



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

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ILLINOIS TOLLWAY INVITES PUBLIC TO COMMENT ON TENTATIVE 2021 BUDGET

*Balanced spending plan allocates more than \$1.4 billion in annual revenue
and supports more than \$1.5 billion for capital program*

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway introduced a balanced Tentative 2021 Budget with \$1.42 billion of revenue today that includes \$380 million for annual maintenance and operations on the 294-mile system and provides funds to support \$1.53 billion in capital spending, including funding for the 10th year of the agency’s 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

“Consistent with the Tollway’s long-term financial plan, this Tentative 2021 Budget accommodates expenditures to maintain roadway and customer service activities and includes no increase over 2020 for maintenance and operations expenditures,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director José Alvarez. “We encourage the public to view the tentative budget for 2021 and share their comments.”

As part of the Illinois Tollway’s 2021 Budget process, the general public is invited visit the Illinois Tollway’s website www.illinoistollway.com to review the Tentative 2021 Budget book, view a recorded webinar or attend a live virtual public hearing on Wednesday, November 4, at noon and again at 6 p.m.

Members of the public who wish to make public comments during the either of the public hearings may participate via audio conference call by calling 1-800-875-3456 and giving the verbal passcode “Tollway.”

In addition, written public comments also may be submitted online via the Tollway’s website www.illinoistollway.com or mailed to Communications Department, 2700 Ogden Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515 by November 13.

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 2021 Budget

The Tentative 2021 Budget presented to the Tollway’s Board of Directors outlines a balanced spending plan to maintain top-quality infrastructure, improve service to customers and advance diversity of businesses and workers.

The Tentative 2021 Budget includes a total \$1.42 billion in projected revenue, an increase of 11 percent over the revised 2020 estimate and 7.8 decrease from the 2020 estimates pre COVID-19. This includes \$1.4 billion from evasion recovery and tolls, including an annual commercial truck toll rate increase previously approved by the Tollway Board in 2008. There is no toll increase planned for passenger vehicles.

The 2021 estimated revenues also include \$10 million from investment income and \$10 million from concessions and miscellaneous revenue. The Tollway also plans to issue \$600 million in new bonds in 2021 to provide funding for new and future capital program investments.

The proposed spending plan allocates nearly \$1.04 billion for direct funding and debt service on capital investments, as well as \$380 million for maintenance and operations – the same as budgeted in 2020.

The Tentative 2021 Budget provides funding for annual maintenance and operations activities including services that focus on the Illinois Tollway's customers. This includes \$104.0 million in Business Systems and Toll Operations to support and tolling and customer service, \$35.6 million in State Police for safety services, \$103.1 million in Engineering and Facilities and Fleet to support roadway maintenance and traffic operations, as well as \$26.8 million in Information Technology.

The Tollway's 2021 Capital Program calls for investing \$1.53 billion in 2020 with \$312.2 million budgeted for systemwide roadway and bridge repairs to keep the existing Tollway system in good repair, as well as along with funding for key projects including:

- \$451.4 million to continue planning and advance construction for the new I-490 Tollway and new interchanges connecting to the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90), Tri-State Tollway (I-294), the Illinois Route 390 Tollway, as well as providing direct access in and out of O'Hare International Airport as part of the Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project
- \$690.4 million to continue design and reconstruction of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project
- \$78 million for construction at the I-294/I-57 Interchange

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* 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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