



Move Illinois:
The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 25, 2016

***** UPDATED *****

**ILLINOIS TOLLWAY AWARDS MORE THAN \$23 MILLION
IN CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING CONTRACTS IN JANUARY**

Nearly \$4.2 billion invested since start of Move Illinois Program

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway Board of Directors today approved two new construction contracts totaling \$20.1 million and one new engineering contract totaling \$3 million at its January meeting. Approval of the contracts marks the start of the fifth year of the Tollway's 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

To date, nearly \$4.2 billion in construction and professional engineering service contracts have been approved by the Tollway Board since the *Move Illinois* Program began in 2012. In addition, the capital program has created or sustained an estimated 37,340 total jobs as of December 2015.

Two contracts approved today include veteran participation. In addition, the January contracts include 18 subcontractors and three subconsultants that are certified as disadvantaged, minority- and women-owned business enterprise (D/M/WBE) firms. Commitments for D/M/WBE participation range from 15 to 24 percent per contract. Of the \$23.1 million in awarded contracts, more than \$4 million, or 20 percent, is committed to veteran-owned or disadvantaged firms.

Contracts awarded today include:

- A \$12.8 million construction contract to Civil Constructors Inc., Freeport, IL, for bridge work on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) between U.S. Route 52 and U.S. Route 30.
- A \$7.3 million construction contract to Martam Construction Inc., Elgin, IL, for intersection improvements at Elmhurst Road and Oakton Street as part of the Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project.
- A \$3 million professional engineering services contract to HDR Engineering Inc., Chicago, IL, for land acquisition and relocation assistance services systemwide.

Construction contracts for Illinois Tollway projects are competitively bid under the rules of the Illinois Procurement Code. As part of the process, contractors' bid submissions for construction work advertised by the Tollway are opened and read aloud during public bid opening meetings, which are also broadcast live on the Tollway's website. Following an agency review process, the lowest, responsible and responsive bid is presented to the Illinois Tollway Board of Directors for review and approval.

Illinois Tollway engineering contracts are awarded through 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 on the basis of demonstrated competence and professional qualifications, rather than low bid. Staff from the Department of Engineering checks statements of interest to ensure

that specified pre-qualifications and documentation are met and then reviews and scores statements of interest based on the selection criteria outlined for each project. Executives from the Department of Engineering then review the scoring, as well as each firm's capacity, and identify the top recommended firms per project. To complete the review, a committee of Tollway professionals and independent engineering officials considers the top recommended firms and finalizes the top three firms in ranked order. The Tollway then seeks to negotiate a final contract price with the top-ranked firm.

The Illinois Tollway provides detailed information about current Tollway construction contracts through the Construction Contract Tracker on the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com. 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, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*, will improve mobility, relieve congestion, reduce pollution, create as many as 120,000 jobs and link economies across the Midwest region. *Move Illinois* will address the remaining needs of the existing Tollway system; rebuild and widen the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) as a state-of-the-art 21st century corridor; construct a new interchange to connect the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) to I-57; build a new, all-electronic Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project and fund planning studies for emerging projects.

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 286 miles of interstate tollways 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) and the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80).

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