



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 26, 2021

**TRAFFIC SHIFT SCHEDULED ON PLAINFIELD ROAD NEAR WESTERN SPRINGS
FOR LOCAL ROAD BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER TRI-STATE TOLLWAY (I-294)**

Daily lane closures scheduled in both directions this week to prepare for traffic shift

DOWNERS GROVE, IL — The Illinois Tollway will begin work this week to shift traffic on Plainfield Road near Western Springs as construction begins work to remove and rebuild the local road bridge over the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and Flagg Creek near Western Springs. Delays are expected.

Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place to alert drivers to lane closures, traffic patterns and work zone speed limits. Up-to-date information regarding closures will be available in the Illinois Tollway's [Daily Construction Alert](#). All work is weather dependent.

During the week of July 26, work will take place to construct temporary pavement in advance of the traffic shift. To accommodate this advance work and traffic, between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. Plainfield Road will be reduced to a single lane as needed with flaggers used to maintain bi-directional traffic.

Once the advance work is completed, traffic in both directions on the Plainfield Road Bridge will be shifted on the north side of the bridge in early August and work will begin to remove and rebuild the south side. Traffic is anticipated to remain in this configuration into spring 2022.

The Plainfield Road Bridge will remain open to traffic throughout construction, with one lane in both directions available for up to 14,200 vehicles using the bridge daily. Reconstruction of the Plainfield Road Bridge is scheduled to be complete by the end of 2022.

The existing local road bridge carrying Plainfield Road traffic over the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) is being removed and rebuilt with a new, longer and higher bridge structure to accommodate the reconstruction and widening of the Central Tri-State Tollway. In addition, Cook County is currently conducting a study for the improvements of Plainfield Road, and the new bridge will be built to ensure compatibility with future plans.

The new Plainfield Road Bridge structure will provide for one lane of traffic and wide shoulders in each direction. To provide for local pedestrian and bicycle access, a protected sidewalk will be included on the north side of the bridge and a new a protected bicycle/multi-use path and sidewalk will be built on the south side.

Additional work on this project includes restoration of retaining and noisewalls, sewer construction, utility work, lighting, landscaping and drainage improvements.

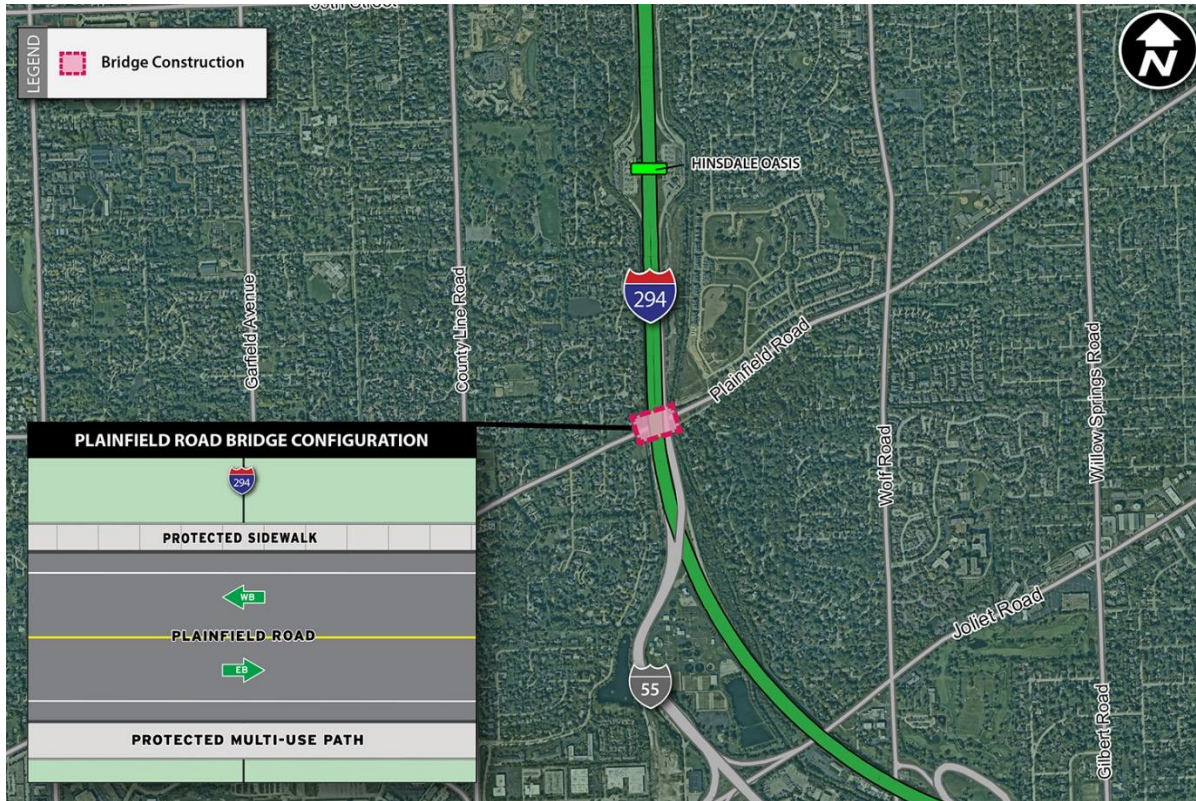
This project is being coordinated with Cook County, Village of Burr Ridge, Village of Indian Head Park and Village of Western Springs, as well as local fire and police departments.

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

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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.

Information about the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project is available on the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com in the Projects section.



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. On Plainfield Road, a 35 mph work zone speed limit will be in effect throughout construction. On I-294, a 45 mph work zone speed limit is in effect throughout the construction season.

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 120,000 jobs and linking economies throughout the region. The first nine years of *Move Illinois* is 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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