



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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LAKE STREET RAMP AND ROADWAY CLOSURES WITH DETOURS SCHEDULED AS PART OF NORTH AVENUE INTERCHANGE RECONSTRUCTION

Weekend closures needed for Cook County work supporting Illinois Tollway projects

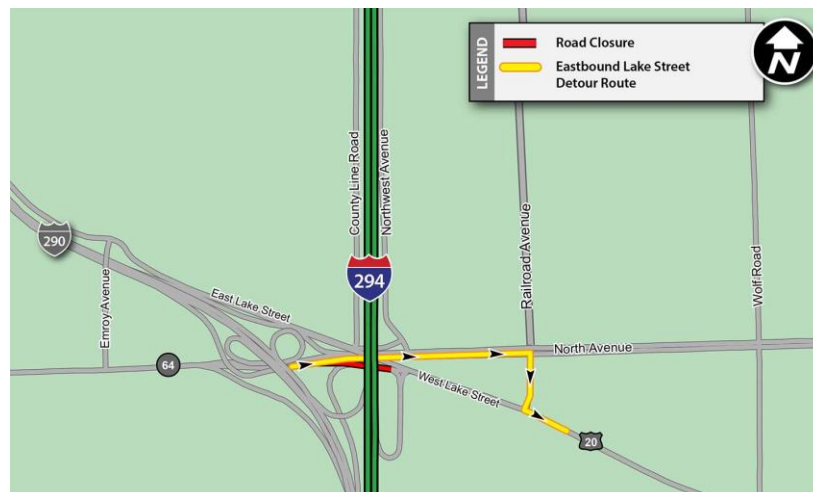
DOWNERS GROVE, IL – A weekend-long closure of the ramp connecting eastbound I-290 to eastbound North Avenue/Lake Street is scheduled this weekend along with the closure of a portion of eastbound Lake Street. Detours will be posted.

The ramp and lane closures are needed to complete storm sewer construction as part of the North Avenue and Lake Street rehabilitation project led by the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways. The work will take place in the cities of Elmhurst and Northlake and will accommodate the Illinois Tollway's North Avenue Interchange Project on the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294).

Construction signage will be put in place to alert drivers of closures and detours, which are necessary to safely accommodate a work zone. Up-to-date closure information will be posted on the Tollway website in the [Daily Construction Alert](#). All work is weather dependent.

Beginning at midnight on Friday, July 12, the ramp connecting eastbound I-290 to eastbound North Avenue/Lake Street is scheduled to close. A detour will be posted routing eastbound I-290 traffic to the St. Charles Interchange, to westbound I-290 and to exit onto Lake Street for access to eastbound North Avenue/Lake Street and the northbound I-294 ramp. This detour is scheduled to remain in place through 5 a.m. on Monday, July 15.

In addition, a portion of eastbound Lake Street will be closed just west of I-294 starting at midnight on Friday, July 12. A detour will be posted routing traffic to eastbound North Avenue to Railroad Avenue to Lake Street. This detour is scheduled to remain in place through 5 a.m. on Monday, July 15. A similar detour will be posted the night of Friday, July 19, starting at 10 p.m. and will remain in place until 6 a.m. on Saturday, July 20.



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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, as well as on the Cook County construction project webpage at maps.cookcountyil.gov/hwyproject.

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.

Ongoing lane closures and traffic shifts are scheduled to continue over the next two 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.

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 in coordination with the Illinois Tollway's 16 year, \$15 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. On Butterfield Road, a 35 mph work zone speed limit is in effect. 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.

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