



# ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**September 3, 2024**

## **EXTENDED OVERNIGHT LANE CLOSURES SCHEDULED AT 163<sup>RD</sup> STREET TOLL PLAZA ON THE TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294)**

*Southbound closures needed for tolling equipment installation, delays are expected*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – Overnight lane closures with extended hours are scheduled on the southbound on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) at the 163<sup>rd</sup> Street Toll Plaza to install tolling equipment in the roadway pavement. Delays are expected.

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

On Wednesday, September 4, southbound traffic at the 163<sup>rd</sup> Street Toll Plaza is scheduled to be reduced to two lanes beginning at 8 p.m. and a single lane at 10 p.m. One lane is scheduled to reopen by 6 a.m. on Thursday, September 5. All lanes are scheduled to reopen by 8 a.m.

The extended closures are needed to accommodate removal of pavement, installation of electronic equipment and to allow time for curing of the replacement concrete. If the work cannot be completed during this time, additional overnight closures will be scheduled.

Drivers traveling southbound through the 163<sup>rd</sup> Street Toll Plaza will be able to use the I-PASS Only lanes on the far right side of the toll plaza to help reduce delays. Access to the I-PASS Only lanes is approximately a mile in advance of 163<sup>rd</sup> Street just past 159<sup>th</sup> Street (U.S. Route 6). Traffic entering southbound I-294 from 159<sup>th</sup> Street will be routed through the I-PASS Only lanes.

The Illinois Tollway is making improvements at toll plaza across its system to improve traffic flow, allowing communities to benefit from greater accessibility and mobility throughout the region. In 2024, the Illinois Tollway is continuing to reconfigure the 163<sup>rd</sup> Street Toll Plaza on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294). Work includes canopy and barrier wall removal, electrical and fiber-optic work and installation tolling equipment.

Construction at the toll plaza is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Cook County, as well as the Village of Markham and local fire and police departments. This work is part of the 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.

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.

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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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