



State of Illinois
JB Pritzker, Governor



Illinois Department of Transportation
Omer Osman, Acting Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
May 14, 2019

CONTACT:
Joseph Monroe 618.346.3250

PRESS RELEASE

JB BRIDGE CLOSURE TRAFFIC UPDATE

SB Interstate 255

Columbia, Illinois – Drivers who use the southbound I-255 Bridge to enter Missouri will need to utilize alternate routes through at least the end of the week, as the southbound interstate Bridge will remain closed for inspections and anticipated repairs.

Until such time as the Bridge can be reopened, IDOT has established a marked detour using I-255 N and I-55 S to circumvent the closure. Motorists are encouraged to utilize the interstate system and all Mississippi River crossings as much as possible for their individual needs – particularly during peak travel periods.

While there was some minor improvement from Monday to Tuesday morning rush periods, IL Route 3 continues to be heavily congested and other nearby options - including the marked detour - have available capacity. For example, per Google Traffic at 7:15 AM Tuesday, traveling from Columbia, Illinois to Mehlville, MO using the marked detour of I-255 N to I-55 S had an estimated travel time of 53 minutes. This same trip using IL 3 N to access I-55 S while MERGING onto the PSB would take over 2 hours.

Additional field and communications staff will be active during each morning commute to ensure ample motorist assistance and direction is available for the duration of this closure. If possible, consideration should be given to using MetroLink, mass transit, telecommuting and/or shifting commute times.

For IDOT District 8 updates, follow us on Twitter at [@IDOTDistrict8](https://twitter.com/IDOTDistrict8) or view area construction details on IDOT's [traveler information map](#) on GettingAroundIllinois.com.

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