



Stearns School Road Bridge Project

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Illinois Tollway, Village of Gurnee and Lake County Division of Transportation are working in coordination to replace the 70-year-old Stearns School Road Bridge over the Tri-State Tollway (I-94).

The new bridge structure will be designed to provide for three lanes of traffic, as well as additional bicycle and pedestrian access.

Construction is scheduled for spring 2021, and a full closure of the bridge and detour will be required for a portion of the reconstruction.

PROJECT SUMMARY

As part of the Stearns School Road Bridge Project, the existing two-lane bridge carrying traffic over the Tollway will be removed and replaced with a new, wider bridge structure.

This Tollway-led project is planned to construct a new bridge that will carry three lanes of Stearns School Road over the North Tri-State Tollway (I-94) along with 4-foot-wide shoulders, replacement of the existing pedestrian path on the north side and the addition of a new sidewalk on the south side.

In addition, since the Illinois Tollway typically constructs new bridges with a 75-year service life, the new bridge will be designed to accommodate future local roadway improvements.

Currently, up to 15,900 vehicles use the Stearns School Road Bridge daily.

Customer Impacts

Prior to and during construction, electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to scheduled lane closures, traffic patterns and work zone speed limits.

Closure of the Stearns School Road Bridge with a posted detour will be scheduled in 2021 as part of the construction project. The full closure of the existing bridge will be necessary because the existing bridge structure is too narrow to accommodate traffic while safely providing a work zone to complete the removal and reconstruction of the bridge.

WORK ZONE SAFETY

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that Stearns School Road and the North Tri-State Tollway (I-94) remain safe for both drivers and workers during construction, which is part of the agency's overall commitment to roadway safety.

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.

Visit the Tollway's Work Zone Safety page at illinoistollway.com.

PURPOSE

The bridge replacement is necessary to extend the life of the local crossroad bridge and provide safe and convenient travel for Tollway customers. This work is part of the Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*, and includes \$5.4 million in local cost participation for the improvements.

This project is being coordinated with the Village of Gurnee and Lake County as well as local fire and police departments.

GETTING TOLLWAY CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION

The Illinois Tollway has a variety of ways customers can get the latest travel information, including:

- illinoistollway.com – Projects section, live roadway images and real-time roadway incident information.
- [Daily construction alerts](#) – Daily and long-term lane and shoulder closure schedules.
- [Twitter.com](https://twitter.com) – Real-time roadway incident information at Tollway Trip 90, Tollway Trip 88, Tollway Trip 355, Tollway Trip 94/294 and Tollway Trip 390.

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For more information,
visit www.illinoistollway.com or call 1-800-TOLL-FYI

