



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 27, 2018**

**ILLINOIS ROUTE 47 INTERCHANGE PROJECT SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK  
ON REAGAN MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-88)**

*\$25 million interchange scheduled to be complete by end of 2019  
will provide full access for Sugar Grove*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – The Illinois Tollway's Illinois Route 47 Interchange Project on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) in Sugar Grove is scheduled to begin next week. The \$25 million project is providing a new, full-access interchange and repairing the Illinois Route 47 Bridge carrying traffic over I-88 to complete an existing partial interchange that currently only provides access to and from the west.

Improvements to the Illinois Route 47 Interchange will open up access between the Tollway and Illinois Route 47, a regional north-south transportation route extending from Wisconsin into Central Illinois. Work is scheduled to be complete by the end of the year. Approximately 3,000 vehicles currently use this interchange daily.

Beginning the week of April 1, advance work is scheduled to begin on I-88 and on Illinois Route 47 to prepare for new ramp construction and existing ramp reconfiguration. On I-88, shoulder closures and temporary lane closures will be scheduled for striping and rumble strip removal. On Illinois Route 47 between Finley Road and Seavey Road, traffic is scheduled to be reduced to a single lane in both directions for the removal of the concrete median.

Once the initial work is complete, permanent lane shifts on I-88 are scheduled to begin and Illinois Route 47 will be reduced to one lane in each direction with permanent lane shifts for the duration of the project.

The Illinois Route 47 Interchange Project will build three new ramps to accommodate travel to and from the east and improve access to westbound I-88 and also reconstruct the two existing ramps carrying traffic to and from westbound I-88. The project also includes rehabilitation of the existing Illinois Route 47 Bridge carrying traffic over I-88, including a bridge surface overlay, removal of the existing median and reconfiguration of the traffic pattern to improve travel. Additional work also includes roadway lighting and drainage improvements.

The project is funded in part by Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*. Consistent with the Tollway's Interchange and Roadway Cost-Sharing Policy requiring local communities to cover the remaining cost of interchange improvements, the local share will be split: IDOT will contribute approximately 25 percent and the remainder will be funded by Marengo and McHenry County.

To cover the Tollway's share of the project and ongoing maintenance costs, the Illinois Route 47 Interchange will be an all-electronic interchange with cashless toll plazas for vehicles with I-PASS located on the ramps carrying traffic to and from the east. Cars with I-PASS will pay 55 cents. Trucks tolls will range from \$1.95 to \$5.00 during daytime hours, with overnight discounts offered. Those without I-PASS can pay their tolls online at the cash rate within the seven-day grace period. Grace period toll payments are double the I-PASS rates.

The Illinois Route 47 Interchange Project is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Kane County, Blackberry Township, the Village of Sugar Grove, as well as local fire and police departments.

Maps, construction and detour information about the Illinois Route 47 Interchange Project is available on the Tollway's website at [illinoistollway.com](http://illinoistollway.com) 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 Illinois Route 47 remain safe for both drivers and workers during construction, which is part of the agency's overall commitment to roadway safety.

A 45 mph work zone speed limit will be in effect on I-88 and on Illinois Route 47 throughout the reconstruction project.

Work 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.

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.

#### **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* is on schedule and within budget, delivering the rebuilt and widened Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) as a state-of-the-art 21<sup>st</sup> century corridor and 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 Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project and planning for emerging projects, including reconstruction of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294).

#### **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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