



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**NEW LONG-TERM TRAFFIC SHIFT NEXT WEEK ON CENTRAL TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294)
BETWEEN 83RD STREET TOLL PLAZA AND MILE LONG BRIDGE**

Northbound traffic shift scheduled, including removal of counterflow

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Beginning next week, a traffic shift is scheduled on the northbound Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) between the 83rd Street Toll Plaza and the Mile Long Bridge, including removal of the current counterflow configuration. Four lanes will remain open.

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

Overnight Monday, August 15, on northbound I-294 between the 83rd Street Toll Plaza and the Mile Long Bridge overnight lane closures will be scheduled, with traffic reduced to a single lane at times in order to complete the traffic shift. Once all lanes reopen, all northbound traffic will be shifted to the right. Traffic is scheduled to remain in this configuration through fall.

The traffic shift is needed to create a work zone for roadway reconstruction and median work, as part of mainline rebuilding and widening. The traffic shifts, lane reductions and ramp detours will continue through the end of 2022 to complete the reconstruction and widening on I-294 between I-55 and 95th Street.

Work in this area is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways, Village of Bridgeview, Village of Burr Ridge, City of Countryside, City of Hickory Hills, Village of Hodgkins, Village of Indian Head, Village of Justice, Village of Willow Spring, as well as local fire and police departments.

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

Work in this southern section of the Central Tri-State Project between I-55 and 95th Street began in 2019 and mainline reconstruction and widening is scheduled to be complete by the end of 2023. Mainline improvements include rebuilding and widening the I-294 roadway to five lanes in both directions, including construction of new I-294 bridges over I-55, Flagg Creek, 87th Street and Roberts Road, as well as reconstructing shoulders including adding Flex Lanes. Improvements also include reconstruction of the Mile Long Bridge, the Archer Avenue Interchange, the ramp connecting I-55 to northbound I-294 and local crossroad bridges, including Willow Springs Road and 5th Avenue.

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.

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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.

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 10 years of *Move Illinois* are 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 planning for emerging projects, including 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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