving privileges and jail time, in extreme cases.

Getting Tollway Construction Information

The Illinois Tollway has a variety of ways customers can get the latest travel information, including:

- <u>Illinoistollway.com</u> Interactive Tollway Map for construction and live roadway images.
- <u>Daily construction alerts</u> Daily and long-term lane and shoulder closure schedules.
- <u>Twitter.com</u> Real-time roadway incident information at Tollway Trip 90, Tollway Trip 88, Tollway Trip 355, Tollway Trip 94/294 and Tollway Trip 390.

About Move Illinois

The Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*, is improving mobility, relieving congestion, reducing pollution, creating as many as 120,000 jobs and linking economies throughout the region. The first seven years of *Move Illinois* are on schedule and within budget, delivering the new Illinois Route 390 Tollway and a rebuilt and widened Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) with its new SmartRoad corridor, as well as opening a new interchange connecting the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) to I-57. Progress continues on projects addressing the remaining needs of the existing Tollway system, delivering the new I-490 Tollway Project and reconstruction of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and planning for emerging projects.

About the Illinois Tollway

The Illinois Tollway is a user-fee system that receives no state or federal funds for maintenance and operations. The agency maintains and operates 294 miles of roadways in 12 counties in Northern Illinois, including the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88), the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355), the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90), the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80) and the Illinois Route 390 Tollway.

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