



2026 PUBLIC COMMENT





ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 22, 2025

CONTACT: Dan Rozek
630-241-6800 ext. 6392
drozek@getipass.com

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY INVITES PUBLIC TO COMMENT ON TENTATIVE 2026 BUDGET

*Balanced spending plan allocates more than \$1.79 billion in annual revenue
and supports more than \$1.26 billion for capital program*

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway introduced a balanced Tentative 2026 Budget with \$1.79 billion of revenue today that includes \$467.7 million for annual maintenance and operations on the 294-mile system and provides funds to support \$1.26 billion in capital spending, including funding for the 15th year of the agency's 16-year *Move Illinois* capital program and second year of the Bridging the Future capital plan.

"This Tentative 2026 Budget is a balanced spending plan developed with a focus on delivering the best possible service to our 1.6 million daily drivers through investments in new technology, system maintenance and our employees," said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Cassaundra Rouse. "We encourage the public to view the tentative budget online or at one of our public meetings and share their comments."

As part of the Illinois Tollway's 2026 Budget process, the general public is invited to visit the Illinois Tollway's website www.illinoistollway.com to review the Tentative 2026 Budget book or view a recording of the presentation to the board. The public may also attend public hearings on Monday, November 17, at 6 p.m. at the Schaumburg Central Library, 130 South Roselle Road, Schaumburg or Thursday, November 20, at 1 p.m. at Illinois Tollway headquarters in Downers Grove.

In addition, written public comments also may be submitted online via the Tollway's website www.illinoistollway.com, emailed to info@getipass.com or mailed to the Department of Stakeholder Engagement, 2700 Ogden Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515 by November 21.

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

Tentative 2026 Budget

The Tentative 2026 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 largest capital program in the agency's history. The proposed spending plan allocates nearly \$1.318 billion for direct funding and debt service on capital investments, as well as \$467.7 million for maintenance and operations.

"The Illinois Tollway Board challenged staff to deliver a spending plan that invests our customers' tolls wisely and maximizes efficiencies," said Illinois Tollway Board of Directors Chairman Arnie Rivera. "The proposal we received today is a responsible budget that will allow the Tollway to continue to operate at the highest level of service and ensure continued deliver of infrastructure improvements systemwide."

To support Tollway spending, the Tentative 2026 Budget includes a total \$1.79 billion in projected revenue, an increase of 2.7 percent over 2025. This includes \$1.73 billion from tolls and evasion recovery, including an annual commercial truck toll rate increase initially approved by the Tollway Board in 2008. There is no toll increase planned for passenger vehicles which has not increased since 2012.

The 2026 budgeted annual revenue also includes \$50 million from investment income and \$2 million from concessions and miscellaneous revenue. The Tollway also plans to issue \$1 billion in new bonds in 2026 to provide funding for capital investments.

Overall, the 2026 Budget includes funding from Maintenance and Operations and Capital budgets to support activities and services that focus on serving the Illinois Tollway's customers. This includes allocating \$98.1 million for the Information Technology budget to modernize processes, \$67.4 million for the Roadway Maintenance budget and \$36 million budgeted for Security and Safety, including funding for a service agreement with the Illinois State Police, as well as \$202.1 million allocated for Operations and Business Systems departments to provide customer services support and enhancements.

The Tentative 2026 Budget supports the Tollway's 2026 Capital Program that calls for investing \$1.26 billion in 2026 with \$374 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:

- \$328.9 million to continue reconstruction work for the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project.
- \$427.4 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.

About *Move Illinois*

The Illinois Tollway's 16-year, \$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 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 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 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.

Chicago Tribune

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This notice was also placed on a statewide public notice website as required by 715 ILCS 5/2. 1.

On the following days, to-wit: **Oct 25, 2025**.

Executed at Chicago, Illinois on this

26th Day of October, 2025, by

Chicago Tribune Company



Jeremy Gates

Chicago Tribune

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ILLINOIS TOLLWAY TENTATIVE 2026 BUDGET

The Illinois State Toll Highway Authority, an instrumentality and administrative agency of the State of Illinois, will hold two public hearings pursuant to 605 ILCS 10/23(g) on its Tentative 2026 Budget:

Monday, November 17, 2025, 6 p.m.
Schaumburg Central Library
130 South Roselle Road, Schaumburg, 60193

Thursday, November 20, 2025, 1 p.m.
Illinois Tollway Headquarters
2700 Ogden Avenue, Downers Grove, 60515

These hearings are accessible to persons with disabilities. Persons planning to attend who will need a sign language interpreter or other similar accommodations should notify the Tollway at 630-241-6800, extension 1101, or TTY 888-261-5112, at least one week before the hearing.

The Illinois Tollway invites public comment on the Tentative 2026 Budget. At the hearings, persons may make oral or written comments. Comments also may be emailed or mailed to the addresses listed below or submitted on the Illinois Tollway's website illinoistollway.com. All comments must be received no later than November 21, 2025.

Detailed information on the Tentative 2026 Budget, including a budget presentation, may be viewed on the Illinois Tollway's website or may be requested by contacting the Illinois Tollway at:

Illinois Tollway
2700 Ogden Avenue
Downers Grove, IL 60515
630-241-6800 ext. 1101
info@getipass.com
10/25/2025 7887137

Illinois Tollway Tentative 2026 Budget Written Comments Summary



October 22, 2025 - November 21, 2025

Participation Totals

Number U.S. Mail Comments: 0

Number Emailed Comments: 0

U.S. Mail Comments

	Name/Business	Town	Message Summary
1	None		

Emailed Comments

	Name/Business	Email Address	Message Summary
1	None		
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			

Original Emailed Messages

Illinois Tollway Tentative 2026 Budget Public Hearing Summary



November 17, 2025, 6:00 p.m./ Schaumburg Public Library

Participation Totals

Number of People in Attendance: 0

ORAL COMMENTS

Name of Speaker: None

Town/business/elected position:

Overall synopsis:

Written Comments

	Name/Business	Town	Message Summary
1	None		
2			
3			

THE ILLINOIS STATE TOLL AUTHORITY
TENTATIVE BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

130 South Roselle Road
Schaumburg, Illinois

Monday, November 17, 2025
6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Cassaundra Rouse, Executive Director
Cathy Williams, Chief Financial Officer
Arnie Rivera, Board Chairman
Manar Nashif, Chief Engineering Officer
Kathleen Pasulka-Brown, General Counsel

Reported by: Nicole M. Cheney
CSR No. 084-004744

1 DIRECTOR ROUSE: Welcome to today's public
2 hearing on the Illinois Tollway's Tentative 2026
3 Budget.

4 My name is Cassaundra Rouse, and I
5 am the executive director at the Illinois Tollway.
6 And it is my pleasure to serve as your host for
7 this public hearing.

8 Thank you for taking time to learn
9 about the Tollway's proposed budget for the
10 upcoming fiscal year.

11 At the conclusion of our
12 presentation, we will invite you to share your
13 feedback with us. If you wish to submit oral or
14 written comments related to the Tollway's Tentative
15 2026 Budget, please fill out a yellow card, but if
16 you prefer, you can also email written comments to
17 us at info@getipass.com.

18 This meeting is being recorded by a
19 court reporter and a full transcript will be
20 provided to our board of directors and will become
21 part of the official public record.

22 Joining us today are Illinois
23 Tollway -- is the Illinois Tollway Chairman Arnie
24 Rivera. In addition, Tollway staff in attendance

1 at this hearing includes representatives from our
2 finance, engineering, and legal departments.

3 The Illinois Tollway's Tentative
4 2026 Budget represents our efforts to continually
5 ensure we are investing our customer's money. This
6 is a balanced budget that demonstrates the
7 Tollway's commitment to serve the transportation
8 needs of Northern Illinois and our 1.6 million
9 daily drivers.

10 The business of the Illinois Tollway
11 is moving people, goods, and services that support
12 our region's economy and communities. This means
13 we must continue to make strategic investments in
14 infrastructure, safety, technology, and customer
15 service.

16 Most importantly, we want to ensure
17 that the investments we're making today provide
18 lasting value for our customers into the future.

19 The Tentative 2026 Budget allocates
20 revenue to support infrastructure with nearly
21 1.318 billion for direct funding and debt service
22 on capital investments as well as 467.7 million for
23 maintenance and operations.

24 This is a responsible spending plan

1 that also will support the investment of
2 1.26 billion in capital spending for 2026 funded by
3 toll revenues and bond proceeds for our current
4 Move Illinois and Bridging the Future capital
5 programs.

6 Next, Cathy Williams, our chief
7 financial officer, will detail our proposed revenue
8 and spending plans in the Tentative 2026 Budget.

9 Cathy?

10 MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Cassaundra.

11 Today I would like to present an
12 overview of the 2026 Tentative Budget.

13 This budget funds our operational
14 needs, ensures the servicing of Tollway's bonds,
15 and supports our ongoing capital program, now in
16 its 15th year.

17 Preparation of the 2026 budget began
18 with initial staff work in July, but this
19 presentation marks the first formal step in setting
20 our budget for the upcoming year.

21 As part of this annual process, we
22 will welcome public comments on the budget in
23 November. We will carefully review and consider
24 this feedback, making any necessary revisions. The

1 final budget will then be presented to -- for
2 approval at the December board meeting.

3 Two public hearings are scheduled,
4 one today here, 6:00 p.m., at the Schaumburg
5 Central Library, and one for November 20th at
6 1:00 p.m. at Tollway Headquarters.

7 Public comments may be shared during
8 the hearing, mailed, or submitted online via the
9 Tollway's website at illinoistollway.com through
10 November 21st.

11 2026 budget highlights: The 2026
12 budget include revenue projections that continue to
13 show steady growth with a 2.7 percent increase over
14 the current 2025 forecast and a 3.8 percent
15 increase over the 2025 budget.

16 Operating costs reflect a 0.6 percent
17 decrease, driven by efficiencies in contractual
18 services, reduced miscellaneous expenses, and
19 targeted wellness initiatives to offset increased
20 cost as well as improving employee health.

21 Furthermore, we are making a
22 substantial capital investment of nearly 1.3 billion
23 in the Tollway's infrastructure as part of the 2026
24 capital program, reinforcing our commitment to

1 system improvements and regional mobility.

2 Revenue, net of evaded totals, is
3 estimated to total 1.734 million in 2026. This is
4 a 5.3 percent increase over the 2025 forecast and a
5 5.2 percent increase over the 2025 budget.

6 Additionally, our budget
7 incorporates 52 million from investment income,
8 concessions, and miscellaneous revenue.

9 It's important to note that 74 percent
10 of our total revenue is dedicated to supporting
11 infrastructure investments.

12 Of the 2026 revenue, 468 million
13 will be directed to the operating account,
14 582 million is allocated for debt service cost, and
15 736 million will be invested in capital accounts,
16 which includes a 264 million deposit into the
17 renewal and replacement account, as recommended by
18 our consulting engineer.

19 This, combined with the issuance of
20 1 billion in bonds for the year 2026, will support
21 our capital program.

22 The Tollway's operating budget is
23 primarily focused on improving the experiences of
24 our customers, improving the service levels and

1 maintenance of maintaining our roadways,
2 investments in technology, and employees' safety
3 training, wellness, and development.

4 We have about 1.6 million drivers
5 each day with an average of 2.6 million daily toll
6 transactions.

7 Our 2026 operating and capital
8 budget includes 202 million for business systems
9 and services supporting customers and tolling
10 technology. Customer service accounts for nearly
11 30 percent of the operating budget.

12 In addition, increased staffing in
13 roadway maintenance helps to improve service levels
14 and provide a safe means of travel and a great
15 driving experience for our customers.

16 The operating budget allocates
17 65 million for roadway maintenance and represents
18 14 percent of our operating budget.

19 The budget provides 98 million to
20 support new technology to provide the Tollway with
21 the essential resources for system implementation,
22 network security, and enhanced integration of
23 business and enterprise resource planning processes.
24 Investments in technology account for 10 percent of

1 our operating budget.

2 And then the budget also supports
3 programs at the Tollway for employees and includes
4 enhanced wellness and activities that support
5 employee growth and development, targeted wellness
6 initiatives as well as continued safety training,
7 especially at our maintenance sites, which helps to
8 keep employees healthy by reducing injuries as well
9 as operating costs in the long term.

10 As stated previously, the 2026
11 operating budget is 468 million, a decrease of
12 3 million or 0.6 percent over the 2025 budget.

13 Key drivers of the 2026 budget
14 include salary and wages of 113 million increased
15 by 3.5 million or 3.2 percent primarily due to
16 contractual adjustments. FICA and retirement
17 contributions decreased by 3.6 million due to a
18 lower required pension contribution rate. Credit
19 card fees and bank charges of 42.3 million
20 increased by 1.1 million driven by projected
21 revenue growth in fiscal year 2026.

22 All other contractual services are
23 projected to decrease by 4.6 million through mostly
24 a realignment of our security and ISB consulting

1 agreements as finalizing the contract as well as
2 due to the biennial nature of certain contracts
3 that are not slated for spending in 2026.

4 Additional savings in contractual
5 services were achieved through operational
6 efficiencies in fulfilling sticker tag requirements
7 as well as other miscellaneous expenses, including
8 reduced travel expenses.

9 And lastly, group insurance of
10 45 million remained mostly flat as we work to
11 offset increased cost by targeted wellness
12 initiatives, increasing the utilization of existing
13 benefits to address high-impact health conditions
14 within the workforce.

15 The Tollway will have 7.2 billion
16 in bonds outstanding in January of 2026. 1 billion
17 is expected to be issued in 2026 to support the
18 Move Illinois Program. 581.4 million of revenue
19 will be used for debt service transfers covering
20 principal and interest. And we will continue to
21 maintain a debt service coverage ratio of over two
22 times for both 2025 and 2026.

23 2026 capital program summary, in
24 2025, the Tollway budgeted 1.168 billion for its

1 capital program and is currently forecasted to
2 spend 1.029 billion.

3 For 2026, total capital expenditures
4 are projected to reach 1.2 billion, representing an
5 increase of 230.8 million of the 2025 forecast.

6 Funding for the program includes
7 545.6 million for existing system needs, focused on
8 the Tri-State and systemwide improvements, and
9 508.6 million for system expansion, including the
10 Elgin O'Hare corridor and other emerging projects.

11 The budget also allocates
12 205.9 million for initiatives in Bridging the Future
13 which provide planning, design, and construction
14 services that complement infrastructure investments
15 already underway in the Move Illinois program as
16 well as efforts to support development of a future
17 capital program to ensure consistent delivery of
18 infrastructure improvements across the region.

19 Key highlights for 2026: The
20 Tri-State Tollway, 328.9 million for roadway
21 reconstruction and widening from Flagg Creek near
22 I-55 to Cermak Road, construction activities for
23 the I-290/I-88 Interchange Roadway reconstruction
24 and widening between St. Charles Road and North

1 Avenue will continue as well as bridge
2 reconstruction between Illinois 394 and 95th Street.

3 The Elgin O'Hare Western Access
4 Project, approximately 427.4 million is allocated
5 for the I-490 Tollway Project. Construction is
6 continuing for the replacement of the Union Pacific
7 Railroad Bridge over Franklin Avenue, and the CPKC
8 Bensenville Yard and Metra rail, as well as
9 construction of a new I-490 bridge crossing.

10 Systemwide Projects: An estimated
11 374 million is expected to be spent in 2026 on
12 systemwide improvements, including 51.5 million for
13 bridge, pavement, and safety improvements,
14 systemwide facility upgrades, and capital
15 expenditures such as fleet, intelligent
16 transportation systems technology, traffic and
17 incident management system, and back-office system
18 replacement.

19 Veterans Memorial Tollway,
20 approximately 14.1 million is allocated in 2026 for
21 pavement rehabilitation from I-80 to Army Trail
22 Road.

23 And on the Reagan Memorial Tollway,
24 approximately 7.5 million will be spent for 2026

1 work including York Road Bridge reconstruction,
2 pavement repairs from Washington to York Road for
3 the bridge -- for and bridge repairs over the Union
4 Pacific Railroad.

5 In summary, this marks the 15th year
6 of the Move Illinois Program, with projected
7 expenditures of 1.1 billion, representing 92 percent
8 of the total spending in Move Illinois.

9 Operating costs show a modest
10 decrease consistent with program goals, while
11 maintaining debt service coverage of two times.

12 And that completes the budget
13 presentation for 2026 -- for the 2026 budget.

14 DIRECTOR ROUSE: Thank you very much, Cathy.

15 So we will now open the floor for
16 public comments.

17 Anyone here who would like to submit
18 written or spoken comments about the Tentative 2026
19 Budget may fill out a yellow card and return it to
20 Tollway staff.

21 Please note that we will not be
22 responding to questions during the public comment
23 period today. We are here to hear your feedback to
24 our Tentative 2026 Budget and add your comments to

1 the official public record.

2 We ask that you please limit your
3 remarks to three minutes so anyone or everyone has
4 a chance to be heard.

5 In addition, all written and email
6 comments will be entered into the official public
7 record and shared with our board of directors along
8 with the transcript of today's public comments.

9 Please remember that today's topic
10 is the Tollway's Tentative 2026 Budget. If you
11 have questions on other Tollway-related projects,
12 please fill out a blue card and return it to a
13 Tollway staff member. A Tollway representative
14 will contact you in response to your question.

15 Thank you for your cooperation.

16 Now, those who signed up to speak
17 will be called at this time.

18 So seeing that no one has submitted
19 a request to speak, we will bring this public
20 hearing to a close.

21 If you did not submit a comment
22 today, we will continue to accept public comments
23 through November 21st. Comments can be emailed to
24 us at info@getipass.com.

1 Thank you all for attending today's
2 meeting, and we appreciate your input and value
3 your use of the Illinois Tollway system.

4 Have a good evening.

5 (The proceedings were adjourned
6 at 6:14 p.m.)

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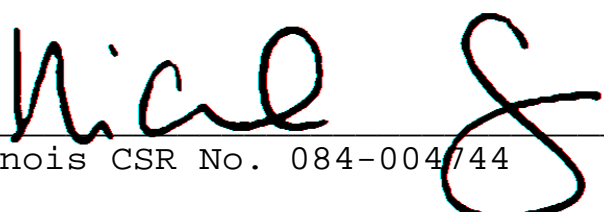
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24

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, Nicole M. Cheney, do hereby certify that I reported in shorthand the proceedings of said hearing as appears from my stenographic notes so taken and transcribed under my direction.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office at Chicago, Illinois, this 18th day of November 2025.



Illinois CSR No. 084-004744

PUBLIC HEARING, 11/17/2025

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Illinois Tollway Tentative 2026 Budget Public Hearing Summary



November 20, 2025, 1:00 p.m./ Illinois Tollway Headquarters

Participation Totals

Number of People in Attendance: 0

ORAL COMMENTS

Name of Speaker: None

Town/business/elected position:

Overall synopsis:

Written Comments

	Name/Business	Town	Message Summary
1	None		
2			
3			

THE ILLINOIS STATE TOLL AUTHORITY
TENTATIVE BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

2700 Ogden Avenue
Downers Grove, Illinois

Thursday, November 20, 2025
1:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Cassaundra Rouse, Executive Director
Cathy Williams, Chief Financial Officer
Arnie Rivera, Board Chairman
John Donato, Chief of Staff
Manar Nashif, Chief Engineering Officer
Kathleen Pasulka-Brown, General Counsel

Reported by: Nicole M. Cheney
CSR No. 084-004744

1 DIRECTOR ROUSE: Welcome to today's public
2 hearing on the Illinois Tollway's Tentative 2026
3 Budget.

4 My name is Cassaundra Rouse. I am
5 the executive director at the Illinois Tollway. It
6 is my pleasure to serve as host for this public
7 hearing.

8 This hearing today, I want to thank
9 you for taking time to learn about the Tollway's
10 proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

11 At the conclusion of our
12 presentation, we will invite you to share your
13 feedback with us. If you wish to submit oral or
14 written comments related to the Tollway's Tentative
15 2026 Budget, please fill out a yellow card. If you
16 prefer, you can also email written comments to us
17 at info@getipass.com.

18 This meeting is being recorded by a
19 court reporter and a full transcript will be
20 provided to our board of directors and will become
21 part of the official public record.

22 Joining us today at the Illinois
23 Tollway is our chairman, Arnie Rivera. In
24 addition, Tollway staff in attendance at this

1 hearing includes representatives from our finance,
2 engineering, and legal departments.

3 The Illinois Tollway's Tentative
4 2026 Budget represents our efforts to continually
5 ensure we are investing our customer's money. This
6 is a balanced budget that demonstrates the
7 Tollway's commitment to serving the transportation
8 needs of Northern Illinois and our 1.6 million
9 daily drivers.

10 The business of the Illinois Tollway
11 is moving people, goods, and services that support
12 our region's economy and communities. This means
13 we must continue to make strategic investments in
14 infrastructure, safety, technology, and customer
15 service.

16 Most importantly, we want to ensure
17 that the investments we're making today provide
18 lasting value for our customers into the future.

19 The Tentative 2026 Budget allocates
20 revenue to support infrastructure with nearly
21 1.318 billion for direct funding and debt service
22 on capital investments as well as 467.7 million for
23 maintenance and operations.

24 This is a responsible spending plan

1 that also will support the investment of
2 1.26 billion in capital spending for 2026 funded by
3 toll revenues and bond proceeds for our current
4 Move Illinois and Bridging the Future capital
5 programs.

6 Next, Cathy Williams, our chief
7 financial officer, will detail our proposed revenue
8 and spending plans in the Tentative 2026 Budget.

9 MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Executive Director
10 Rouse.

11 Today I would like to present an
12 overview of the 2026 Tentative Budget.

13 This budget funds our operational
14 needs, ensures the servicing of Tollway's bonds,
15 and supports our ongoing capital program, now in
16 its 15th year.

17 Preparation of the 2026 budget began
18 with initial staff work in July, but this
19 presentation marks the first formal step in setting
20 our budget for the upcoming year.

21 As part of the annual process, we
22 will welcome public comments on the budget through
23 November -- through the end of November. We will
24 carefully review and consider this feedback, making

1 any necessary revisions. The final budget will be
2 presented for approval at the December board
3 meeting.

4 This is the last of two public
5 hearings. One was held at the Schaumburg Central
6 Library on November 17th and then today,
7 November 20th, here at Tollway Headquarters.

8 Public comments may be shared during
9 the hearing, mailed, or submitted online via the
10 Tollway's website at illinoistollway.com through
11 November 21st.

12 2026 budget highlights: The 2026
13 budget highlights include revenue projections that
14 continue to show steady growth with a 2.7 percent
15 increase over the current 2025 forecast and a
16 3.8 percent increase over the 2025 budget.

17 Operating costs reflect a 0.6 percent
18 decrease, driven by efficiencies in contractual
19 services, reduced miscellaneous expenses, and
20 targeted wellness initiatives to offset increased
21 cost as well as improving employee health.

22 Furthermore, we are making a
23 substantial capital investment of nearly 1.3 billion
24 in the Tollway's infrastructure as part of the 2026

1 capital program, reinforcing our commitment to
2 system improvements and regional mobility.

3 Revenue, revenue net of evaded
4 totals is estimated to total 1.734 million in 2026,
5 a 5.3 percent increase over the 2025 forecast and a
6 5.2 percent increase over the 2025 budget.

7 Additionally, our budget
8 incorporates 52 million from investment income,
9 concessions, and miscellaneous revenue.

10 It's important to note that 74 percent
11 of our total revenue is dedicated to supporting
12 infrastructure investments.

13 Of the total 2026 revenue,
14 468 million will be directed to the operating
15 account, 582 million is allocated for debt service
16 cost, and 736 million will be invested in capital
17 accounts, which includes a 264 million deposit into
18 the renewal and replacement account, as recommended
19 by our consulting engineer.

20 This, combined with the issuance of
21 1 billion in bonds for the year 2026, will support
22 our capital program.

23 The Tollway's operating budget is
24 primarily focused on improving the experiences of

1 our customers, improving service levels and
2 maintenance our maintaining our roadways,
3 investments in technology, and employees' safety
4 training, wellness, and development.

5 We have about 1.6 million drivers
6 each day with an average of 2.6 million daily toll
7 transactions.

8 Our 2026 operating and capital
9 budget includes 202 million for business systems
10 and services supporting customers and tolling
11 technology. Customer service accounts for nearly
12 30 percent of the operating budget.

13 In addition, increased staffing in
14 roadway maintenance help to improve service levels
15 and provide a safe means of travel and a great
16 driving experience for our customers.

17 The operating budget allocates
18 65 million for roadway maintenance and represents
19 14 percent of our operating budget.

20 The budget provides 98 million to
21 support new technology to provide the Tollway with
22 the essential resources for system implementation,
23 network security, and the enhanced integration of
24 business and enterprise resource planning processes.

1 Investments in technology account for 10 percent of
2 our operating budget.

3 The budget also supports programs
4 for Tollway employees and includes enhanced
5 wellness and activities that support employee
6 growth and development, targeted wellness
7 initiatives as well as continued safety training,
8 especially at our maintenance sites, which helps to
9 keep employees healthy by reducing injuries as well
10 as operating costs in the long term.

11 As previously stated, the 2026
12 operating budget is 468 million, a decrease of
13 3 million or 0.6 percent over the 2025 budget.

14 Key drivers of our 2026 budget
15 include salary and wages of 113 million increased
16 by 3.5 million or 3.2 percent primarily due to
17 contractual adjustments, FICA and retirement
18 contributions decreased by 3.6 million due to a
19 lower required pension contribution rate, credit
20 card fees and bank charges of 42 million which
21 increased by 1.1 million driven by projected
22 revenue growth in fiscal year 2026.

23 All other contractual services are
24 projected to decrease by 4.6 million that reflect

1 mostly a realignment of our security and ISB
2 consulting agreements as finalizing the contract as
3 well as the biennial nature of certain contracts
4 that are not slated for spending in 2026.

5 Additional savings in contractual
6 services were achieved through operational
7 efficiencies in fulfilling sticker tag requirements
8 as well as other miscellaneous expenses, including
9 reduced travel.

10 Group insurance of 45 million remain
11 mostly flat as we work to offset increased cost by
12 targeted wellness initiatives, increasing the
13 utilization of existing benefits to address high-
14 impact health conditions within the workforce.

15 The Tollway will have 7.2 billion
16 in bonds outstanding in January of 2026. 1 billion
17 is expected to be issued in 2026 to support the
18 Move Illinois Program. 581 million of revenue will
19 be used to support debt service transfers covering
20 principal and interest, and we continue to maintain
21 a strong debt service coverage of over two times
22 for both 2025 and 2026.

23 The 2026 capital program, in 2025,
24 the Tollway budgeted 1.168 billion for its capital

1 program and is currently forecasted to spend
2 approximately 1.029 billion.

3 For 2026, total capital expenditures
4 are projected to reach 1.260 billion, representing
5 an increase of 230.8 million over 2025.

6 Funding for the 2026 program
7 includes 545 million for existing system needs,
8 focused on the Tri-State and systemwide improvements,
9 and 508.6 million for system expansion, which is
10 the Elgin O'Hare corridor and other emerging
11 projects.

12 The budget also includes 205 million
13 for initiatives in Bridging the Future which
14 provide planning, design, and construction services
15 that complement infrastructure investments already
16 underway in Move Illinois as well as efforts to
17 support the development of a future capital program
18 to ensure consistent delivery of infrastructure
19 improvements across the region.

20 Key highlights for the capital
21 program include the Tri-State Tollway,
22 328.9 million for roadway reconstruction and
23 widening from Flagg Creek near I-55 to Cermak Road,
24 construction activities for the I-290/I-88

1 Interchange Roadway reconstruction and widening
2 between St. Charles Road and North Avenue will
3 continue as well as bridge reconstruction between
4 Illinois Route 394 and 95th Street.

5 The Elgin O'Hare Western Access
6 Project, approximately 427 million is allocated for
7 the I-490 Tollway Project. Construction is
8 continuing for the replacement of the Union Pacific
9 Railroad Bridge over Franklin Avenue, the CPKC
10 Bensenville Yard and Metra rail, as well as
11 construction of a new I-490 bridge crossing.

12 Systemwide projects is estimated to
13 spend 374 million in 2026 on systemwide
14 improvements, including 51.5 million for bridge and
15 pavement and safety improvements, systemwide
16 facility upgrades, other capital expenditures such
17 as fleet, intelligent transportation system
18 technology, traffic and incident management system,
19 and back-office system replacement.

20 On the Veterans Memorial Tollway,
21 approximately 14.1 million is allocated in 2026 for
22 pavement rehabilitation from I-80 to Army Trail
23 Road.

24 And on the Reagan Memorial Tollway,

1 approximately 7.5 million will be spent in 2026 for
2 roadwork including York Road Bridge reconstruction,
3 pavement repairs from Washington to York Road for
4 bridge and bridge repairs over the Union Pacific
5 Railroad.

6 So, in summary, this marks the 15th
7 year of the Move Illinois Program, with total
8 projected expenditures of 1.1 billion, representing
9 92 percent of total spending in Move Illinois.

10 Operating costs show a modest
11 decrease consistent with program goals, while
12 maintaining debt service coverage of more than two
13 times.

14 That concludes the budget
15 presentation.

16 Thank you.

17 DIRECTOR ROUSE: Thank you very much, Cathy.

18 We will now open the floor for
19 public comments.

20 Anyone here who would like to submit
21 written or spoken comments about the Tentative 2026
22 Budget may fill out a yellow card and return it to
23 Tollway staff.

24 Please note that we will not be

1 responding to questions during the public comment
2 period today. We are here to hear your feedback to
3 our Tentative 2026 Budget and add your comments to
4 the official public record.

5 We ask that you please limit your
6 remarks to three minutes so everyone has a chance
7 to be heard.

8 In addition, all written and email
9 comments will be entered into the official public
10 record and shared with our board of directors along
11 with the transcript of today's public comments.

12 Please remember that today's topic
13 is the Tollway's Tentative 2026 Budget. If you
14 have questions on other Tollway-related subjects,
15 please fill out a blue card and return it to a
16 Tollway staff member. A Tollway representative
17 will contact you in response to your question.

18 Thank you for your cooperation.

19 Now, those who signed up to speak
20 will be called at this time.

21 Seeing that there has been no one to
22 submit a request to speak, we will bring this
23 public hearing to a close.

24 If you did not submit a comment

1 today, we will continue to accept public comment
2 through November 21st. Comments can be emailed to
3 us at info@getipass.com.

4 Thank you all for attending today's
5 meeting. We appreciate your input and we value
6 your use of the Illinois Tollway system.

7 Thank you.

8 (The proceedings were adjourned
9 at 1:14 p.m.)

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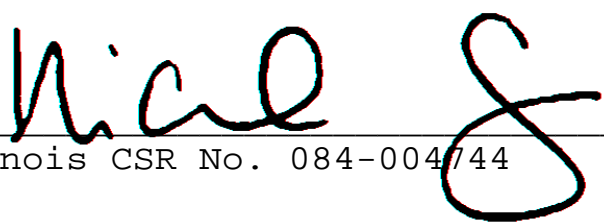
23

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, Nicole M. Cheney, do hereby certify that I reported in shorthand the proceedings of said hearing as appears from my stenographic notes so taken and transcribed under my direction.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office at Chicago, Illinois, this 20th day of November 2025.



Illinois CSR No. 084-004744

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Urlaub Bowen & Associates, Inc. 312-781-9586

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