



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 21, 2026

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY AWARDS CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS IN JANUARY AS PART OF \$1.26 BILLION 2026 CAPITAL SPENDING PLAN

Nearly \$12.1 billion invested in infrastructure since 2012 start of Move Illinois Program

DOWNTOWN GROVE, IL - The Illinois Tollway Board of Directors today approved two construction contracts of 2026 at its January Board meeting, marking the start of the 15th year of the 16-year, \$15 billion Move Illinois Capital Program and the second year of the 7-year, \$2 billion Bridging the Future capital plan.

"We are looking forward to a busy construction season on the Illinois Tollway in 2026, committing \$1.26 billion to keep delivering infrastructure improvements that will enhance mobility and improve service to customers," said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Cassaundra Rouse. "These dollars translate into repairs and upgrades systemwide, as well as continued progress on the new I-490 Tollway and reconstruction of key segments of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294)."

The Tollway's capital program calls for investing \$1.26 billion in 2026 with \$374 million budgeted for systemwide roadway and bridge repairs, along with funding for key projects including:

- \$328.9 million to continue design and reconstruction work for the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project.
- \$427.4 million to continue planning and construction for the new I-490 Tollway and the new Illinois Route 390 Interchange, as well as providing direct access in and out of O'Hare International Airport as part of the Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project.

Overall, nearly \$12.1 billion has been invested by the Tollway since 2012, with more than \$3.2 billion of that total committed to small, diverse and veteran-owned firms. In addition, the capital program has created or sustained an estimated 149,280 total jobs as of December 2025.

The construction contracts awarded in January include:

- A \$38.2 million contract to OHLA Central Inc./Judlau Contracting Inc. joint venture, Lisle, IL, for roadway construction on the new I-490 Tollway between Irving Park Road and Devon Avenue.
- A \$3 million contract to Natural Creations Landscaping Inc., Joliet, IL, for landscape planting improvements on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) between I-55 and Cermak Road.

The January contracts include nine certified disadvantaged, minority- and women-owned business enterprise (D/M/WBE) firms, as well as two certified veteran-owned firms. Commitment for D/M/WBE participation is 32.01 percent and commitment for veteran participation is 1.62 percent.

Construction contracts for Illinois Tollway projects are competitively bid under the rules of the Illinois Procurement Code. All contracts are presented to the Illinois Tollway Board of Directors for review and approval.

The Illinois Tollway broadcasts all public meetings on the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com. This includes all board meetings and public bid openings. Also provided is detailed information about

current Tollway construction and professional engineering services contracts in the Construction Contract Tracker.

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. During the first 14 years of Move Illinois the Tollway has 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 opened 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 of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294).

About Bridging the Future

Approved by the Illinois Tollway Board of Directors in December 2024, Bridging the Future is a seven-year, \$2 billion plan designed to continue infrastructure improvements, bridging the gap between the agency's current and next long-term capital program. Based on stakeholder feedback and engagement, Bridging the Future is addressing ongoing modernization initiatives and continuing to support investments in the people and firms working to improve regional mobility.

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.

#