



# ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**April 30, 2020**

## **ILLINOIS TOLLWAY AWARDS \$35.1 MILLION IN CONTRACTS IN APRIL FOR CONSTRUCTION AND PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES**

*Nearly \$7.6 billion invested since start of Move Illinois Program*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** –The Illinois Tollway Board of Directors today approved eight construction and one professional engineering services contracts totaling \$35.1 million at its April Board meeting.

Nearly \$410.1 million in contracts has been approved by the Tollway Board in 2020, as part of the ninth year of the Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion *Move Illinois* capital program.

"As our state and our nation go through a unique and challenging period of uncertainty, it is our obligation as leaders of this agency to continue our important work," said Illinois Tollway Executive Director José Alvarez. "Today's awards reflect our efforts to ensure that both large and small, diverse and veteran-owned businesses can bid for work we are issuing. Recognizing the benefits as well as the barriers to becoming a prime contractor, we are working to provide smaller, more accessible opportunities for construction firms."

The eight construction contracts on the April agenda include four unbundled contracts and four Small Business Initiative contracts, including two firms working as prime contractors on Tollway work for the first time. Since 2012, 95 contracts have been awarded as part of the Tollway's Small Business Initiative, 54 of the awards were to diverse or veteran firms. In addition, 37 percent have been firms new to the Tollway.

To date, nearly \$7.6 billion has been invested by the Illinois Tollway since the *Move Illinois* Program began in 2012, with more than \$2 billion of that total committed to small, diverse and veteran-owned firms. In addition, the capital program has created or sustained an estimated 80,170 total jobs as of March 2020.

The contracts approved today include three prime contractors, 18 subcontractors and six subconsultants that are certified as disadvantaged, minority-and women-owned business enterprise (D/M/WBE) firms and five subcontractors and one subconsultant that are certified veteran-owned firms. Commitments for D/M/WBE participation range from 23.04 to 46.85 percent per contract and commitments for veteran participation range from 2.51 to 17.93 per contract.

April construction contracts awarded include:

- A \$7.9 million contract to Walsh Construction, Chicago, IL, for advance earthwork, drainage construction and railroad spur grading for the I-490 Tollway Project between the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and Green Street.
- A \$3.7 million contract to Meru Corporation, Niles, IL, for grading improvements at the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) East State Street/U.S. Business 20 Interchange.
- A \$2.4 million contract to K-Five Construction Co., Westmont, IL, for shoulder rehabilitation and traffic crossover installation for the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project between 95th Street and LaGrange Road.
- A \$2.3 million contract to John Burns Construction Company, Orland Park, IL, for advance fiber relocation and installation along the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) for the I-490 Tollway Project.

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- A \$1 million contract to Rausch Infrastructure, Des Plaines, IL, for grading, drainage improvements and advance work for the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project between southbound I-294 ramp to I-55 ramps and Joliet Road.
- A \$942,000 contract to Enlight Contracting, Chicago, IL, for building removal and site work for the I-490 Tollway Project.
- A \$819,502 contract to Hecker and Company Inc., Wheeling, IL to provide temporary highway lighting materials for the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project.
- A \$573,130 contract to Martinez Frogs Inc., Melrose Park, IL, for building removal and site work for the I-490 Tollway Project.

April professional engineering services contracts awarded include:

- A \$15.5 million contract to H.R. Green Inc., Aurora, IL, for construction management services for roadway widening and reconstruction for the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project between St. Charles Road and North Avenue/Lake Street.

Illinois Tollway professional engineering services contracts are selected in accordance with the qualifications-based selection process (Illinois Public Act 87-673 (30 ILCS 535/1-535/80) Architectural, Engineering and Land Surveying Qualifications-Based Selection Act), which requires state agencies to select professional architects, engineers and surveyors based on demonstrated competence and professional qualifications. Construction contracts for Illinois Tollway projects are competitively bid under the rules of the Illinois Procurement Code. All contracts are presented to the Illinois Tollway Board of Directors for review and approval.

The Illinois Tollway broadcasts all public meetings on the Tollway's website at [www.illinoistollway.com](http://www.illinoistollway.com). This includes all board meetings and public bid openings. Also provided is detailed information about current Tollway construction and professional engineering services contracts through the Construction Contract Tracker. Contractors and consultants can also access resources online to help them learn about how to do business with the Tollway, including construction bid-letting schedules, professional service bulletins, manuals and construction bid calendars. These resources can be found in the Doing Business section of the Tollway's website.

### **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.