



# ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**November 29, 2021**

## **LANE CLOSURE AND DETOUR CONTINUE ON LAKE STREET IN ELMURST AND NORTHLAKE FOR ILLINOIS TOLLWAY IMPROVEMENTS**

*Lake Street westbound lanes to reopen and eastbound lanes to close  
for Cook County road and bridge work supporting Illinois Tollway projects*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – Beginning in December, westbound lanes on Lake Street under the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) are scheduled to reopen and closure of eastbound lanes is scheduled to begin and continue through the end of the year in Elmhurst and Northlake.

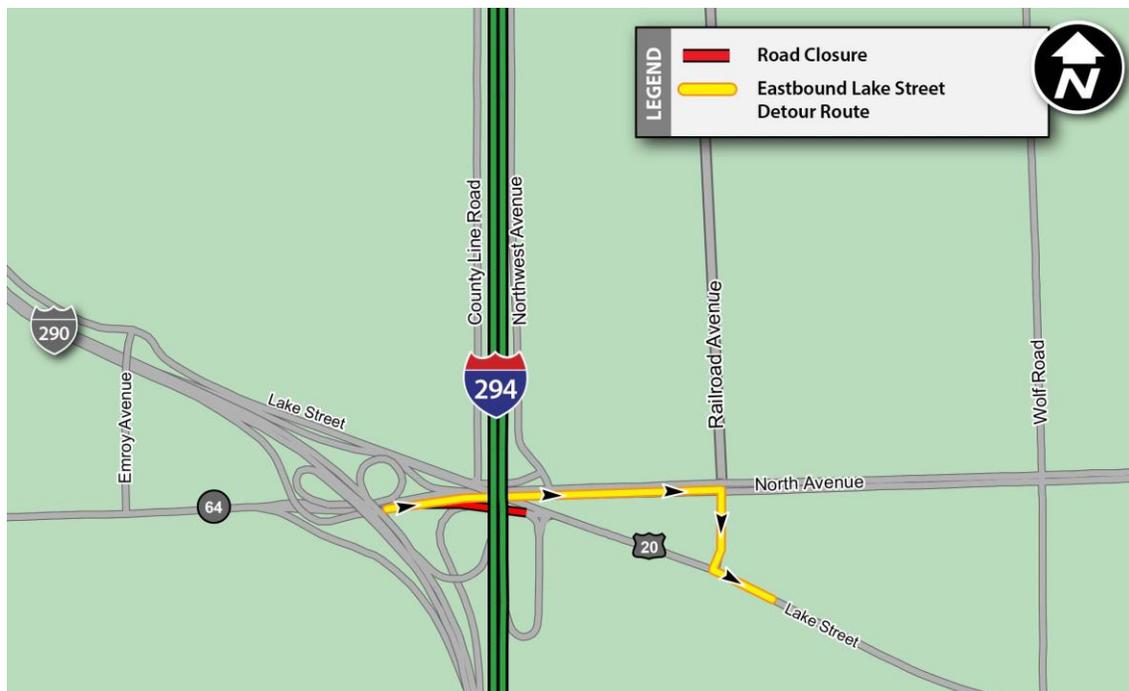
The closures and detours are for Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways-led local roadway and bridge construction to accommodate the Illinois Tollway’s North Avenue Interchange Project on the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294).

Reopening of the westbound lanes on Lake Street is scheduled for Wednesday, December 1, 2021.

Beginning the morning of Monday, December 6, 2021, the eastbound lanes on Lake Street under I-294 will be closed to traffic with a posted detour. In addition, traffic shifts will be put in place on the ramp connecting eastbound I-290 to North Avenue/Lake Street to accommodate construction.

To accommodate traffic a detour will be posted directing eastbound Lake Street traffic east on North Avenue (Illinois Route 64) and south on Railroad Avenue.

Traffic is scheduled to remain in this configuration until the end of the year.



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Electronic message signs and construction signage are in place in advance to alert drivers to the lane closures and detour. The roadway lane closures and detour are necessary to provide a work zone for construction and safely accommodate traffic. All work is weather dependent.

Construction in this area is being coordinated with Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways, the Illinois Department of Transportation, the City of Elmhurst and the City of Northlake, as well as local fire and police departments.

Construction updates, project information, maps and detour information for work that is part of the North Avenue Interchange Project at I-294 are available in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at [www.illinoistollway.com](http://www.illinoistollway.com) as well as on the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways website at [maps.cookcountyil.gov/hwyproject](http://maps.cookcountyil.gov/hwyproject).

Ongoing lane closures and traffic shifts are scheduled to continue over the next three years on these local roadways to allow Cook County to complete the roadway improvements which includes pavement reconstruction, bridge work, watermain reconstruction, drainage installation, and traffic signal modifications.

The project will include work to realign a portion of County Line Road to accommodate the reconstruction and widening of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and for the North Avenue Interchange Project that includes construction of a new ramp connecting southbound I-294 to County Line Road to provide new access to North Avenue and Lake Street to help reduce congestion at the interchange and on local roads.

In addition, the North Avenue and Lake Street (U.S. Route 20) intersection will be reconfigured to improve traffic flow and provide new direct access to eastbound North Avenue. Drainage improvements are planned to help alleviate flooding in the area during periods of heavy rainfall. Construction of detention ponds to hold stormwater and the installation of new storm sewers will help address flooding along North Avenue.

In partnership with the Illinois Tollway and cities of Northlake and Elmhurst, Cook County is leading the project's design and will be constructing the project improvements. This work is part of the Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

### **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.

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 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 nine years of *Move Illinois* is on schedule and within budget, delivering the rebuilt and widened Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) as a state-of-the-art 21<sup>st</sup> century corridor and 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 Elgin O'Hare Western Access 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.

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