



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 5, 2019

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE MEETING PLANNED FOR I-290/I-88 INTERCHANGE PROJECT ON THE TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294)

Event scheduled in Berkeley to provide information, receive comments

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway will host a public open house meeting next week concerning Section 4(f) impacts at Victoria Park in Berkeley, Wild Meadows Park in Elmhurst and temporary impacts to the Illinois Prairie Path related to proposed operational improvements at the I-290/I-88 Interchange on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294).

The open house will be held Tuesday, June 11, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Berkeley Village Hall, 5819 Electric Avenue.

During the public open house, exhibits will be on display and an audio-visual presentation will be shown continuously during the meeting. Tollway personnel will be present to receive input, provide information and answer questions. In addition, there will be an opportunity for the public to provide written comments on Section 4(f) impacts.

Section 4(f) refers to the original section within the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966 which provided for consideration of publicly-owned park and recreation lands, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, and historic sites during transportation project development.

The scope of work for this improvement is anticipated to consist of the reconstruction of the interchange ramps connecting the Tri-State Tollway (I-294), the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) and I-290, to reduce congestion, improve safety and address operational issues as well as infrastructure conditions.

The impact to the parks was determined to be necessary for the improvement project. The improvement project will benefit the communities and park districts by improving sight lines, enhancing path lighting and addressing drainage issues. The project will also provide for the relocation of Berkeley's existing maintenance facility and the opportunity for aesthetic improvements on the Tollway bridge. The Illinois Prairie Path will remain open during construction.

The Central Tri-State is being reconstructed from Balmoral Avenue to 95th Street to provide congestion relief, reconstruct old infrastructure to meet current and future transportation demand and address regional needs. The \$4 billion project includes reconstruction of the I-290/I-88 Interchange.

Information and the concept plan for the I-290/I-88 Interchange Project can be viewed online at <u>illinoistollway.com/outreach</u>. In addition, comments can be shared with the Tollway at any time via email at I-290-88info@getipass.com.

The Central Tri-State (I-294) Project is funded by the Illinois Tollways 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future.*

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 21st 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.