



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 5, 2022

OVERNIGHT CLOSURES SCHEDULED ON CENTRAL TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) FOR I-55 RAMP BRIDGE WORK

Four weeks of nightly lane closures including full stops needed to safely accommodate ramp bridge removal

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Overnight lane closures are scheduled to begin tonight, Wednesday, October 5, and continue over the next four weeks on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294), including intermittent full closures, for I-55 ramp bridge removal as part of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project.

Electronic message and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers on I-294 to the construction work zones and closures. The closures will be scheduled during overnight hours to reduce the impact on traffic and to provide a safe work zone for construction. Up-to-date information regarding lane closures will be available in the Illinois Tollway's [Daily Construction Alerts](#). All work is weather dependent.

During overnight hours I-294 traffic between Joliet Road and Plainfield Road will be reduced to a single lane, with lane closures beginning 11 p.m. and continuing until 5 a.m. the following morning. Intermittent, full 15-minute closures will be scheduled as needed.

The nightly closures will be scheduled in both directions, as needed, throughout October, with the exception of Fridays. Some off peak, daytime closures may be needed to complete the work.

The closures are needed for the removal of the old ramp carrying traffic from I-55 over I-294 and onto northbound I-294. Traffic was moved on to a newly constructed ramp in September.

In 2022, the Tollway's work at the I-55 Interchange will continue the rebuilding and widening of I-294 between 75th Street and I-55. As part of this work, the ramp connecting I-55 to northbound I-294 will be reconstructed, along with the northbound I-294 bridges over I-55, Wolf Road, Joliet Road and Flagg Creek. Additional work includes the reconstruction of the Plainfield Road Bridge over I-294 and the northbound ramp to the Hinsdale Oasis. Construction in this area is scheduled to be complete in 2025.

Construction in this area is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways, Village of Burr Ridge, Village of Countryside and Village of Indian Head Park, 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 are available in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com.

The Illinois Tollway reconstruction of ramps and bridges in the I-55 Interchange area are necessary to accommodate the rebuilding and widening of I-294, as well as to reduce congestion, improve safety and address operational issues as well as infrastructure conditions.

-more-

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 and I-55, 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 152,000 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.

###