



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

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**ILLINOIS TOLLWAY AWARDS \$16.9 MILLION IN CONTRACTS
FOR CONSTRUCTION AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES IN MARCH**
New contracts awarded include three Small Business Initiative contracts

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway Board of Directors today approved six construction and professional engineering contracts totaling nearly \$16.9 million at its March Board meeting. More than \$47.6 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 119,175 total jobs as of February.

New contracts awarded in March include three contracts awarded as part of the Illinois Tollway Small Business Initiative intended to increase opportunities for small construction companies to participate on Tollway construction contracts.

“The Illinois Tollway is committed to helping small firms looking for a chance to grow, succeed in the construction industry and create good-paying jobs,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Cassandra Rouse. “Membership in the Tollway’s Small Business Initiative remains strong, with more than 190 registered firms, of which more than 70 percent are DBE or veteran-owned firms.”

The Small Business Initiative puts small businesses in a position to succeed and grow by identifying select construction contracts, generally with values of approximately \$5 million or less, specifically for small businesses to perform as prime contractors, and by establishing diversity goals for select construction contracts on a project-by-project basis. In 2022, the Tollway awarded 17 small business contracts to 12 unique low bidders.

March construction contracts awarded include:

- A \$3.4 contract to Lorig Construction Company, Des Plaines, IL, for roadway and bridge rehabilitation on the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355) near the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88).
- A \$2.1 million contract to Foundation Mechanics, Chicago, IL, for reconstruction of Thomas Drive adjacent to the I-490/Illinois Route 390 Interchange.
- A \$1.2 million contract to Sheridan Plumbing & Sewer Inc., Bedford Park, IL, for cleaning and televising drainage systems on the Illinois Route 390 Tollway between Lake Street and Irving Park Road.
- A \$793,643.30 contract to Engineered Services Inc. dba Powerlink Electric, Vernon Hills, IL, for utility conduit installation on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) between Harlem Avenue and 95th Street.

March professional engineering services contracts awarded include:

- A \$7.3 million contract to H.W. Lochner Inc., Chicago, IL, for design services on the new I-490 Tollway between Illinois Route 390 and Irving Park Road.
- A \$2 million contract to Ames Engineering Inc., Downers Grove, IL, for systemwide design services upon request.

The March contracts approved today include nine certified disadvantaged, minority- and women-owned business enterprise (D/M/WBE) firms, as well as five certified veteran-owned firms. Commitments for D/M/WBE participation range from 18.43 percent to 66 percent per contract and commitments for veteran participation range from 3.15 percent to 5 percent per contract.

Illinois Tollway professional engineering services contracts are selected in accordance with the qualifications-based selection process (Illinois Public Act 87-673 (30 ILCS 535/1-535/80) Architectural, Engineering and Land Surveying Qualifications-Based Selection Act), which requires state agencies to select professional architects, engineers and surveyors based on demonstrated competence and professional qualifications. 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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