



87th Street & Roberts Road Bridge Project

CONSTRUCTION OVERVIEW

As part of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project, the Illinois Tollway is reconstructing the I-294 mainline bridges over 87th Street and Roberts Road, which intersect below.

The project, located in Hickory Hills, includes construction of two new bridge structures – large enough to span both roadways and the intersection below.

Work on the bridges began in 2021 and will be complete by the end of 2023. Additional work on 87th Street and Roberts Road is scheduled to continue through 2024.

PROJECT SUMMARY

The 87th Street and Roberts Road Bridge Project includes construction of two new mainline bridges over the 87th Street and Roberts Road intersection with local road improvements to provide improved mobility.

The two new I-294 bridge structures — one carrying northbound traffic and one carrying southbound traffic over the local roads — replace two bridges on the northbound side and one bridge on the southbound side.

In the northbound direction, a two-span bridge will be built with one span crossing over 87th Street and one span crossing over Roberts Road.

In the southbound direction a much larger, three-span bridge will be built with a large center span that crosses over the intersection of 87th and Roberts.

Additional work on this project includes noisewall and retaining wall construction, utility work, and drainage and lighting improvements.

Local Improvements

Local road improvements include the addition of a right-turn lane from 87th Street to Roberts Road, which will allow for improved travel and safety, as well as wider sidewalks, open space and customized aesthetics including transparent acrylic noise abatement wall on the bridge.

In addition, the smaller footprint of the new bridges opens up land for local municipalities to plan for future public space development. – an outdoor gym is planned, as are

chess tables.

Customer Impacts

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to scheduled bridge closures, traffic patterns and work zone speed limits.

Shoulder closures and traffic shifts will be used to provide room for a work zone and safely accommodate traffic. Whenever possible, the Tollway uses traffic shifts and shoulders to keep as many lanes open during peak hours as were available before construction.

In addition, closures and detours will be needed at times on 87th Street and Roberts Road to accommodate bridge beam removal and placement. Both roads will not be closed simultaneously.

PURPOSE

The 87th Street and Roberts Road Bridge Project is part of the work on the southern section of the Central Tri-State Project between I-55 and 95th Street, which includes rebuilding and widening the 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. This mainline work is scheduled to be complete by the end of 2023.

Construction in this area is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways, Village of Bridgeview, City of Hickory Hills, Village of Justice, as well as local fire and police departments.

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

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and local roads remain safe for both drivers and workers during construction, which is part of the agency's overall commitment to roadway safety.

Work 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 and 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.

Visit the Tollway’s Work Zone Safety page at illinoistollway.com.

SUSTAINABILITY

The Tollway is committed to building green and minimizing the environmental impact of construction by reducing, recycling and reusing materials. In addition to reducing the cost of this work, reuse of these materials reduces the need for virgin asphalt materials and reduces energy consumption, greenhouse gases and the volume of material that would otherwise be sent to landfills.

GETTING TOLLWAY CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION

The Illinois Tollway has a variety of ways customers can get the latest travel information, including:

- illinoistollway.com – Projects section, live roadway images and real-time roadway incident information.
- [Daily construction alerts](#) — Daily and long-term lane and shoulder closure schedules.
- [Twitter.com](https://twitter.com) – Real-time roadway incident information at Tollway Trip 90, Tollway Trip 88, Tollway Trip 355, Tollway Trip 94/294 and Tollway Trip 390.