



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NEW TRAFFIC PATTERN SCHEDULED TO BEGIN THIS WEEK AS WORK CONTINUES ON THE EDENS SPUR TOLLWAY (I-94) IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Westbound traffic shifting onto new pavement; traffic will remain reduced to one lane in both directions

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – A traffic shift is scheduled this week on the Edens Spur Tollway (I-94) between Pflugsten Road and the Edens Expressway moving westbound traffic onto the newly reconstructed roadway. Traffic in both directions will remain reduced to a single lane as work continues.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place to alert drivers to scheduled lane closures, traffic patterns and work zone speed limits. Delays are expected.

“The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring the roadway remains safe for both drivers and workers during construction, which is part of our overall commitment to roadway safety,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director José Alvarez. “We ask drivers to be attentive in work zones by watching for changing traffic patterns and using caution, especially when workers are present.”

Weather permitting, Edens Spur Tollway traffic traveling in the westbound direction will be shifted back onto the westbound side of the roadway. Traffic will remain reduced to a single in both directions and shifted to the outside, creating a work zone in the middle.

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.

The Edens Spur Improvement Project is removing and replacing all existing mainline pavement and replacing or repairing mainline bridges. Additional work includes replacing the Pflugsten 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.

In 2019, the Tollway is reconstructing the westbound lanes of the Edens Spur, between Pflugsten 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.

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 via the Interactive Tollway Map and in the Projects section.

Work Zone Safety

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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 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.

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