



State of Illinois
JB Pritzker, Governor



Illinois Department of Transportation
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Illinois 47 bridge removal begins April 27

OTTAWA – The Illinois Department of Transportation announced today that the removal of the southbound Illinois 47 bridge over Interstate 55 in Dwight will begin Wednesday, April 27. The work requires a temporary diversion of I-55 traffic through the interchange ramps.

Work to remove the structure is scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. All I-55 traffic will be diverted up the existing exit ramps, cross Illinois 47 and re-enter using the entrance ramps. I-55 will reopen to normal traffic flow by 5 a.m. The entire removal project is expected to last until May 11 and will require intermittent daily lane closures on I-55.

Work also will reconstruct Illinois 47 from Northbrook Avenue to just north of the I-55 interchange (exit 220) and repair the ramps. Illinois 47 will be reduced to one lane in each direction and shifted to the new northbound lanes as work continues on the \$9.3 million project, which is scheduled to be completed later this year.

Motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this area and be prepared for slow and stopped traffic. To avoid the work area, when feasible, use of alternate routes should be considered. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to changed conditions and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits, refrain from using mobile devices and be alert for workers and equipment.

Over the next six years, IDOT is planning to improve more than 3,535 miles of highway and 9 million square feet of bridge deck as part of the Rebuild Illinois capital program, which is investing \$33.2 billion into all modes of transportation. Accomplishments through Year Two included approximately \$5.2 billion in improvements statewide on 3,020 miles of highway and 270 bridges along with 428 additional safety improvements.

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