



Move Illinois:
The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future

NEWS

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**ILLINOIS TOLLWAY AWARDS MORE THAN \$20 MILLION IN CONTRACTS
FOR CONSTRUCTION AND PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES IN MAY**

Nearly \$4.3 billion invested since start of Move Illinois Program

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway Board of Directors today approved four new professional engineering services contracts totaling \$11.5 million and three new construction contracts totaling \$8.6 million at its May meeting. Nearly \$153 million in construction and professional engineering service contracts have been approved by the Tollway Board so far in 2016, as part 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 \$4.3 billion in construction and professional engineering service contracts have been approved by the Tollway Board since the *Move Illinois* Program began in 2012, including more than \$1 billion committed to small, veteran-owned or disadvantaged, minority- and women-owned firms. In addition, the capital program has created or sustained an estimated 40,780 total jobs as of April 2016.

“The Illinois Tollway has made it a priority to provide opportunities for all types and sizes of businesses, including small businesses,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Greg Bedalov. “Through the Tollway’s Small Business Initiative and continuing efforts to identify ways to support small businesses, the Illinois Tollway has moved from fifth place to first place in the state’s ranking of top 10 agencies participating in the State’s Small Business Set-Aside Program.”

Two of the May construction contracts awarded are small business set-aside contracts awarded as part of the Tollway’s Small Business Initiative, intended to increase opportunities for small companies to participate in the *Move Illinois* Program. The initiative puts small businesses in a position to succeed and grow as prime contractors and includes identifying select construction contracts, generally with values of approximately \$1 million, that can be set aside specifically for small businesses. Since the program’s inception in 2013, there have been 28 small business set-aside contracts awarded worth nearly \$26.3 million, including 18 firms working as a prime contractor for the first time on a Tollway contract.

In addition, the seven new contracts approved today also include five contracts with veteran participation goals. The May contracts also include four prime consultants, nine subcontractors and 12 subconsultants that are certified as disadvantaged, minority- and women-owned business enterprise (D/M/WBE) or veteran firms. Commitments for D/M/WBE participation range from 17 to 95 percent per contract. Of the \$20.1 million in awarded contracts, more than \$11.1 million, or 55 percent, is committed to veteran-owned, small or disadvantaged firms.

Contracts awarded today include:

- A \$7.1 million contract to F.H. Paschen, S.N. Nielsen & Associates, Chicago, IL, for construction of a pedestrian overpass for the Pace Park & Ride station at the Barrington Road Interchange on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90).

- more -

- \$1.5 million in contract awards to Demarc Electric and Communications, Lombard, IL, for mainline toll plaza lighting upgrades:
 - A \$1 million contract for improvements at 16 plazas on I-90 and on the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80).
 - A \$535,128 contract for improvements at eight plazas on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) and on the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355).

Professional engineering services contracts awarded today include:

- A \$3 million contract to Gonzalez Companies, Chicago, IL, for construction management services on I-90.
- A \$3 million contract to H.W. Lochner Inc., Chicago, IL, for construction management services systemwide.
- A \$3 million contract to Accurate Group Inc., Lincolnshire, IL, for construction management services systemwide.
- A \$2.5 million contract to Cotter Consulting Inc., Chicago, IL, for construction management services for systemwide facilities.

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 professional engineering services 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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