



I-290/I-88 Interchange Project at I-294

CONSTRUCTION OVERVIEW

The I-290/I-88 Interchange at I-294 is one of the most important interchanges on the Tollway system. It is not only a crossroads for commuter and local traffic, but also an integral part of the regional freight network. More than 300,000 vehicles use the interchange every day, traveling between the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88), the Eisenhower Expressway (I-290) and the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) as well as other local and state roadways.

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 Central Tri-State Project. Work started in 2020 and is scheduled to be complete by the end of 2026.

Construction in 2024 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. Work is also scheduled on I-290 as part of this project, including pavement, bridge and noisewall reconstruction and roadway drainage and lighting improvements.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Improvements at I-290/I-88 Interchange at I-294 will reduce backups and dramatically improve the chokepoint so that commuters, travelers and commerce using the Tri-State Tollway (I-294), the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) and the Eisenhower Expressway (I-290) can more efficiently reach their destinations. Improvements will include:

- Barriers integrated to separate various ramp movements from merging traffic to alleviate heavy congestion due to traffic weaving. This includes ramps carrying traffic from southbound I-294 to westbound I-88 and from eastbound I-290 to southbound I-294.
- New ramp designs to improve travel from northbound I-294 to westbound I-290 and from southbound I-294 to westbound I-88 by reducing congestion due to weaving and truck turning movements.

- A new "fly under" ramp to improve travel between southbound I-294 and westbound I-290 will replace the old loop ramp to relieve delays and backups caused by slow truck turning movements.
- Adjusting the exit travel pattern for drivers traveling between westbound I-290 and St. Charles Road.

In addition, as part of the I-290/I-88 Interchange at I-294 Project, the Illinois Tollway will reconstruct and widen the I-294 mainline between St. Charles Road and Roosevelt Road, as well as improve the St. Charles Road Interchange at I-290 and two ramps at the I-294 Roosevelt Road Interchange. Additional work on this project includes noisewall construction and drainage, electrical and lighting improvements.

Mainline Reconstruction

On I-294, work includes reconstructing the Tollway in both directions between St. Charles Road and Roosevelt Road, as well as widening the roadway to accommodate new Flex Lanes. In addition, on southbound I-294 at westbound I-88, a separate collector-distributor road will be constructed with a barrier wall.

Mainline bridges to be reconstructed include the bridges over I-88, Butterfield Road, the Canadian National Railroad, I-290 and Electric Avenue. Additional work includes utility and ITS improvements.

This work began in 2019 and is scheduled to be complete in 2026.

St. Charles Road Interchange at I-290

Improvements at the St. Charles Road Interchange included removing and replacing the St. Charles Road Bridge over I-294 and repairing and replacing the bridge deck on the bridge over I-290. In addition, the four interchange ramps on the east side of I-290 were reconstructed and a portion of westbound I-290 will be widened. Additional work included retaining wall construction, drainage improvements and roadway lighting improvements.

This work began in 2018 and was completed in 2022.



Roosevelt Road Interchange

Work at the Roosevelt Road Interchange includes reconstructing the ramps connecting westbound Roosevelt Road to southbound I-294 and northbound I-294 to westbound Roosevelt Road. In addition, the I-294 bridge over Roosevelt Road will be reconstructed.

Additional work includes installing stormwater detention ponds for drainage improvements in this area.

This work began in 2023 and is scheduled to be complete in 2026.

Customer Impacts

The Illinois Tollway will maintain access to the I-290/I-88 Interchange throughout construction. Shoulder closures and traffic shifts will be used to provide room for a work zone and safely accommodate traffic. Whenever possible, the Tollway uses traffic shifts and shoulders to keep as many lanes open during peak hours as were available before construction.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to scheduled ramp and lane closures, traffic patterns and work zone speed limits.

In 2024, long-term closures and detours of the ramps carrying westbound Roosevelt Road to southbound I-294 and westbound I-290 to northbound I-294 will continue, as well as nightly ramp closures and detours throughout the interchange, as needed.

WORK ZONE SAFETY

The Illinois Tollway is committed to ensuring that the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294), the Reagan Memorial Tollway, the Eisenhower Expressway (I-290) and local roads remain safe for both drivers and workers during construction, which is part of the agency's overall commitment to roadway safety.

Work 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. On the I-294 Interchange ramps, a 40 mph work zone speed limit is in effect.

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 and 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.

Visit the Tollway's Work Zone Safety page at illinoistollway.com.

PURPOSE

The reconfiguration and reconstruction of the I-290/I-88 Interchange at the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project will reduce congestion, improve safety and address operational issues as well as infrastructure conditions as part of the Illinois Tollway's Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project. The project cost is estimated at \$700-\$800 million.

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.

Construction on this project is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Village of Berkeley, City of Elmhurst, Village of Hillside, City of Northlake, Village of Oak Brook, City of Oakbrook Terrace, Proviso Township, Elmhurst Park District, Oak Brook Park District, Cook County Forest Preserve, Forest Preserves of DuPage County, DuPage County Division of Transportation and Water Commission, as well as local fire and police departments.

SUSTAINABILITY

The Tollway is committed to building green and minimizing the environmental impact of construction by reducing, recycling and reusing materials. In addition to reducing the cost of this work, reuse of these materials reduces the need for virgin asphalt materials and reduces energy consumption, greenhouse gases and the volume of material that would otherwise be sent to landfills.

GETTING TOLLWAY CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION

The Illinois Tollway has a variety of ways customers can get the latest travel information, including:

- illinoistollway.com – Projects section, live roadway images and real-time roadway incident information.
- [Daily construction alerts](#) — Daily and long-term lane and shoulder closure schedules.
- [Twitter.com](https://twitter.com) – Real-time roadway incident information at Tollway Trip 90, Tollway Trip 88, Tollway Trip 355, Tollway Trip 94/294 and Tollway Trip 390.