



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

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ILLINOIS TOLLWAY DELIVERING TWO NEW INTERCHANGE PROJECTS TO ENHANCE MOBILITY IN THE WESTERN SUBURBS

New access in Sugar Grove and Marengo opening in December funded in partnership with communities, Kane County, McHenry County and the Illinois Department of Transportation

DOWNSERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway today announced opening dates for new Tollway access for the Village of Sugar Grove and the City of Marengo to improve regional mobility and support economic development opportunities.

New ramps carrying traffic to and from the east on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) at Illinois Route 47 are scheduled to open today in advance of the evening rush hour. In addition, the new full-access interchange connecting Illinois Route 23 to the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway is scheduled to open to traffic on Monday, December 23.

“Partnering to cooperatively invest state and local transportation funds is the best way to serve drivers in Northern Illinois,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director José Alvarez. “As part of our *Move Illinois* capital program, the Illinois Tollway has looked for strategic opportunities to invest in local interchange improvements that have the most potential to enhance regional mobility.”

“Projects like these are further proof that in Illinois there is one transportation system, spread across multiple modes and involving many partners, that supports economic development and enhances quality of life,” said Acting Illinois Transportation Secretary Omer Osman. “We are proud to help deliver these improvements in an important region of the state, but even more proud of the teamwork that made them possible.”

The \$25 million [Illinois Route 47 Interchange Project on the Reagan Memorial Tollway \(I-88\)](#) in Sugar Grove delivers new ramps to create a new, full-access interchange. Approximately 3,000 vehicles use this interchange daily. Improvements also included realignment of existing ramps carrying traffic to and from the west and rehabilitation of the existing Illinois Route 47 Bridge over I-88. The Tollway project included funding from the Village of Sugar Grove, Kane County and the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT).

“The distinguishing characteristic of any successful regional transportation project is partnership across multiple agencies and a willingness to look beyond the normal scope of our duties to deliver real solutions for our constituents,” said Kane County Board Chairman Chris Lauzen. “This project is a model for intergovernmental cooperation and Kane County is proud to have been a part of it. I commend President Michels for his leadership on getting this project off the ground and putting together the coalition to make the project a success.”

“Completing the interchange will finally put to rest the 45-year question of why the ramps were never constructed in the first place,” said Sugar Grove Village President Sean Michels. “The new ramps will help reduce miles traveled by local residents, promote economic development and eliminate a very confusing interchange. Sugar Grove truly appreciates the cooperation of the other agencies. By cooperating together, the agencies have made the region a better place to live and work.”

The \$33.4 million [Illinois Route 23 Interchange Project on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway \(I-90\)](#) provides a new, full-access interchange – the first direct interstate connection to I-90 constructed in McHenry County. Traffic projections estimate the new interchange will serve a total of about 4,800 vehicles daily. In conjunction with the project, local road improvements including construction of a roundabout intersection at Illinois Route 23 and Harmony Road will be completed in 2020. The Tollway project included funding from the City of Marengo, McHenry County and IDOT.

“This interchange is a win-win for McHenry County,” said McHenry County Board Chairman Jack Franks. “We finally have direct access to I-90, and the manufacturing hub Marengo intends to build between Rockford and O’Hare airports will mean thousands of good-paying jobs and millions of dollars in revenue.”

“We are thrilled to finally see the opening of the first Tollway access in McHenry County come to fruition,” said Marengo Mayor John Koziol. “The collaborative effort with the State of Illinois, IDOT, the Tollway, and McHenry County has been wonderful. We see the new interchange as a major driver for economic development in the City of Marengo, and McHenry County, and we want to let everyone know we are open for business.”

Under intergovernmental agreements, the Illinois Tollway agreed to finance no less than half of each projects’ costs. Consistent with the Tollway’s Interchange and Roadway Cost-Sharing Policy requiring local communities to cover the remaining cost of interchange improvements, the local share was split with IDOT contributing approximately 25 percent and the remainder funded by Sugar Grove and Kane County and Marengo and McHenry County. Both Marengo and Sugar Grove also funded the cost of preliminary design and engineering studies, as required by the Tollway.

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 eight 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.