

# **ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 9, 2024

## \*\*\*UPDATED\*\*\* LONG-TERM CLOSURE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN THIS WEEK ON ATKINSON ROAD BRIDGE OVER THE TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-94) IN LAKE COUNTY

Bridge work also scheduled on I-94 over Old U.S. Route 41

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – A long-term closure and detour of the Atkinson Road Bridge over the Tri-State Tollway (I-94) in Lake County is scheduled to begin on Wednesday, July 10, and continue into early August as part of Illinois Tollway bridge repair work scheduled in 2024.

When possible, the Tollway stages construction so bridges can remain open to traffic during repairs. However, the full closure of the Atkinson Road Bridge is necessary because the local crossroad bridge over I-94 is too narrow to accommodate traffic while safely completing the work. Construction will include bridge deck, beam and structural concrete repairs.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be in place in advance to alert drivers to the closure and detour. Up-to-date closure information will be posted on the Tollway website in the <u>Daily</u> <u>Construction Alert</u>. All work is weather dependent.

On Wednesday, July 10, the Atkinson Road Bridge is scheduled to close to traffic and a posted detour will be put in place and continue into August. Traffic will be detoured around the bridge closure via Waukegan Road, Buckley Road and Saint Mary's Road.

In addition, lane closures will be needed on I-94 to complete the work.



In addition to the work on the Atkinson Road Bridge, repairs are also scheduled on the Tri-State Tollway (I-94) bridge over Old U.S. Route 41 in Lake County.

Beginning the week of July 8, lane closures are scheduled on Old U.S. Route 41 to prepare for bridge repair work. Lane closures and traffic shifts will also be needed on I-94 to complete the work. Three lanes of traffic will remain open in both directions, however, traffic will be reduced to a single lane overnight when needed to complete the work.

Work on I-94 at this location includes bridge joint replacement and deck repairs, as well as substructure repairs.

Maps and construction information about the I-94 repair work are available in the Projects section on the Tollway's website at <u>illinoistollway.com</u>.

In 2024, the Illinois Tollway has scheduled work on the North Tri-State Tollway (I-94) between Russell Road and Atkinson Road, including local crossroad bridge repairs on Atkinson Road. Improvements also include underpass lighting work at Deerfield Road, as well as pavement repairs, fiber optic improvements, noisewall and median barrier repairs and roadway camera and ramp queue detection installation throughout the corridor.

Construction began in the spring and is scheduled to be complete by the end of the year.

These projects are being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, ComEd and Lake County, as well as local fire and police departments.

These repairs are necessary to extend the life of the roadway and bridges and provide safe and convenient travel for Tollway customers. This work is part of the Tollway's 16-year, \$15 billion capital program, Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future.

### 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 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 12 years of *Move Illinois* are on schedule and within budget, delivering 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 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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