ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

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CONTACT: Joelle McGinnis
630-241-6800 ext. 6380
jmcginnis@getipass.com

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY INVITES PUBLIC TO COMMENT ON TENTATIVE 2027 BUDGET

Balanced spending plan allocates more than $2.4 billion in annual revenue and supports more than $1.45 billion for capital investments in 2027

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway introduced a balanced Tentative 2027 Budget with $2.4 billion of revenue today at its October Board of Directors meeting that includes $511 million for annual maintenance and operations on the 294-mile system.

The proposed spending plan will allow the Tollway to commit $1.45 billion for capital investments in 2027, including funding for the 16th year of the agency's $15 billion *Move Illinois* capital program, funds for the third year of *Bridging the Future* and the first year of *Driving Connections*, Tollway's new long-term capital program.

"This is a well thought out spending plan that invests customers' tolls strategically and maximizes efficiencies across our agency," said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Cassaundra Rouse. "We have committed to provide the highest level of safety and service to our 1.7 million daily drivers. We are also ensuring delivery of infrastructure improvements, including the launch of *Driving Connections*, supporting job creation and economic development opportunities across the 12 counties we serve."

In August 2026, as a result of two years of strategic planning, analysis and public engagement, the Board of Directors approved *Driving Connections*, a $26.5 billion capital program that will shape investment across the Tollway system through 2042, addressing congestion, aging infrastructure and the transportation needs of a growing region.

The 2027 Budget is a balanced budget in which revenues provide sufficient resources for operating and maintenance expenses and commits nearly 79 percent of revenues allocated to support infrastructure improvements, keep the existing system in a state of good repair as outlined in each of the Tollway's three capital programs and debt service.

"The Tollway Board has called on staff to prepare a 2027 Budget that demonstrates our efforts to maximize operating efficiencies and spend responsibly," said Illinois Tollway Board Chairman Arnie Rivera. "The Board is committed to transparency and accountability about how our customers' tolls are spent, so we welcome public comment on this budget plan."

As part of the Illinois Tollway's 2027 Budget process, the public is invited to visit the Illinois Tollway's website www.illinoistollway.com to review the Tentative 2027 Budget book or view a recording of the presentation to the board.

The Illinois Tollway will accept comments at public hearings on Thursday, November 5, at 6 p.m. at Silver Cross Hospital, Pavilion A, Lower Level, Conference Center, 1900 Silver Cross Boulevard in New Lenox or Thursday, November 19, at 1 p.m. at Illinois Tollway headquarters in Downers Grove.

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In addition, written comments also may be submitted via the Tollway's website www.illinoistollway.com, emailed to comments@getipass.com or mailed to the Communications Department, 2700 Ogden Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515 by November 20.

After the Board of Directors has reviewed the public comments and any updates have been incorporated, a final budget will be presented for approval by the Board at its December meeting.

Tentative 2027 Budget
The Tentative 2027 Budget presented to the Tollway's Board of Directors outlines a balanced spending plan to support customer service, safety and security, and employee investments to improve efficiency, as well as the implementation of the two largest capital programs in the agency's history. The proposed spending plan allocates nearly $1.9 billion for direct funding and debt service on capital investments, as well as $511 million for maintenance and operations.

To support Tollway spending, the Tentative 2027 Budget includes a total $2.4 billion in projected revenue. This includes $2.3 billion from tolls and evasion recovery, supported by new passenger and commercial vehicle toll rates beginning January 1, 2027. This represents the first increase for all customers in more than 15 years.

The 2027 budgeted annual revenue also includes $65 million from investment income and $13.1 million from concessions and miscellaneous revenue. The Tollway also plans to issue a portion of its currently authorized $1 billion in new bonds in 2027 to provide funding for capital investments.

Overall, the 2027 Budget includes funding for Maintenance and Operations and Capital budgets to support activities and services that focus on serving the Illinois Tollway's customers. This includes allocating $294 million allocated for Operations and Business Systems departments to provide customer services support and enhancements, $100 million for the Information Technology budget to modernize processes, $69.5 million for the Roadway Maintenance budget, as well as $36.7 million budgeted for Security and Safety, including funding for a service agreement with the Illinois State Police.

The Tentative 2027 Budget supports the Tollway's 2027 Capital Program that calls for investing $1.45 billion in 2027 with $467.2 million budgeted for systemwide maintenance of roadways facilities and fleet to keep the existing Tollway system in good repair, as well as along with funding for key projects including:

- $397.2 million to continue design and construction for the new I-490 Tollway and new interchanges including connections with the Illinois Route 390 Tollway and direct access in and out of O'Hare International Airport.
- $228.2 million to continue improvements on the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80) including reconstruction work for the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project.

About *Driving Connections*
Driving Connections is a $26.5 billion capital program approved by the Tollway Board of Directors in August 2026 that will shape investment across the Tollway system through 2042, addressing congestion, aging infrastructure and the transportation needs of a growing region. Investments are focused on rebuilding and rehabilitating roads and bridges, improving interchanges and access, reducing traffic delays and making the systemwide investments necessary to keep nearly 300 miles of Tollway safe and reliable.

About *Move Illinois*
The Illinois Tollway's $15 billion *Move Illinois* capital program is improving mobility, relieving congestion, reducing pollution, creating as many as 165,220 jobs and linking economies throughout the region. During the first 15 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 a completed 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 *Bridging the Future*
Approved in 2024, *Bridging the Future* is a $2 billion plan designed to continue infrastructure improvements, bridging the gap between *Move Illinois* and *Driving Connections*, the new 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.

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