



# ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**February 20, 2025**

## **ILLINOIS TOLLWAY ANNOUNCES NAME OF ITS NEW, TALKING MINI-H.E.L.P. TRUCK**

*Kids suggested names for safety education truck the during Chicago Auto Show*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – The Illinois Tollway has chosen a name for its new, mini-Highway Emergency Lane Patrol (H.E.L.P.) truck, dubbing the kid-sized vehicle “HELP Truck Hank”—a name suggested by a youngster during the Chicago Auto Show.

The children who suggested the top five names each will receive a goodie bag that includes a \$20 I-PASS gift card for their parents or guardians.

“We’re thrilled that so many children suggested such creative and clever names for our mini-H.E.L.P. truck, which will help us reach other kids with important safety messages,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Cassaundra Rouse. “Safety is always our top priority and we plan to use HELP Truck Hank as a fun, friendly way to share key safety messages with children that they can use now and in the future when they become the next generation of drivers.”

The 34-inch-tall, 100-pound remote-controlled truck with oversized blinking eyes and flashing emergency lights will travel to local safety events as part of the Tollway’s public outreach efforts to educate youngsters about driving and roadway safety.

But the small truck needed a name, prompting the Tollway to ask children visiting the auto show to stop by the Tollway booth and submit a written suggestion for a name.

The names chosen as runners-up include: HELP Truck Chuck, Help’n Hank, Tolley and Buddy.

The mini-H.E.L.P. truck delivers kid-friendly messages through a loudspeaker, putting a creative twist on critical safety issues, including following posted speed limits and putting away cellphones.

HELP Truck Hank will visit Tollway Tykes safety events across northern Illinois throughout the year to talk to children about roadway and driving safety issues.

### **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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