



# ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**December 16, 2025**

## **TRAFFIC SHIFTS, OVERNIGHT RAMP CLOSURES SCHEDULED IN DECEMBER AS PART OF WORK TO RECONFIGURE THE I-290/I-88 INTERCHANGE AT I-294**

*Closures and shifts needed to safely accommodate ramp and bridge work and maintain access to traffic*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – A traffic shift is scheduled overnight Tuesday, December 16, on the ramp connecting eastbound I-290 to southbound I-294 and westbound I-88, as part of the Illinois Tollway's ongoing work to reconstruct and reconfigure the I-290/I-88 Interchange at the Tri-State Tollway (I-294).

The new ramp configuration will reduce traffic weaving that occurs between drivers exiting from southbound on I-294 to westbound I-88 and drivers entering from eastbound I-290 to travel southbound I-294. Once the traffic shift is in place, southbound I-294 traffic will stay to the left express lanes and the right two lanes will become an exit only lane to westbound I-88 and eastbound I-290.

In addition, the week of December 22, the Tollway is preparing to shift southbound I-294 traffic between the Cermak Toll Plaza and St. Charles Road with lane closures over multiple nights and ramp detours needed to shift traffic.

The traffic shifts are necessary to improve the flow of traffic and to provide a safe work zone for ongoing pavement and bridge reconstruction and widening, noisewall construction, drainage and utility work over the winter.

Construction and electronic message signs will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the ramp and lane closures and detours. Up-to-date closure information will be available in the Illinois Tollway's [Daily Construction Alert](#). All work is weather dependent.

Throughout December, ongoing temporary overnight closures with posted detours will continue as needed at multiple interchange ramps connecting the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) to I-290, Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) and Roosevelt Road for ongoing bridge reconstruction, pavement construction and utility work. Information and detour maps are available on the [I-290/I-88 Interchange Project](#) page.

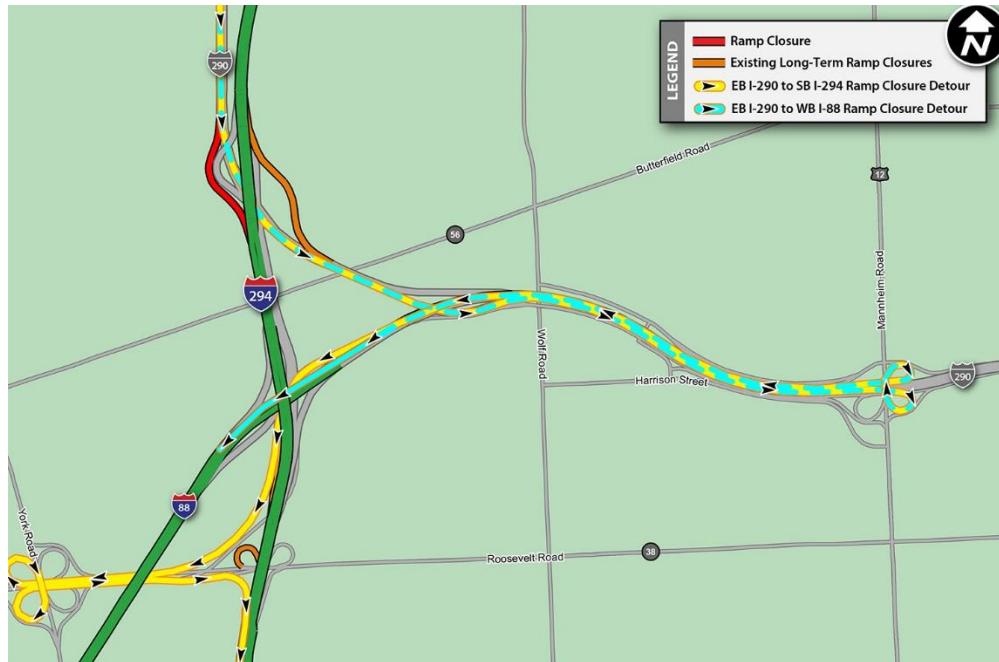
### **December Construction Highlights**

Beginning overnight, Tuesday, December 16, traffic on the ramp connecting eastbound I-290 to southbound I-294 and westbound I-88 is scheduled to shift into a new configuration and the following overnight closures will be needed:

- On southbound I-294, a single local lane closure will be scheduled between St. Charles Road and the Cermak Toll Plaza.
- On eastbound I-290, lane closures will be scheduled between St. Charles Road and Butterfield Road.
- On eastbound I-290, the ramp to southbound I-294 and westbound I-88 will be closed and a detour will be posted routing traffic via Mannheim Road, westbound I-290, westbound Roosevelt Road, York Road and eastbound Roosevelt Road to southbound I-294.

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During the overnight and once the traffic shift is complete, drivers on southbound I-294 must remain in the left lanes to continue on southbound I-294 or access the Cermak Road Interchange. Traffic exiting to eastbound I-290 and westbound I-88 must enter the two right lanes north of St. Charles Road.



Beginning the week of December 22, work is scheduled to begin to shift traffic on southbound I-294 between St. Charles Road and Cermak Toll Plaza onto the northbound side of the Tollway into a counterflow configuration. Multiple nights of overnight lane and ramp closures will be scheduled as needed to shift traffic.

Additionally in December, traffic on westbound I-290 between Butterfield Road and St. Charles Road is scheduled to shift to the right. Lane closures on westbound I-290 will be needed to complete the shift.

Ramp and local road closures in this area are being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Village of Berkeley, Village of Hillside, City of Elmhurst, Village of Oak Brook and Proviso Township, as well as local fire and police departments.

Information about ongoing long-term and overnight ramp closures and detours including maps and construction updates are available on the [I-290/I-88 Interchange Project](https://www.illinoistollway.com/projects/i-290-i-88-interchange-project) page on the Tollway's website at [www.illinoistollway.com](https://www.illinoistollway.com) in the Projects section.

In 2025, work at the I-290/I-88 Interchange at I-294 will include ongoing reconstruction of I-294 bridges over Roosevelt Road, Butterfield Road, the Canadian National Railroad, I-290 and Electric Avenue, as well as the Roosevelt Road ramp to I-290. It also includes reconstruction of the I-290 bridge over Electric Avenue, a new ramp bridge from eastbound I-290 to southbound I-294/westbound I-88, as well as continued noisewall, drainage, electrical, and lighting improvements.

The \$4 billion Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project is reconstructing and widening the roadway between Balmoral Avenue and 95th Street to provide congestion relief, update old infrastructure to meet current and future transportation demand and address regional needs. This work is part of the Tollway's Move Illinois Program. More than 220,000 vehicles use the Central Tri-State Tollway daily.

## 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 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* delivered 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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