

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

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LONG-TERM LANE CLOSURES BEGINNING ON ACORN LANE IN FRANKLIN PARK FOR I-490 TOLLWAY PROJECT

Roadway reconstruction will accommodate construction of new Franklin Avenue Interchange to improve mobility in Franklin Park and Bensenville

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Long-term lane closures are scheduled to begin next week and continue throughout the year to reconstruct Acorn Lane in Franklin Park as part of advance work for construction of the Franklin Avenue Interchange for the new I-490 Tollway to improve mobility for Franklin Park and Bensenville. Businesses along Acorn Lane will remain open during construction, but access may be impacted at times..

Construction signage will be put in place to alert drivers to new traffic patterns. Lane closures, traffic shifts and temporary driveway impacts on Acorn Lane are necessary to provide a safe work zone and accommodate traffic during construction. 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 the week of March 10, work is scheduled to reconstruct Acorn Lane. Traffic is scheduled to be reduced to a single lane daily, as needed, and flaggers will be used to maintain bi-directional traffic. Later this spring, Acorn Lane is scheduled to be reduced to a single lane accommodating only southbound traffic from Franklin Avenue.

Once the work is complete, Acorn Lane will be extended to Addison Avenue and permanently closed at Franklin Avenue ending in a newly constructed cul-de-sac.

Work on Acorn Lane includes roadway reconstruction, installation of new water main, sanitary sewers and storm sewers. Reconstruction of Acorn Lane is anticipated to be completed in 2025.

Construction in this area is being coordinated with the Village of Franklin Park and Cook County, as well as local fire and police departments. In addition, the Illinois Tollway is working closely with local businesses to minimize disruptions.

The Illinois Tollway is constructing a new, full-access interchange connecting the I-490 Tollway to Franklin Avenue and providing direct access to the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and improving mobility in the communities of Bensenville and Franklin Park. The multi-phase project includes constructing new interchange ramps at Franklin Avenue, reconstructing Franklin Avenue/Green Street in partnership with Cook County, constructing a portion of I-490 Tollway mainline and improving local road connections to alleviate congestion and facilitate seamless access to the interchange. The interchange project is scheduled for completion in 2026.

Construction updates, project information, maps and detour information for work that is part of the I-490 Tollway Project can be found in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at <u>www.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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