

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 10, 2025

EXTENDED LANE CLOSURES SCHEDULED THIS WEEKEND ON THE CENTRAL TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) PROJECT

Traffic will be reduced throughout the weekend between St. Charles Road and the Cermak Toll Plaza

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Weekend-long lane closures are scheduled on the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project on southbound I-294 between St. Charles Road and the Cermak Toll Plaza. Delays are expected.

Construction and electronic message signs will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the lane closures and traffic shifts. Up-to-date closure information will be available in the Illinois Tollway's <u>Daily Construction Alert</u>. All work is weather dependent.

On Friday, July 11, beginning at 7 p.m. and continuing through Sunday, July 13, southbound lane closures between St. Charles Road and the Cermak Toll Plaza are scheduled with two southbound lanes closed during overnight hours and one southbound lane closed during daytime hours. All lanes are scheduled to reopen for the Monday morning commute.

The closures are needed to complete bridge and pavement work to prepare for a traffic shift scheduled for late July, on southbound I-294 between I-88 and Cermak Road. The right lane is scheduled to shift to the inside onto new bridges and pavement.

Currently four lanes are open on southbound I-294 with traffic shifted into a split configuration with three left lanes continuing on the I-294 mainline between St. Charles Road and the Cermak Toll Plaza and one right lane directed onto the auxiliary lanes providing access to exit ramps for eastbound I-290, for westbound I-88 and for Cermak Road before reconnecting with the southbound I-294 mainline.

Also in July, on eastbound I-290, traffic is scheduled to be shifted to the outside between St. Charles Road and Butterfield Road (Illinois Route 56) to complete work in the median, including demolition of existing bridge piers.

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 <u>I-290/I-88 Interchange Project</u> page on the Tollway's website at <u>www.illinoistollway.com</u> 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* 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 reconstructing 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.