



# ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**May 28, 2020**

## **TRAFFIC SHIFT AND OFF-PEAK CLOSURES SCHEDULED FOR NOISEWALL WORK ON THE VETERANS MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-355)**

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – Off-peak lane closures and traffic shifts on the northbound Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355) between Butterfield Road and Illinois Route 53 are scheduled to begin this week for work to install noisewalls.

Electronic message signs will be put in place to alert drivers in advance of the lane closures. The traffic shifts are necessary to provide a work zone to safely accommodate construction. All work is weather dependent.

“The Illinois Tollway prioritizes the safety of both drivers and workers when planning for roadway maintenance and repairs,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director José Alvarez. “While roadwork detours are inconvenient for drivers, the closures are necessary to provide a safe work zone for construction workers and completion of the repair work.”

During the week of June 1, northbound traffic is scheduled to shift to the inside shoulder to provide a work zone for noisewall installation. Additional off-peak lane closures will be needed to complete installation work. This work is scheduled to be complete in August.

Similar traffic shifts will be scheduled later this year on southbound I-355 for additional noisewall installation.

Up-to-date closure information will be posted on the Tollway website in the [Daily Construction Alert](#).

### **Work Zone Safety**

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355) 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-355 throughout the work.

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**

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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 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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