



# ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 16, 2020**

## **ROADWAY AND BRIDGE REPAIRS BEGIN ON REAGAN MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-88) BETWEEN AURORA TOLL PLAZA AND ILLINOIS ROUTE 59**

*As part of bridge work, the Illinois Prairie Path beneath I-88 is closed through summer with posted detour*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – Maintenance and repair work is scheduled to begin this week on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) between the Aurora Toll Plaza and Illinois Route 59 in Naperville and to continue through fall, including work to keep pavement, bridges and ramps in good repair.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place throughout construction to alert drivers to scheduled lane closures, traffic patterns and work zone speed limits. All work is weather dependent.

“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 and weekend hours to minimize the impact of construction on daily commuters.”

During the week of March 16, repair work is scheduled to begin with off-peak lane closures in the eastbound lanes between the Aurora Toll Plaza and Illinois Route 59 for shoulder work to prepare for a traffic shift. Work in the westbound lanes is scheduled to follow during the week of March 23.

In the coming months, bridge repairs and pavement patching will be scheduled between the Aurora Toll Plaza and Illinois Route 59.

In addition, as part of this work the Illinois Tollway is replacing the I-88 bridge over the Illinois Prairie Path between Eola Road and Illinois Route 59 and removing and replacing the pedestrian and bicycle underpass. In order to complete the work, the path underneath has been closed to pedestrian and bicycle traffic through summer. A detour has been posted directing pedestrian and bicycle traffic to use an existing barrier-protected sidewalk along Eola Road to cross I-88.



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The new Illinois Prairie Path underpass was designed specifically with pedestrian and bicycle use in mind, replacing an older structure built in 1957 for railroad traffic underneath I-88. The underpass will be a 295-foot long, 15-foot high concrete structure with a paved riding/walking surface for users. New LED lighting will illuminate the passageway.

In 2020, the Illinois Tollway has scheduled maintenance and repair work on roadway, bridges and ramps between the Aurora Toll Plaza and Illinois Route 59, including mainline pavement and ramp patching, bridge painting, removal and replacement of the Illinois Prairie Path Bridge, ditch cleaning, signing, lighting, pavement markings and erosion control. This work is scheduled for completion in 2021.

The I-88 roadway and bridge improvements will provide customers a smoother surface, improve the overall driving experience and extend the life of the roadway. This work is part of the Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*. Construction is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, DuPage County, Kane County, City of Naperville, Naperville Township, City of Aurora, Aurora Township and The Illinois Prairie Path corporation, as well as local fire and police departments.

Maps and construction information about the I-88 Roadway, Bridge and Ramp Repair work is available on the Tollway's website at [illinoistollway.com](http://illinoistollway.com) in the Projects section.

### **Work Zone Safety**

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) remain safe for both drivers and workers during construction, which is part of the agency's overall commitment to roadway safety.

A 45 mph work zone speed limit will be in effect on I-88 throughout the repair project. Work zone speed limits will also be in place on ramps and local crossroad bridges.

Work 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.

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 and a fine of up to \$25,000 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.

### **Getting Tollway Construction Information**

- The Illinois Tollway has a variety of ways customers can get the latest travel information, including: [illinoistollway.com](http://illinoistollway.com) – Interactive Tollway Map for live roadway images.
- [Daily construction alerts](#) – Daily and long-term lane and shoulder closure schedules.
- [Twitter.com](#) – Real-time roadway incident information at Tollway Trip 90, Tollway Trip 88, Tollway Trip 355, Tollway Trip 94/294 and Tollway Trip 390.

### **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.

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