



# ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 13, 2020**

## **TRAFFIC SHIFT SCHEDULED ON HARMONY ROAD AS WORK CONTINUES TO COMPLETE LOCAL ROAD IMPROVEMENTS IN MARENGO**

*Work is part of the new Illinois Route 23 Interchange on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90)*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** — A traffic shift is scheduled this week on Harmony Road near the new Illinois Route 23 Interchange to move traffic on the newly reconstruction eastbound side of the road to accommodate reconstruction of the westbound lanes. Traffic is expected to remain in this configuration until summer.

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

“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, beginning at 7 a.m. on Thursday, April 16, traffic is scheduled to shift into the eastbound lanes of Harmony Road and work will begin to rebuild the westbound lanes. Work is underway to rebuild the intersection of Illinois Route 23 and Harmony Road to include a roundabout with a pedestrian crossing with 10-foot wide sidewalks to ensure safe pedestrian crossings.

In 2019, the Illinois Tollway completed the Illinois Route 23 Interchange. The \$33.4 million 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. 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 new Illinois Route 23 Interchange includes roundabouts or traffic circles to provide efficient and safe traffic flow for the new interchange ramp connections with the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90). With roundabouts, traffic is permitted to flow in only one direction around a central island, and priority is given to traffic already traveling in the circle. Traffic projections estimate the new interchange will serve a total of about 4,800 vehicles daily. The Tollway project included funding from the City of Marengo, McHenry County and IDOT.

Maps and construction information about the Illinois Route 23 Interchange Project are available in the Projects section on the Tollway’s website at [illinoistollway.com](http://illinoistollway.com).

### **Work Zone Safety**

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) and local roads remain safe for both drivers and workers during construction, which is part of the agency’s overall commitment to roadway safety.

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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 can include up to a \$25,000 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 eight 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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