

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 8, 2025

TRAFFIC SHIFT SCHEDULED ON NORTHBOUND TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) BETWEEN 135TH STREET AND 131ST STREET

Split traffic configuration needed on northbound I-294 for ongoing bridge repair work over the Cal Sag Channel

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – A traffic shift is scheduled to begin this week on the northbound Tri-State Tollway (I-294) between 135th Street and 131st Street for ongoing bridge repair work over the Cal Sag Channel. In addition, two nights of overnight lane closures will be needed to shift traffic.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to changes in traffic patterns and construction. Up-to-date information regarding closures will be available in the Illinois Tollway's <u>Daily Construction Alert</u>. All work is weather dependent.

To shift traffic, overnight lane closures are scheduled on Wednesday, July 9 and Friday, July 11. Lane closures may also be needed on Thursday, July 10, depending on weather. Traffic on northbound I-294 at the Cal Sag Channel will be reduced at times to a single lane, to shift two lanes of traffic to the left and two lanes to the right to provide a work zone in the center. All lanes are scheduled to reopen by 5 a.m. weekdays and 8 a.m. on Saturday.

Once the shift is complete, traffic exiting to 127th Street or Cicero Avenue must use the right two lanes. Traffic in the left two lanes will not be able to exit until 95th Street.

Traffic is scheduled to remain in this configuration for about two weeks to accommodate repair work on the I-294 bridge over the Cal Sag Channel including bridge joint seal, bridge deck and approach slab repairs and bearing replacement.

Work on the southbound I-294 is complete.

Repairs in this area are being coordinated with the United States Coast Guard and the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, as well as local fire and police departments.

The Illinois Tollway has scheduled work in 2025 and 2026 on the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80) including crossroad bridge repairs at Waukegan Road on I-94 and the Union Pacific Railroad, Dempster Street, Touhy Avenue, Cal Sag Channel and Mile Long Bridge on I-294. Improvements also include pavement and noisewall repairs, fiber optic improvements and roadway camera installation throughout the corridor, as well as drainage improvements between Atkinson Road and Half Day Road on I-94 and at Walters Avenue on I-294.

Maps and construction information about the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80) Repairs are available in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at <u>illinoistollway.com</u>.

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.

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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