



# ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**October 3, 2019**

## **OVERNIGHT LANE CLOSURES SCHEDULED NEXT WEEK IN NORTHBROOK ON EDENS SPUR TOLLWAY (I-94) IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

*Temporary, full closures planned for bridge beam placement as part of bridge reconstruction*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – Temporary, overnight lane closures will be scheduled next week on the on the Edens Spur Tollway (I-94) between Illinois Route 43 and Illinois Route 41 for bridge beam placement as part of the Tollway’s work to improve the Edens Spur.

Electronic message signs will be put in place in advance to alert drivers. The temporary closures are necessary to safely accommodate the placement of bridge beams. Bridge beam placement will be scheduled during overnight hours to minimize the impact on traffic.

“These types of repairs are necessary to keep the Tollway in good condition for years to come,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director José Alvarez. “We work to limit lane closures to temporary overnight hours to minimize the impact of construction on daily commuters.”

Two nights of intermittent, full closures will be needed for bridge beam placement to construct a new Edens Spur Bridge over Skokie Boulevard. All work is weather dependent.

Overnight Monday, October 7 into Tuesday, October 8, intermittent, full closures of the eastbound Edens Spur Tollway, each lasting 15 minutes, are scheduled to begin at 1 a.m. and be complete by 5 a.m. Overnight Tuesday into Wednesday, October 9, intermittent full closures of the westbound lanes are scheduled to begin at 1 a.m. and be complete by 3:30 a.m.

Currently Edens Spur traffic is shifted onto the eastbound side of the roadway with one lane of traffic in each direction to accommodate reconstruction of the westbound side.

The work is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Cook County and the Village of Northbrook, as well as local municipalities, fire and police departments.

In 2019, the Tollway is reconstructing the westbound lanes of the Edens Spur, between Pfingsten Road and the Edens Expressway. This work includes removing existing pavement and replacing it with new, full-depth asphalt pavement. Eight mainline bridges will be removed and replaced as part of this work.

The Edens Spur Improvement Project is removing and replacing all existing mainline pavement and replacing or repairing mainline bridges. Additional work includes replacing the Pfingsten Road Bridge, repairing the Waukegan Road Bridge over the Edens Spur, constructing the barrier separated median with stormwater improvements and upgrading ITS and roadway lighting. All work is scheduled to be complete in 2020.

Originally constructed in 1958, the Edens Spur consists of two lanes in each direction with 4-foot wide inside shoulders and 11-foot wide outside shoulders and an open grass median. Up to 57,000 vehicles use the Edens Spur daily.

These repairs are necessary to extend the life of the roadway and provide safe and convenient travel for Tollway customers. This work is part of the Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

Maps and construction about the Edens Spur Tollway repairs are available on the Tollway's website at [illinoistollway.com](http://illinoistollway.com) via the Interactive Tollway Map and in the Projects section.

### **Work Zone 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. On the Edens Spur Tollway, a 45 mph work zone speed limit is in effect throughout the construction season.

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 \$250. 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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