



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 16, 2024

TRAFFIC SHIFT ON RAMP FROM SOUTHBOUND TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) TO I-55 SCHEDULED TO BEGIN THIS WEEKEND

Ramp lane reductions scheduled in September to complete noisewall and pavement construction

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – A traffic shift on the ramp connecting southbound I-294 to I-55 is scheduled to begin this weekend to accommodate noisewall and pavement work as part of the ongoing Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project. In addition, the ramp is also scheduled to be reduced to a single lane in September to complete the work. Delays are expected.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the traffic shift and lane closures. Up-to-date information will be posted on the Tollway website and in the [Daily Construction Alert](#). All work is weather dependent.

Overnight Sunday, August 18, traffic on the ramp connecting southbound I-294 to both northbound and southbound I-55 is scheduled to shift to create a work zone for noisewall and pavement reconstruction. A single lane closure on southbound I-294 also will be needed overnight to accommodate the ramp traffic shift. Traffic is scheduled to remain in this configuration for about a month.

In September, traffic on the ramp is scheduled to be reduced to a single lane through fall in order to complete work on the ramp.

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 *Move Illinois* Program. More than 220,000 vehicles use the Central Tri-State Tollway daily.

Information about the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project is available on the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com in the Projects section.

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.

-more-

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.

#