

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 25, 2025

I-290 RAMP TO LAKE STREET CLOSURE SCHEDULED AS PART OF NORTH AVENUE INTERCHANGE RECONSTRUCTION

Weekend-long closure needed for ongoing Cook County road and drainage work supporting Illinois
Tollway projects

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – A weekend-long closure of the ramp connecting westbound I-290 to eastbound West Lake Street in Elmhurst and Northlake is scheduled for this weekend for storm sewer work. A detour will be posted.

The detour is necessary to provide a safe work zone to complete storm sewer construction across eastbound West Lake Street as part of the North Avenue and Lake Street rehabilitation project led by the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place to alert drivers of closure and detour. Up-to-date closure information will be posted on the Tollway website in the <u>Daily Construction Alert</u>. All work is weather dependent.

Beginning at midnight on Friday, June 27 and continuing until 5 a.m. on Monday, June 30, the ramp connecting westbound I-290 to eastbound West Lake Street is scheduled to close. A posted detour will route traffic to Illinois Route 83, through the interchange onto eastbound I-290 to Lake Street, eastbound North Avenue and southbound Railroad Avenue to access eastbound West Lake Street, as well as the northbound I-294 ramp.

In addition, the closure will also reroute traffic already detoured as part of a long-term closure of the ramp connecting westbound I-290 to northbound I-294. During the weekend of Friday, June 27, traffic following this detour will also be re-routed along the above detour to access northbound I-294.



If the work cannot be completed as planned, a backup weekend closure will be scheduled after the July 4 holiday weekend to complete the remaining work.

In addition, eastbound West Lake Street is closed under I-294 for reconstruction and a detour is in place through late summer.

Construction in this area is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Cook County, City of Elmhurst and 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 through the end of the year 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 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 include 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.