



# ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**October 21, 2020**

## **LONG-TERM LANE CLOSURE SCHEDULED ON BUTTERFIELD ROAD IN BERKLEY AND HILLSIDE FOR I-290/I-88 INTERCHANGE PROJECT AT I-294**

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – The Illinois Tollway is scheduled to begin a long-term lane closure next week on Butterfield Road under the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) in Berkley and Hillside as advance work begins on a project to reconstruct the I-290/I-88 Interchange at I-294.

Construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the construction work zones and lane closures. All work is weather dependent.

“The Illinois Tollway promotes safety of both drivers and workers as we plan and implement roadway improvements,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director José Alvarez. “We will make every effort to minimize the impact of construction and ask drivers to please be patient and obey the work zone speed limits.”

Beginning the week of October 26, traffic on Butterfield Road will be reduced to a single lane in both directions under I-294, between Calvin Avenue and I-290. The closures are scheduled to remain in place through the end of 2022.

Lane closures on Butterfield Road are needed to provide a safe work zone for workers and accommodate drivers while construction is underway.

Construction beginning this fall and winter includes advance underground utility work. In spring 2021, reconstruction of the bridge over Butterfield Road is scheduled to begin.

Local road closures in this area is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, the Village of Berkeley and the Village of Hillside, as well as local fire and police departments.

The Illinois Tollway’s \$4 billion Central Tri-State Tollway Project includes the reconstruction of the interchange ramps connecting the Tri-State Tollway (I-294), the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) and I-290, to reduce congestion, improve safety and address operational issues as well as infrastructure conditions. Construction on the I-290/I-88 Interchange Project at I-294 is scheduled for 2020 through 2026.

Information about the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project is available on the Tollway’s website at [www.illinoistollway.com](http://www.illinoistollway.com) in the Projects section.

The Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project is reconstructing and widening the roadway between Balmoral Avenue and 95<sup>th</sup> 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*. More than 220,000 vehicles use the Central Tri-State Tollway daily.

**Work Zone Safety**

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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.. On Butterfield Road, a 35 mph work zone speed limit is in effect. On I-294, a 45 mph work zone speed limit is in effect throughout the construction season.

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 with 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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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