ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 6, 2026

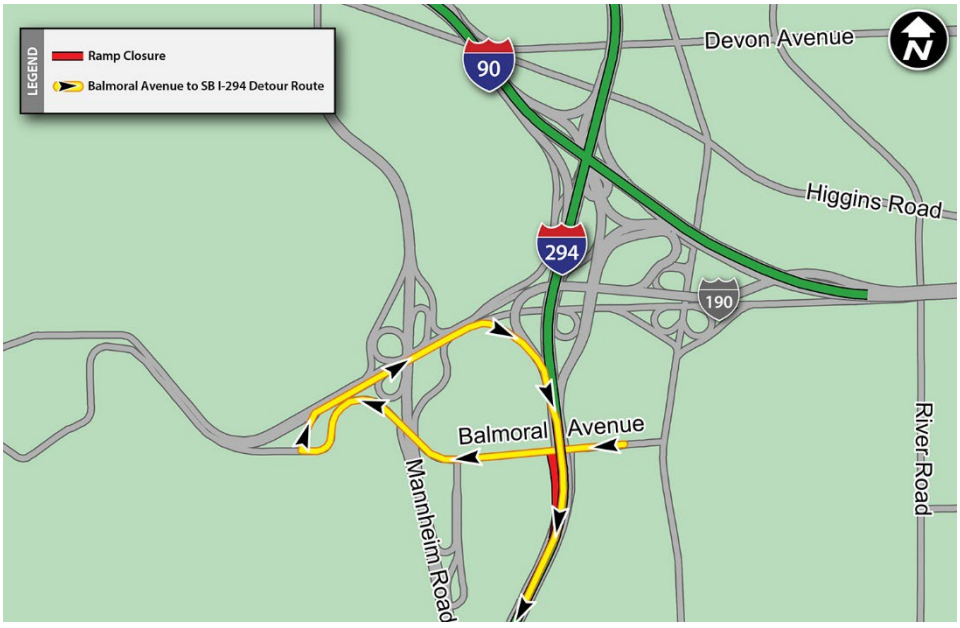
RAMP CLOSURE, LANE REDUCTIONS SCHEDULED AT BALMORAL AVENUE AND IRVING PARK ROAD INTERCHANGES ON TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) FOR BRIDGE REPAIR WORK

Ramp and lane closures needed to accommodate bridge repair work

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Overnight closures of the ramp connecting Balmoral Avenue to the southbound Tri-State Tollway (I-294) are scheduled to begin this week for ongoing mainline bridge work over the Canadian Pacific Kansas City Railroad and Lawrence Avenue. Ongoing temporary overnight lane closures on I-294 are scheduled to continue and will reduce traffic to a single lane as needed. Delays are expected.

Electronic message signs and construction signage are in place to alert drivers to the traffic shifts, lane and ramp closures and detours scheduled throughout the work. Up-to-date information will be posted on the Tollway website in the Daily Construction Alert. All work is weather dependent.

Beginning at 6 p.m., Thursday, October 8, the ramp connecting Balmoral Avenue to southbound I-294 is scheduled to close with a posted detour routing traffic to the I-190 Interchange to access southbound I-294. In addition, the two turn lanes in both directions on Balmoral Avenue are also scheduled to close.



On I-294, overnight lane reductions are scheduled to continue in both over the Canadian Pacific Kansas City Railroad and Lawrence Avenue, with the first lanes closing at 7 p.m.

All lanes and the ramp are scheduled to reopen by 6 a.m. on Friday, October 9. Similar closures will be scheduled through the weekend and into October with the closure times varying.

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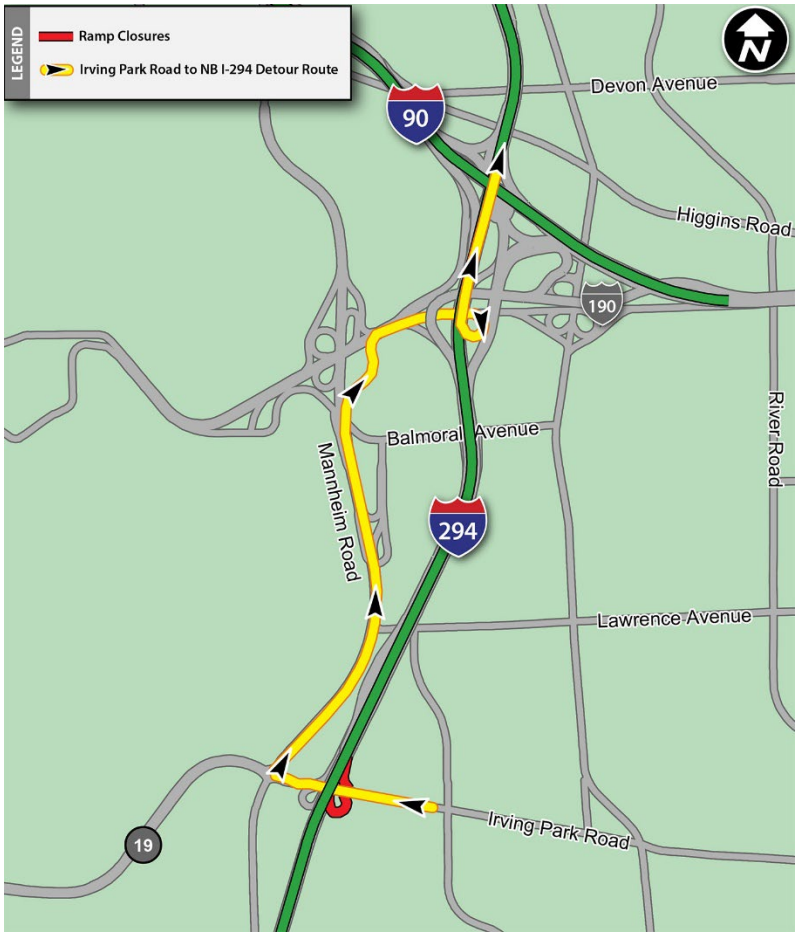
In October, ongoing overnight lane closures will continue on I-294 and overnight closures of the ramps connecting Irving Park Road to northbound I-294 will be scheduled with posted detours routing traffic to Mannheim Road to I-190 to access northbound I-294. A long-term lane closure will be needed on westbound Irving Park Road as part of this work.



In addition, this fall additional closures of the ramp connecting Balmoral Avenue to southbound I-294 will be needed along with lane closures in both directions on Lawrence Avenue.

The Illinois Tollway has scheduled bridge repairs in 2026 on the Tri-State Tollway mainline bridges over the Canadian Pacific Kansas City Railroad in Franklin Park, Lawrence Avenue and Irving Park Road. Work includes concrete bridge repairs, structural steel repairs, bridge joint repairs, electrical work, and pavement patching and replacing the bridge deck pavement over the railroad bridge and is scheduled to be complete in 2027. This work is part of the Tollway's *Move Illinois* Program.

The repair work on the Tri-State Tollway is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Cook County, the Canadian Pacific Railroad, the Canadian Pacific Kansas City Railroad, Village of Franklin Park and Village of Rosemont, as well as local fire and police departments.

Maps and construction information are available in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at illinoistollway.com.

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 for 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 14 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 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.

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