



State of Illinois
JB Pritzker, Governor



Illinois Department of Transportation
Omer Osman, Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Dec. 22, 2023

CONTACT:
Paul Wappel 217.685.0082
Kim Hoskins 309.370.1743

Illinois 40 Bob Michel Bridge to reopen Dec. 23

PEORIA – The Illinois Department of Transportation announced that the Illinois 40 [Bob Michel Bridge](#) over the Illinois River will reopen early afternoon on Dec. 23. The almost nine-month closure was for general scheduled maintenance, rehabilitation and lane reconfiguration on the bridge.

In March, it was closed to accommodate the construction of a new deck, a first since the bridge opened in 1993. The \$24.6 million project also included structural repairs, modernized traffic signals and drainage improvements.

Narrow sidewalks on both sides of traffic were consolidated into a 14-foot-wide path protected from Illinois 40 by a concrete barrier, providing a safer travel option for bicyclists and pedestrians while providing connections to the region's trail network, including the Rock Island Greenway Trail and the River Trail of Illinois. New LED lighting was installed to improve visibility and safety.

By closing the bridge completely to cars and trucks and not performing the work in multiple phases, the project was completed in less than a year, resulting in a time and cost savings. The safety risk to workers and the public also was reduced by eliminating traffic moving through the work zone.

Over the [next six years](#), IDOT is planning to improve more than 3,000 miles of highway and nearly 10 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 Four of Rebuild Illinois included approximately \$12.1 billion of improvements statewide on 5,339 miles of highway, 533 bridges and 762 additional safety improvements.

For more information on IDOT projects, click [here](#). For IDOT District 4 updates, follow us on Twitter at [@IDOTDistrict4](#) or view area construction details on IDOT's [traveler information map](#) on [GettingAroundIllinois.com](#) and [www.gettingaroundpeoria.com](#).

###