



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 23, 2023

**TRAFFIC SHIFT, LONG-TERM RAMP CLOSURE AND DETOUR SCHEDULED
FOR WESTBOUND I-290 TO NORTHBOUND TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294)**

*Ramp closure through 2024 required for bridge reconstruction and widening work
as part of the I-290/I-88 Interchange Project at I-294*

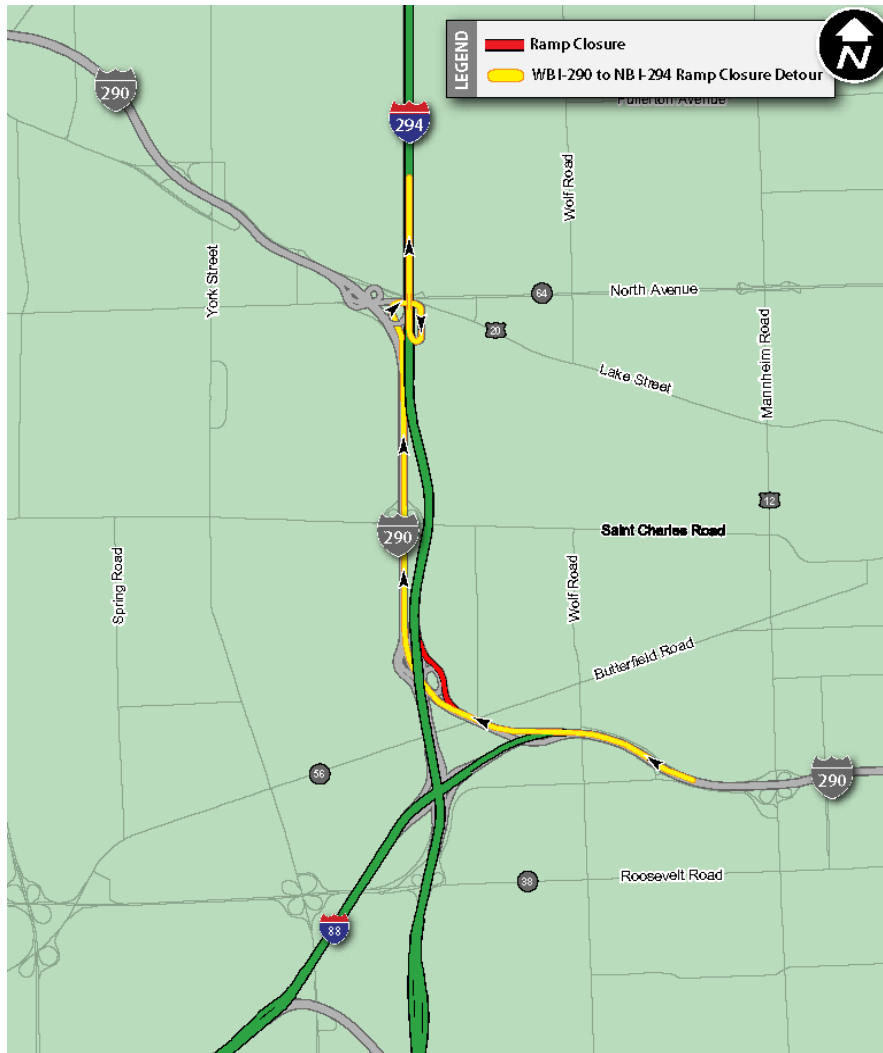
DOWNERS GROVE, IL – A long-term closure and detour of the ramp carrying traffic from westbound I-290 to the northbound Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) near the Village of Berkley is scheduled to begin overnight Monday, March 27, and continue through 2024.

In addition, once the ramp is closed, work will begin to shift northbound traffic between Cermak Road and Electric Avenue.

The ramp closure and traffic shift are needed to accommodate bridge and pavement reconstruction as part of the I-290/I-88 Interchange Project at I-294.

Construction and electronic message signs will be in place in advance to alert drivers to the overnight lane closures, traffic shift and ramp detour. Up-to-date closure information will be available on the Illinois Tollway's [Daily Construction Alert](#). All work is weather dependent.

Beginning at midnight on Monday, March 27, the ramp carrying traffic from westbound I-290 to northbound I-294 is scheduled to close and a detour will be posted routing traffic to westbound I-290 to east Lake Street then onto northbound I-294.



Once the ramp closure is in place, overnight closures of additional ramps and up to seven nights of lane closures will be scheduled in both directions on I-294 between Cermak Road and Electric Avenue to shift northbound traffic to the left with two lanes traveling on the southbound side of the Tollway in a counterflow configuration.

To shift traffic the following overnight ramps will be scheduled between midnight and 5 a.m. Closures will be staggered over multiple nights, so all ramps will not close simultaneously.

- Northbound I-294 to eastbound I-290: Traffic will be routed to Mannheim Road and through the interchange onto westbound I-290.
- Northbound I-294 and eastbound I-88 to westbound I-290: Traffic will be routed to Mannheim Road and through the interchange onto westbound I-290.
- Eastbound I-88 to northbound I-294: Traffic will be routed to Mannheim Road and through the interchange onto northbound I-294.



NB I-294 to EB I-290 Detour

[View Map](#)



NB I-294 to WB I-290 Detour

[View Map](#)



EB I-88 to NB I-294 Detour

[View Map](#)

Overnight closures and detours of additional ramps at the I-290/I-88 Interchange at I-294 are scheduled to continue as needed through the length of the project.

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

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

Work in 2023 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 and work to build a temporary ramp from southbound I-294 to eastbound I-290 and westbound I-88.

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.

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. On I-294, a 45 mph work zone speed limit is in effect throughout the construction season.

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 152,000 jobs and linking economies throughout the region. The first 11 years of *Move Illinois* are 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.

###