



Move Illinois:
The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future

NEWS

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**ILLINOIS TOLLWAY AWARDS NEARLY \$64 MILLION IN CONTRACTS
FOR CONSTRUCTION AND PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES IN FEBRUARY**

More than \$4.2 billion invested since start of Move Illinois Program

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway Board of Directors today approved 11 new construction contracts totaling \$57.3 million, as well as a new professional engineering service contract totaling \$6.5 million at its February meeting. More than \$86.9 million in construction and engineering contracts have been approved by the Tollway Board so far in 2016, as part of the fifth year of the Tollway's 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

To date, more than \$4.2 billion in construction and professional engineering service contracts have been approved by the Tollway Board since the *Move Illinois* Program began in 2012. In addition, the capital program has created or sustained an estimated 38,070 total jobs as of January 2016.

"The contracts presented to the Board today include the final large contract needed to complete the rebuilding and widening of the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90). Additionally, nearly half of the work approved today is going to small businesses," said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Greg Bedalov. "The Tollway is seeing increased competition for large and small contracts alike, indicating that more firms are aware of and able to bid on Tollway projects, which is a positive sign for our Small Business Initiative."

Five of the 11 construction contracts awarded are small business set-aside contracts awarded as part of the Tollway's Small Business Initiative, intended to increase opportunities for small companies to participate in the *Move Illinois* Program. The initiative puts small businesses in a position to succeed and grow as prime contractors and includes identifying select construction contracts, generally with values of approximately \$1 million, that can be set aside specifically for small businesses. Since the program's inception in 2013, there have been 26 small business set-aside contracts awarded, resulting in 17 new prime contractors for the Tollway.

In addition to the small-business set aside contracts, the 12 new contracts approved today also include four contracts with veteran participation goals. The February contracts also include one prime contractor, 17 subcontractors, one prime consultant and three subconsultants that are certified as disadvantaged, minority- and women-owned business enterprise (D/M/WBE) firms. Commitments for D/M/WBE participation range from 17 to 38 percent per contract. Of the \$63.8 million in awarded contracts, more than \$21 million, or 34 percent, is committed to veteran-owned, small or disadvantaged firms.

Contracts awarded today include:

- \$28.8 million for the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) Rebuilding and Widening Project.
 - A \$27.2 million contract to Walsh Construction Co., Chicago, IL, for rebuilding and widening between Roselle Road and Illinois Route 53.

- A \$1.6 million contract to Foundation Mechanics, Chicago, IL, for landscaping work between Randall Road and Irene Road.
- \$10.8 million for the Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project.
 - A \$9.4 million contract to Lindahl Brothers Inc., Bensenville, IL, for earthwork and drainage improvements between the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and Franklin Avenue.
 - A \$1.4 million contract to Rausch Infrastructure, Chicago, IL, for drainage improvements on Illinois Route 390 between Plum Grove Road and Meacham Road.
- A \$6.7 million contract to Judlau Contracting Inc., College Point, NY, for rebuilding and widening the southbound Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355) between 75th Street and 71st Street.
- A \$5.4 million contract to Sheridan Plumbing & Sewer Inc., Bedford Park, IL, for drainage work on I-355 between Army Trail Road and I-80 and on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) between I-355 and Finley Road.
- A \$1.5 million contract to National Power Rodding Corp., Chicago, IL, for drainage work on I-294 between Illinois Route 394 and 95th Street.
- A \$1.4 million contract to Pagoda Electric & Construction, Flossmoor, IL, for HVAC, elevator and electrical improvements at the Tollway headquarters building in Downers Grove.
- A \$940,741 contract to Chicago Commercial Construction, Chicago, IL, for parking lot improvements at the Tollway headquarters building in Downers Grove.
- A \$932,500 contract to Autumn Construction Services Inc., Lombard, IL, for HVAC equipment replacement at various toll plazas systemwide.
- An \$850,000 contract to RoadSafe Traffic Systems Inc., Romeoville, IL, for systemwide pavement marking work.

Professional engineering services contracts awarded today include:

- A \$6.5 million professional engineering services contract to Wight & Company/GSG Consultants Inc., Darien, IL, for design and construction management services for the Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project.

Construction contracts for Illinois Tollway projects are competitively bid under the rules of the Illinois Procurement Code. As part of the process, contractors' bid submissions for construction work advertised by the Tollway are opened and read aloud during public bid opening meetings, which are also broadcast live on the Tollway's website. Following an agency review process, the lowest, responsible and responsive bid is presented to the Illinois Tollway Board of Directors for review and approval.

Illinois Tollway professional engineering services contracts are awarded through the qualifications-based selection process (Illinois Public Act 87-673 (30 ILCS 535/1-535/80) Architectural, Engineering and Land Surveying Qualifications-Based Selection Act), which requires state agencies to select professional architects, engineers and surveyors on the basis of demonstrated competence and professional qualifications, rather than low bid. Staff from the Department of Engineering checks statements of interest to ensure that specified pre-qualifications and documentation are met and then reviews and scores statements of interest based on the selection criteria outlined for each project. Executives from the Department of Engineering then review the scoring, as well as each firm's capacity, and identify the top recommended firms per project. To complete the review, a committee of Tollway professionals and independent engineering officials considers the top recommended firms and finalizes the top three firms in ranked order. The Tollway then seeks to negotiate a final contract price with the top-ranked firm.

The Illinois Tollway provides detailed information about current Tollway construction contracts through the Construction Contract Tracker on the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com. Contractors and

consultants can also access resources online to help them learn about how to do business with the Tollway, including construction bid-letting schedules, professional service bulletins, manuals and construction bid calendars. These resources can be found in the “Doing Business” section of the Tollway’s website.

About *Move Illinois*

The Illinois Tollway’s 15-year, \$12 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*, will improve mobility, relieve congestion, reduce pollution, create as many as 120,000 jobs and link economies across the Midwest region. *Move Illinois* will address the remaining needs of the existing Tollway system; rebuild and widen the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) as a state-of-the-art 21st century corridor; construct a new interchange to connect the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) to I-57; build a new, all-electronic Elgin O’Hare Western Access Project and fund planning studies for emerging projects.

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 286 miles of interstate tollways 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) and the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80).

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