



*Move Illinois:
The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 20, 2018

WEEKEND LANE CLOSURES SCHEDULED TO CONTINUE FOR MILE LONG BRIDGE REPAIRS ON SOUTHBOUND TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294)

*Second weekend of overnight lane reductions and ramp closures at 75th Street
needed to complete bridge pavement repairs*

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Lane closures are scheduled again this weekend on the southbound Tri-State Tollway (I-294) to complete repairs begun last weekend on the Mile Long Bridge. In addition, temporary closure of the entrance ramp from 75th Street to southbound I-294 will also be required. Delays are expected.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place to alert drivers in advance. The lane and ramp closures are necessary to provide a work zone that safely accommodates pavement resurfacing work. All work is weather dependent.

Beginning Friday, September 21, lane closures are scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. with southbound traffic reduced to a single lane by midnight. Overnight resurfacing work is scheduled to continue into the morning of Saturday, September 22, with all southbound lanes scheduled to reopen by noon. Similar closures are scheduled to resume at 7 p.m. Saturday night and continue through noon on Sunday, September 23.

In addition, on Saturday, September 22, the ramp carrying traffic from 75th Street to southbound I-294 is scheduled to close at 7 p.m. and reopen to traffic by noon on Sunday, September 23. The ramp closures are necessary to safely accommodate traffic and workers during repairs. No detours will be posted. Drivers will be able to access southbound I-294 via the Wolf Road Interchange to the north in Indian Head Park.

Closures and Mile Long Bridge repairs are being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation and Cook County, along with local municipalities and police and fire departments.

Repair work on the Mile Long Bridge is necessary to extend the life of the bridge structure and enable the Tollway to provide safe and convenient travel for customers. More than 150,000 vehicles use this bridge daily. The work is part of the Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

Construction information about the [Mile Long Bridge Repairs](#) is available in the "Projects by Roadway" section in the Explore Projects section on the Tollway's website at illinoistollway.com.

Work Zone Safety

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and other area roadways remain safe for both drivers and workers during construction, which is part of the agency's overall commitment to roadway 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, 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 \$375. Posted signs advise drivers of a \$10,000 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 120,000 jobs and linking economies throughout the region. The first six 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) and planning 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 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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