



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

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ILLINOIS TOLLWAY AWARDS MORE THAN \$19.3 MILLION IN CONTRACTS FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

Nearly \$10.6 billion invested since start of Move Illinois Program

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway Board of Directors today approved six construction contracts totaling \$19.3 million at its February Board meeting, including two contracts awarded to the lowest bidders as a result of bid credits.

More than \$30.7 million in contracts has been approved by the Tollway Board in 2023, as part of the 12th year of the Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion *Move Illinois* capital program. To date, nearly \$10.6 billion has been invested by the Illinois Tollway since the *Move Illinois* Program began in 2012, with more than \$2.7 billion of that total committed to small, diverse and veteran-owned firms. In addition, the capital program has created or sustained an estimated 118,640 total jobs as of January.

"The contracts approved today are supporting jobs on construction work throughout the Tollway system this construction season," said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Cassaundra Rouse. "In addition, the two firms using bid credits to secure their low bids today, Herlihy Mid-Continent Company and Hecker and Company, earned these credits by hiring workers through the Tollway's ConstructionWorks and Earned Credit Program."

Illinois Tollway offers contractors and subcontractors the opportunity to earn bid credits by participating in select construction assistance programs. Bid credits may be used toward future Tollway construction bids to lower their bid amount and increase the chances of winning the contract as the low bidder.

Contractors are able to earn bid credits by participating in Tollway Bid Credit Incentive Programs including the Earned Credit Program, ConstructionWorks and Partnering For Growth for Construction. There are more than 40 construction contractors and subcontractors that hold active Tollway bid credit certificates.

February construction contracts awarded include:

- A \$7.3 million contract to Hecker and Company Inc. for intelligent transportation system (ITS) device and fiber installation on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) between 95th Street and I-55.
- A \$4.4 million contract to Plote Construction Inc. for systemwide pavement repairs.
- A \$3.9 million contract to Herlihy Mid-Continent Company for bridge rehabilitation on the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355) over the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway.
- A \$1.9 million contract to Meru Corporation for removal of the old southbound Mile Long Bridge on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294).
- A \$1.1 million contract to Areatha Construction for systemwide bridge and roadway repairs.
- A \$708,951 to Foundation Mechanics for landscaping, fencing and drainage improvements on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) between Mannheim Road and Balmoral Avenue.

The February contracts approved today include 10 certified disadvantaged, minority- and women-owned business enterprise (D/M/WBE) firms, as well as three certified veteran-owned firms. Commitments for D/M/WBE participation range from 21.02 percent to 23.90 percent per contract and commitments for veteran participation range from 2.81 percent to 5.13 percent per contract.

Construction contracts for Illinois Tollway projects are competitively bid under the rules of the Illinois Procurement Code. All contracts are presented to the Illinois Tollway Board of Directors for review and approval. The Illinois Tollway broadcasts all public meetings on the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com. This includes all board meetings and public bid openings. Also provided is detailed information about current Tollway construction and professional engineering services contracts through the Construction Contract Tracker.

Contractors and consultants can also access resources online to help them learn about how to do business with the Tollway, including construction bid-letting schedules, professional service bulletins, manuals and construction bid calendars. These resources can be found in the "Doing Business" section of the Tollway's website.

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 152,000 jobs and linking economies throughout the region. The first 11 years of *Move Illinois* are on schedule and within budget, delivering the new Illinois Route 390 Tollway and a rebuilt and widened Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) with its new SmartRoad corridor, as well as 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 new I-490 Tollway 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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