



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

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ILLINOIS TOLLWAY LAUNCHES VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE FOR CENTRAL TRI-STATE (I-294) PROJECT

Public invited to access online interactive content from the comfort and safety of their own homes

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – A new Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project Virtual Open House launched this week enabling the Illinois Tollway to share 2020 construction information, as well as highlight key features and provide an overview of the \$4 billion project's benefits and improvements safely and conveniently with the public.

“The Illinois Tollway has a history of proactively engaging local communities, residents and customers by clearly and effectively communicating the impacts, changes and benefits of roadway and mitigation projects to the public,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director José Alvarez. “Despite the complexities of this project, our agency is committed to delivering these improvements on time and on budget and ensuring the public is well informed every step of the way.”

The Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project, scheduled for 2018 through 2025, is rebuilding and improving the Tollway from Balmoral Avenue to 95th Street to provide congestion relief, improve mobility, reconstruct old infrastructure to meet current and future transportation demand and to address regional needs.

While the COVID-19 crisis is forcing businesses and public agencies to rethink nearly everything, from ways to provide services to ways to engage with customers, the Illinois Tollway is opting to transition from in-person, large-group meetings to the Virtual Open House format offering public access to interactive content from the comfort and safety of their own homes.

The Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Virtual Open House can be accessed [here](#), providing the public the opportunity to view informational displays, maps, construction cameras and videos highlighting work currently underway and throughout the duration of construction.

In 2020, this includes roadway construction and widening in the northern segment between the O'Hare Oasis and Wolf Road, construction of the new Mile Long Bridge and the new BNSF Railway Bridge, along with additional advance work underway throughout corridor.

Within the Virtual Open House visitors can move around multiple display areas, as well as zoom in and out to view the room and displays.

In addition, the room offers traditional exhibits including an aerial corridor map that illustrates noisewall locations, proposed lane configuration and new/existing stormwater detention areas. Here visitors also can input an address within the corridor map to zoom to a specific location to see what is happening nearby.

The Central Tri-State (I-294) Project is funded by the Illinois Tollways 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future.

About Move Illinois

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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.

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