



State of Illinois  
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Illinois Department of Transportation  
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## **I-80 in Joliet extended weekend lane closures**

*Last of four planned weekend closures along the corridor*

**CHICAGO** – The Illinois Department of Transportation announced today that joint repairs and patching to the Interstate 80 bridges, between Rowell and Wheeler avenues, in Joliet, will require lane closures over four extended weekends. This is the last of four planned weekend closures along the corridor. Major travel delays are anticipated, alternative routes are strongly encouraged.

Starting at 10 p.m. Friday, May 12, weather permitting, lane closures are scheduled to take place on westbound I-80, between Rowell and Wheeler avenues. At least one westbound I-80 lane will remain open at all times and eastbound I-80 will not be impacted. Westbound I-80 motorists traveling through the region should consider alternative routes to avoid the area. Local streets are unable to accommodate heavy or wide trucks, so other interstate routes are encouraged. All lanes are anticipated to reopen by 5 a.m. Monday, May 15.

Additionally, the Richards Street ramp to westbound I-80 is closed for reconstruction, with an anticipated reopening in summer 2024. While the ramp is closed, motorists should follow the posted detour to access the expressway.

The work consists of bridge joint repairs to keep the structures in acceptable condition until the larger corridor project can begin. By scheduling the work over multiple weekends this spring, the unplanned, emergency closures that have occurred with increasing frequency in recent years can be minimized. Also, by planning the repairs, they can be performed more safely and allow motorists the opportunity to plan ahead and use alternative routes to avoid the area when feasible.

The overall I-80 project will redesign and rebuild 16 miles from Ridge Road, in Minooka, to U.S. 30, in Joliet and New Lenox, while adding or extending auxiliary lanes to improve safety and reduce congestion. Interchanges will be rebuilt or improved at Interstate 55, Illinois 7, Center Street, Chicago Street, Richards Street and Briggs Street, with a new flyover ramp linking southbound I-55 to eastbound I-80 to improve traffic flow and safety. More than 30 bridges will be rehabilitated or replaced, including those over the Des Plaines River.

For more information visit [I80will.org](http://I80will.org). The mobile-friendly website features project information, photos, and the ability to submit questions and comments to the project team via a “Contact” link. Find traffic and road conditions at [www.gettingaroundillinois.com](http://www.gettingaroundillinois.com). You also can follow IDOT on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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