



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 19, 2026

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY AWARDS MORE THAN \$50 MILLION IN CONSTRUCTION AND PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING CONTRACTS IN MARCH

Four firms benefiting from Partnering for Growth mentor-protégé relationships

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway Board of Directors today approved seven construction and professional engineering contracts totaling more than \$50 million at its March Board meeting, including mentoring opportunities for four firms working on construction management services contracts.

“The best way for small, disadvantaged and veteran firms learn the ropes and build their capabilities is working on the job with experienced mentors,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Cassandra Rouse. “What’s more, many firms benefitting from mentoring have not only gone on to be awarded prime contracts with the Tollway, but they also continued to participate in our Partnering for Growth program by mentoring other small firms.”

The Illinois Tollway’s Partnering for Growth Program encourages prime consultants and contractors to assist disadvantaged, minority- and women-owned business enterprise (D/M/WBE) firms and veteran-owned small businesses (VOSB) in remaining self-sufficient, competitive and profitable businesses. Since inception, 265 executed agreements and nearly 60 firms have gone from protégé to prime.

Construction contracts awarded in March include:

- A \$11.9 million contract to Civil Constructors Inc., Freeport, IL, for bridge rehabilitation on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) from Howland Creek to Illinois Route 26.
- A \$10.9 million contract to Foundation Mechanics, Chicago, IL, for bridge rehabilitation on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) from Illinois Route 26 to Steward Creek.
- A \$9.7 million contract to Meade Inc., Willowbrook, IL, for lighting repairs systemwide.

Professional engineering services contracts awarded in March include:

- A \$5.6 million contract to HR Green Inc., McHenry, IL, for construction management services for roadway, bridge and ramp reconstruction and widening on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) from St. Charles Road to North Avenue.
- A \$5 million contract to Gonzalez Companies, Belleville, IL, for construction management services upon request systemwide.
- A \$4.2 million contract to SQN Associates, Chicago, IL, for construction management services for asphalt overlay and pavement marking on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) from I-55 to Cermak Road.
- A \$3 million contract to American Engineering Consultants Inc., Chicago, IL for construction management services upon request systemwide.

The March contracts include 27 certified disadvantaged, minority- and women-owned business enterprise (D/M/WBE) firms, as well as five certified veteran-owned firms. Commitments for D/M/WBE

participation range from 15.76 percent to 95 percent per contract and commitments for veteran participation range from 2.05 percent to 6 percent per contract.

More than \$105.2 million in contracts has been approved by the Tollway Board in 2026, including \$50.9 million as part of the 15th year of the Tollway's 16-year, \$15 billion *Move Illinois* capital program and \$54.3 million as part of the seven-year, \$2 billion *Bridging the Future* plan. The Illinois Tollway's 2026 capital program calls for investing \$1.26 billion.

Overall, more than \$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 150,720 total jobs as of February 2026.

Illinois Tollway professional engineering services contracts are selected in accordance with the qualifications-based selection process (Illinois Public Act 87-673 (30 ILCS 535) Architectural, Engineering and Land Surveying Qualifications-Based Selection Act), which requires state agencies to select professional architects, engineers and surveyors based on demonstrated competence and professional qualifications. Construction contracts for Illinois Tollway projects are competitively bid under the rules of the Illinois Procurement Code.

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.