



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 16, 2020

CLOSURES SCHEDULED AT THE BALMORAL AVENUE INTERCHANGE ON THE TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294)

Extended closure needed through July for fence and railing work

DOWNERS GROVE, IL — Work at the Balmoral Avenue Interchange on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) is scheduled to begin this week and continue through July for barrier wall, fence and railing work. Drivers in the area are urged to slow down and obey posted work zone speed limits.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place to alert drivers in advance of lane and shoulder closures. Lane closures are necessary to provide a work zone and safely accommodate traffic. 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.”

Beginning Thursday, June 18, work is scheduled to begin installation of barrier wall along the ramp carrying Balmoral Avenue traffic to southbound I-294 is scheduled to begin. Shoulder closures will be put in place to complete the work along with daytime lane closures as needed.

During the week of June 22, extended lane closures are scheduled to begin and continue through July on Balmoral Avenue and on the ramp connecting northbound I-294 to Balmoral Avenue for fence and railing work.

On Balmoral Avenue, off-peak lane closures will be scheduled for temporary barrier wall placement to create a work zone, followed by closure of the right lane in both directions. Daily sidewalk closures will be needed during work hours; however, at least one sidewalk remain open to the public at all times.

On the ramp from northbound I-294, the inside left-turn lane to westbound Balmoral Avenue is scheduled to close to prevent drivers from turning into the work zone.

Construction in this area is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation and the Village of Rosemont, as well as local fire and police departments.

Improvements on Balmoral Avenue are part of The Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project, which is reconstructing and widening the roadway between Balmoral Avenue and 95th Street to provide congestion relief, update old infrastructure to meet current and future transportation demand and address regional needs. This work is part of the Tollway’s 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

Maps, construction and detour information about the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project is available in the Projects section on the Tollway’s website at illinoistollway.com.

Work Zone Safety

-more-

Construction 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 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.

###