



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 24, 2025

NORTH AVENUE ROADWAY AND RAMP CLOSURES IN PLACE AS PART OF NORTH AVENUE INTERCHANGE RECONSTRUCTION

Traffic from eastbound I-290 to eastbound North Avenue will be detoured through spring as part of Cook County work supporting Illinois Tollway projects

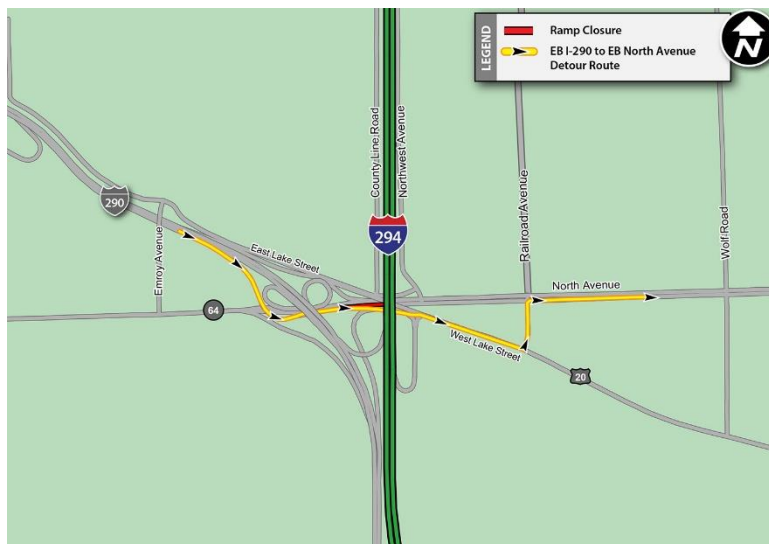
DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Long-term lane and ramp closures on eastbound North Avenue are in place for ongoing Cook County construction work as part of the Illinois Tollway North Avenue Interchange Project on the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294). In addition, the ramp connecting eastbound I-290 to North Avenue is closed and detoured to accommodate construction.

Detours and traffic shifts are necessary to provide a safe work zone for construction and accommodate traffic during North Avenue and Lake Street rehabilitation work led by the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways in partnership with the Illinois Tollway.

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

Eastbound North Avenue (Illinois Route 64) between I-294 and Northwest Avenue is reduced to one lane. In addition, the ramp connecting eastbound I-290 to eastbound North Avenue is closed. A detour is posted routing I-290 traffic to eastbound Lake Street and Railroad Avenue to access North Avenue. Traffic is scheduled to remain in this configuration through the spring.

In addition, beginning in April on westbound North Avenue two lanes are scheduled to close between Railroad Avenue and I-294 to accommodate bridge work. Westbound traffic is scheduled to remain in this configuration through summer.



Construction in this area is being coordinated with 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 Department of Transportation and Highways, led the project's design and is constructing 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 13 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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