

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 30, 2020

OVERNIGHT RAMP AND LANE CLOSURES, TRAFFIC SHIFTS SCHEDULED IN DECEMBER ON TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) AT I-290 FOR COMED WORK

Ongoing ramp closures with detours and overnight lane closures continuing for ComEd transmission line work

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Overnight ramp and lane closures are scheduled to begin tonight on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) at the I-290 Interchange to provide a work zone to safely accommodate work related to the relocation of ComEd transmission lines for Illinois Tollway construction. Delays are expected.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the overnight closures and detours. All work is weather dependent. Up-to-date information regarding lane closures will be available in the Illinois Tollway's <u>Daily Construction Alerts</u>.

Drivers can anticipate ongoing overnight ramp and lane closures continuing through the end of the year on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294), as well as I-290 and some local roads, as ComEd continues to relocate transmission lines for Illinois Tollway's reconstruction of the Central Tri-State Tollway.

"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."

Tonight, November 30, beginning at 9 p.m. shoulder closures will be put in place on northbound I-294 between I-290 and the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) and a single lane is scheduled to close overnight beginning at 11 p.m. to shift traffic for the ComEd work. In addition, the ramp carrying traffic from northbound I-294 to westbound I-290 will close at 11 p.m. with a posted detour routing traffic to the exit at Mannheim Road and then through the interchange ramps to continue west on I-290. All lanes and ramps are scheduled to reopen by 5 a.m. on Tuesday, December 1.

Additional overnight lane closures are scheduled for the remainder of the week on I-294 to complete the work. Major impacts to traffic include:

- On Wednesday, December 2, the ramp connecting northbound I-294 to westbound I-290 is scheduled to close at 11 p.m. A detour will be posted routing traffic to the exit at Mannheim Road and then through the Interchange ramps to continue west on I-290. The ramp is scheduled to reopen by 5 a.m. on Thursday, December 3.
- On Thursday, December 3, southbound I-294 between St. Charles Road and Butterfield Road is scheduled to be reduced to a single lane overnight with the first lane closing at 7 p.m. All lanes are scheduled to reopen by 5 a.m. on Friday, December 4.
- On Thursday, December 3, the ramp connecting eastbound I-290 to southbound I-294 is scheduled to close at 11 p.m. A detour will be posted routing traffic to the Mannheim Road Interchange and through the interchange onto westbound I-290 and then onto southbound I-294. The ramp is scheduled to reopen by 5 a.m. on Friday, December 4.

If this work cannot be completed as scheduled, additional overnight closures will be scheduled during the week and the rest of early December, as needed.





<u>View NB I-294 to WB I-290 Ramp Closure</u> <u>Detour Map</u>

View EB I-290 to SB I-294 Ramp Closure Detour Map

Construction updates, project information, maps and detour information for work that is part of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project are available in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com.

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

The \$4 billion Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project 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.* More than 220,000 vehicles use the Central Tri-State Tollway daily.

Work Zone Safety

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 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 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.