



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 23, 2019

ORCHARD ROAD RAMP WORK BEGINS TODAY ON THE REAGAN MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-88) IN AURORA Repairs scheduled to be complete on all four ramps this year

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway is continuing ramp reconstruction and repair work at the Orchard Road Interchange on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) in Aurora beginning today, April 23. The ramps will remain open during construction.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place to alert drivers in advance. Delays are expected.

Following the morning rush hour today, lane closures began in the center lanes on the ramp connecting westbound I-88 to Orchard Road and also on the right side of the ramp connecting Orchard Road to eastbound I-88. Weather permitting, the closures are expected to last for about a week to accommodate pavement repair work and allow time for concrete to cure.

Work that began at these locations in 2018 is scheduled to be complete by the end of spring. Drivers can also use the Illinois Route 31 Interchange to the east as an alternative.

To complete the interchange improvements in 2019, repair work also is scheduled on the ramps connecting eastbound I-88 to Orchard Road and Orchard Road to westbound I-88. Work on these ramps will include pavement patching and shoulder resurfacing.

The improvements on the Orchard Road Interchange on I-88 will extend the life of the interchange, improve travel in the area and provide 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 Kane County, City of Aurora and the Village North Aurora 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.

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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.

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.
- Daily construction alerts 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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