



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 13, 2019

**RAMP CLOSURES SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK AT I-290 INTERCHANGE
AT THE TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) AND REAGAN MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-88)**

*Up to eight nights of full closure needed on northbound I-294 and eastbound I-88 ramps to
westbound I-290*

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Overnight closures on the ramps connecting the northbound Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and the eastbound Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) to westbound I-290 are scheduled to begin next week and continue into December for Illinois Tollway construction. A detour will be posted.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the overnight closures and detour. The temporary closures are necessary to provide a work zone and safely accommodate work. All work is weather dependent.

“As part of the Illinois Tollway’s dedication to safety, we are committed to prioritizing the safety of both drivers and workers during construction,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director José Alvarez. “We understand the inconvenience that this approach to roadwork can cause, so we are always working to find ways when possible to reduce the impact of this disruption to our customers.”

Beginning the week of November 18, overnight closures on the ramps connecting northbound I-294 and the eastbound Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) to westbound I-290 are scheduled to begin. Detours will be posted directing traffic onto I-290 eastbound and Mannheim Road where traffic will be routed through the interchange to access I-290 westbound. Please note, eastbound I-88 traffic will still be able to access northbound I-294 during these closures.

Full closures with detours are scheduled to begin after midnight and reopen by 5 a.m. on weeknights, with slightly later reopen times on the weekends, as weather permits. Up to eight nights of closures will be needed to complete the work and detailed closure information will be provided in the Tollway’s Daily Construction Alerts and posted on the Tollway’s website.

The closures will allow workers to safely install protective shielding on the I-294 bridges carrying traffic over the I-290 ramps to prepare for work in spring 2020 as part of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project.

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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