

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 28, 2024

NIGHTLY CLOSURE AND DETOUR OF EASTBOUND I-290 SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK FOR BRIDGE BEAM INSTALLATION AT THE I-290/I-88 INTERCHANGE AT I-294

Detour will route traffic onto Tri-State Tollway (I-294); detoured customers will not be charged for tolls

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Nightly detours of eastbound I-290 at the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) are scheduled to begin next week and continue into mid-September to accommodate bridge beam placement as part of ongoing work to rebuild and reconfigure the I-290/I-88 Interchange at I-294. Delays are expected.

Multiple nights of closures of eastbound I-290, as well as several ramps associated with the work, will be scheduled over a three week period as new bridge beams are placed on the new bridge carrying northbound I-294 over I-290. No closures will be scheduled on Friday nights.

Construction and electronic message signs will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the ramp and lane closures and detours. Up-to-date closure information will be available in the Illinois Tollway's Daily Construction Alerts. All work is weather dependent.

The nightly closure of I-290 is scheduled to begin the week of September 2, with the full closure and detour scheduled from 1 a.m. to 5 a.m. on the first night. During the I-290 closures the ramp carrying southbound I-294 traffic to eastbound I-290 is also scheduled to close. Similar nightly closures and detours will be scheduled as needed into mid-September and hours will vary. Please check the Daily Construction Alerts for exact times.

When I-290 is closed, a detour will be posted for both the ramp and eastbound I-290 routing traffic to southbound I-294, through the Cermak Road Interchange and onto northbound I-294 to access eastbound I-290. No tolls will be taken at the Cermak Road Toll Plaza in either direction for customers following the detour route.

Closure of the ramp connecting eastbound St. Charles Road traffic to eastbound I-290 will also be scheduled when closures on I-290 are in place. No detour will be posted.



Closures and detours in this area are being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, City of Elmhurst, Village of Hillside, Proviso Township, Village of Oak Brook and Village of Berkeley as well as local fire and police departments.

Work in 2024 at the I-290/I-88 Interchange at I-294 includes ongoing reconstruction of bridges over Roosevelt Road, I-88, Butterfield Road, the Canadian National Railroad, I-290 and Electric Avenue, as well as noisewall construction and drainage, electrical and lighting improvements.

The reconfiguration and reconstruction of the I-290/I-88 Interchange is estimated at \$700-\$800 million and will reduce congestion, improve safety and address operational issues, as well as infrastructure conditions as part of the Illinois Tollway's \$4 billion Central Tri-State Project. Work started in 2020 and is scheduled to be complete by the end of 2026.

Information including maps and construction updates is available on the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com in the Projects section.

The \$4 billion Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project is reconstructing and widening the roadway between Balmoral Avenue and 95th Street to provide congestion relief, update old infrastructure to

meet current and future transportation demand and address regional needs. This work is part of the Tollway's Move Illinois Program. More than 220,000 vehicles use the Central Tri-State Tollway daily.

Work Zone 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 \$250 with 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.

About Move Illinois

The Illinois Tollway's 16-year, \$15 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*, is improving mobility, relieving congestion, reducing pollution, creating as many as 165,220 jobs and linking economies throughout the region. The first 12 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.