



# ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**September 16, 2021**

**\*\* CORRECTED \*\***

**NEW TRAFFIC SHIFTS, RAMP CLOSURES TO BEGIN AT ST CHARLES ROAD INTERCHANGE  
AS WORK CONTINUES ON RAMPS, BRIDGES OVER TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294), I-290**  
*St. Charles Road remains open during interchange reconstruction*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – Traffic shifts and ramp closures are scheduled to begin next week to accommodate ongoing work to reconstruct the St. Charles Road Interchange at I-290. Traffic is scheduled to remain in this configuration into summer of 2022.

This work is part of the Illinois Tollway's project to reconfigure the I-290/I-88 Interchange at the Tri-State Tollway (I-294).

**Beginning Tuesday, September 21, three nights of temporary overnight closures will be needed at the ramp connecting northbound I-294 to westbound I-290. The ramp will close from 11p.m. to 5 a.m. the following morning with a posted detour directing traffic to Mannheim Road to access I-290. See map below.**

On Tuesday, September 21, at 7 a.m. traffic in both directions on the St. Charles Road bridges over I-294 and I-290 will be reduced to one lane in both directions and shifted onto the newly constructed westbound side of the bridges. The traffic shift will allow the Tollway to maintain traffic while rebuilding the eastbound side of the bridges.

In addition, beginning at 11 p.m. on Tuesday, September 21, new traffic patterns will be put in place on various ramps at the St. Charles Road Interchange at I-290. The ramps are anticipated to remain in this configuration until summer 2022 to accommodate ramp re-alignment and reconstruction of the I-290 and I-294 bridges.

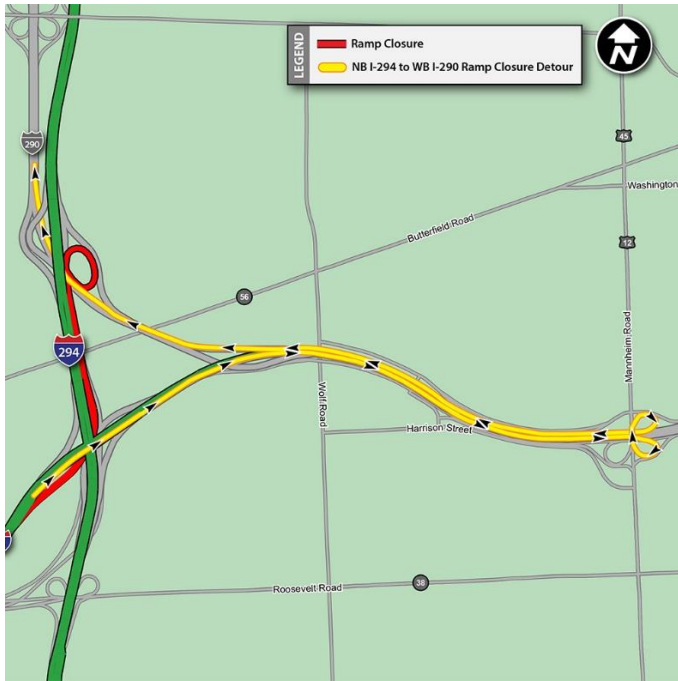
- Both newly reconstructed ramps connecting westbound St. Charles Road to westbound I-290 will reopen to traffic.
- The ramp connecting westbound I-290 to eastbound St. Charles Road will close with a posted detour directing traffic through the St. Charles Road Interchange ramps to access eastbound St. Charles Road. See map below.
- The ramp connecting eastbound St. Charles Road to westbound I-290 is scheduled to close with a posted detour directing traffic to eastbound I-290 and through the Mannheim Road Interchange to access westbound I-290. See map below.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to changing traffic patterns, ramp closures and detours. Up-to-date information regarding lane closures will be available in the Illinois Tollway's [Daily Construction Alert](#). The long-term closures and traffic shifts are necessary to provide a work zone and safely accommodate traffic during construction. All work is weather dependent.

Information including maps, construction updates are available in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at [www.illinoistollway.com](http://www.illinoistollway.com).

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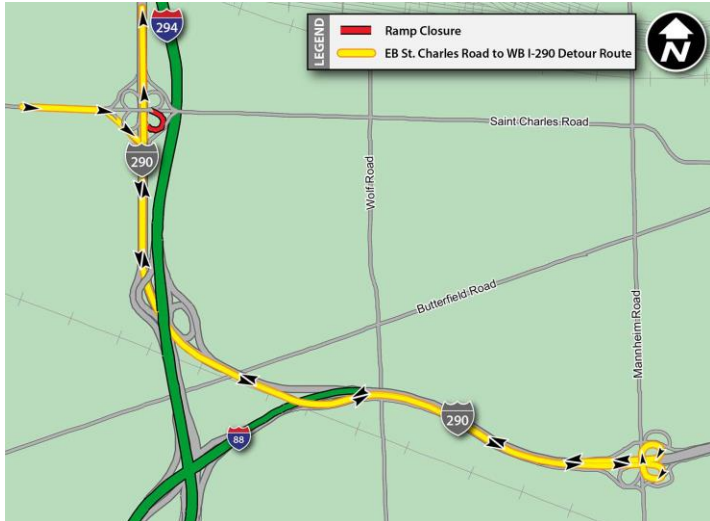
Detour for northbound I-294 to westbound I-290



Detour for westbound I-290 to eastbound St. Charles Road



Detour for eastbound St. Charles Road to westbound I-290



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

The Illinois Tollway's Central Tri-State Tollway Project includes the reconstruction of I-290/I-88 Interchange at I-294 to reduce congestion, improve safety and address operational issues as well as infrastructure conditions. The interchange project, estimated at \$700-\$800 million, includes reconstructing the St. Charles Road Interchange at I-290.

In 2021 and 2022, the Tollway will remove and replace the St. Charles Road Bridge over I-294 and repair and replace the bridge deck on the bridge over I-290. In addition, the four interchange ramps on the east side of I-290 will be reconstructed and a portion of westbound I-290 will be widened. Additional work includes retaining wall construction, drainage improvements and roadway lighting improvements.

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. On I-294, a 45 mph work zone speed limit is in effect throughout the construction season. On St. Charles Road, a 30 mph work zone speed limit is in effect.

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 nine 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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