



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC SHIFT SCHEDULED ON CENTRAL TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294) BETWEEN ST. CHARLES ROAD AND NORTH AVENUE

Traffic to move out of counterflow configuration and onto new pavement to complete traffic shifts on Central Tri-State north of I-290/I-88 Interchange into 2024

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – A shift is scheduled this week on the southbound Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) between St. Charles Road and North Avenue, which will move one lane of traffic currently traveling on the northbound side back to the southbound side with all four southbound lanes traveling on newly construction pavement.

Once this shift is complete, I-294 traffic in both directions north of the I-290/I-88 Interchange is scheduled to remain in this configuration through summer 2024.

Traffic shifts are necessary to provide a safe work zone for pavement work and to accommodate traffic. Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to the new traffic patterns. Up-to-date information regarding lane closures will be available in the Illinois Tollway's [Daily Construction Alert](#). All work is weather dependent.

During the week of October 23, overnight lane closures will be scheduled on southbound I-294 between St. Charles Road and North Avenue, starting at 7 p.m. Southbound traffic will be reduced to a single lane at times to complete the traffic shift. All lanes are scheduled to reopen by 6 a.m. the following morning.

When the traffic shift is complete, four lanes of southbound traffic will be shifted onto newly constructed pavement on the southbound side of the road. Northbound traffic will remain shifted to the right. Traffic is scheduled to remain in this configuration into 2024 with additional off-peak and overnight closures scheduled as needed.

The current traffic configuration north of the I-290/I-88 Interchange also includes:

- Between North Avenue and Wolf Road, two northbound lanes are traveling on the southbound side of I-294, with southbound traffic shifted to the outside.
- Between St. Charles Road and Butterfield Road, southbound I-294 is in a split configuration with two left lanes continuing on the I-294 mainline and two right lanes directed onto the auxiliary lanes providing access to exit ramps for eastbound I-290 and for westbound I-88 before reconnecting with the southbound I-294 mainline.

Construction in this area is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Village of Berkeley, City of Elmhurst, Village of Hillside, City of Northlake, Village of Oak Brook, as well as local fire and police departments.

Construction updates, project information, maps and detour information for work that is part of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project are available in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com.

The \$4 billion Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project is reconstructing and widening the roadway between Balmoral Avenue and 95th Street to provide congestion relief, update old infrastructure to meet current and future transportation demand and address regional needs. This work is part of the Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*. More than 220,000 vehicles use the Central Tri-State Tollway daily.

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 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 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*, is improving mobility, relieving congestion, reducing pollution, creating as many as 152,000 jobs and linking economies throughout the region. The first 11 years of *Move Illinois* are on schedule and within budget, delivering the rebuilt and widened Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) as a state-of-the-art 21st century corridor and 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 Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project and reconstruction of 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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