



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 28, 2021

RAMP CLOSURES SCHEDULED THIS WEEK AT I-55 INTERCHANGE FOR CENTRAL TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) PROJECT

Three nights of closures on ramps connecting northbound I-294 to southbound I-55 and Wolf Road for bridge beam removal

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Three nights of ramp closures and detours are needed for bridge beam removal on the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) bridge over I-55.

Closure of the ramps connecting northbound I-294 to southbound I-55 and Wolf Road are needed to ensure a safe workzone.

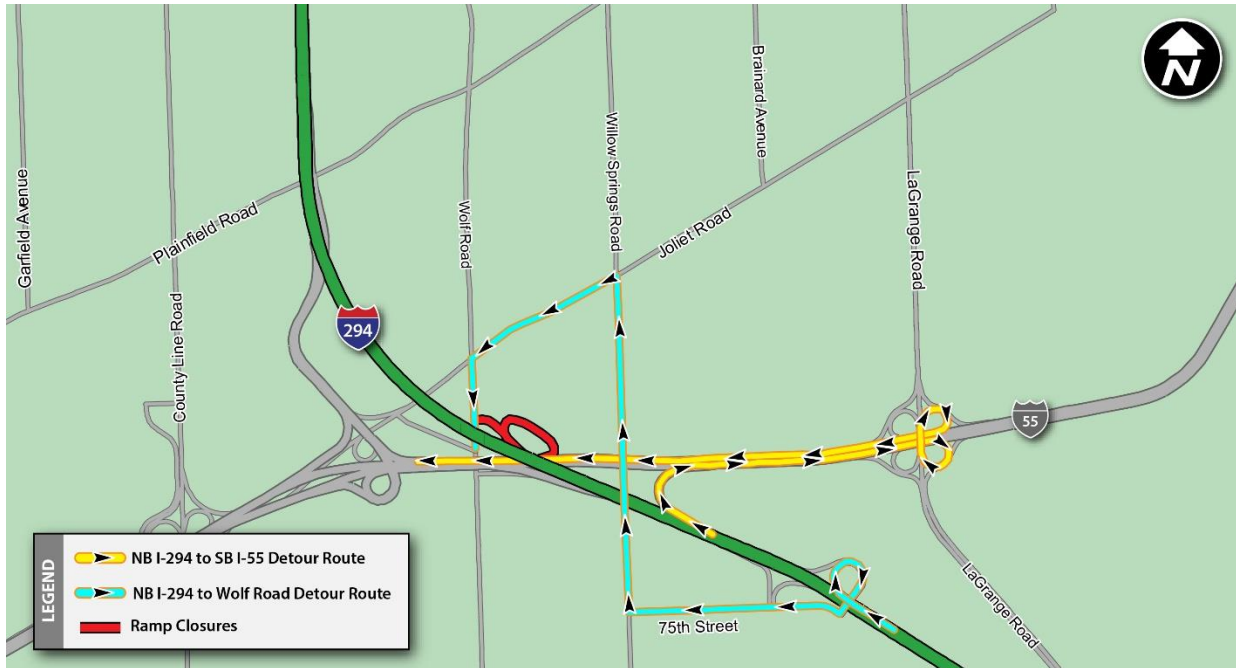
Electronic message and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers on I-294 to the construction work zones, ramp closures and detours. Up-to-date information regarding lane closures will be available in the Illinois Tollway's Daily Construction Alerts. All work is weather dependent.

Beginning at 11 p.m. on Thursday, April 29, the ramps connecting northbound I-294 to southbound I-55 and to Wolf Road are scheduled to close. Two detours will be posted.

Southbound I-55 traffic will be detoured to northbound I-55, in advance of the exit to LaGrange Road, and then routed through the interchange back onto southbound I-55.

Wolf Road traffic will be detoured to 75th Street, about 1.5 miles in advance of the Wolf Road exit, and then directed via 75th Street to Willow Springs Road and Joliet Road to Wolf Road.

Ramps are scheduled to reopen by 5 a.m. on Friday, April 30. Additional closures are scheduled for 11 p.m. Saturday, May 1, through 8 a.m. Sunday, May 2, and 11 p.m. Sunday through 5 a.m. on Monday, May 3. If the work cannot be completed during these times, backup closures will be scheduled overnight Monday, May 3.



Additional closures and detours will be needed at this location to complete bridge work.

The Illinois Tollway is reconstructing I-294 between 75th Street and Plainfield Road, including construction of new I-294 bridges over I-55 and Flagg Creek and repairing the existing bridges over Wolf Road and Joliet Road. This work is scheduled for completion in 2022.

Construction updates, project information, maps and detour information for work that is part of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project are available in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com.

Construction in this area is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways, Village of Indian Head Park and Village of Countryside, as well as local fire and police departments.

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 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*. 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 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 21st 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.

###