

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

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NEW TRAFFIC SHIFTS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK ON REAGAN MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-88) FOR ONGOING REPAIR WORK

Split traffic configuration will accommodate Tollway bridge work and maintain three lanes of traffic in both directions

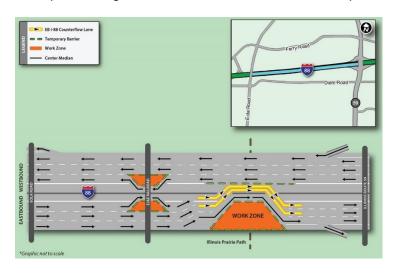
DOWNERS GROVE, **IL** – New traffics shifts are scheduled to begin next week and continue into the summer for maintenance and repair work on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) between the Aurora Toll Plaza and Illinois Route 59 in Naperville.

Beginning the week of May 25, two new traffic configurations will be put in place. Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place to alert drivers in advance changes in traffic patterns and construction work zones that will have an impact on traffic in both directions on I-88. All work is weather dependent.

First, in both directions on I-88 just east of Eola Road at the EJ&E Railroad Bridge, one lane of traffic will be shifted to the inside shoulder and two lanes will be shifted to the outside, creating a work zone in the middle for work on the railroad bridge over I-88. Traffic is scheduled to remain in this configuration for two weeks.

Second, about half a mile east of the traffic split configuration, two eastbound lanes on I-88 will be moved onto the westbound side of the roadway to accommodate the construction work zone for the mainline bridge over the Illinois Prairie Path. The third eastbound lane will be shifted to the left on the inside shoulder of the eastbound side. Three lanes of westbound traffic will remain shifted to the right. Traffic is scheduled to remain in this configuration through August.

Throughout the work zones on I-88 three lanes of traffic will be maintained in both directions during peak hours, thought occasional off-peak closures may be needed to complete work. All exit and entrance ramps will remain open throughout construction and will not be impacted by the work zones.



Additional traffic shifts will be needed later this year to complete the repair work.

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 is available in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at <u>illinoistollway.com</u>.

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 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.