



State of Illinois
Pat Quinn, Governor



Illinois Department of Transportation
Erica J. Borggren, Acting Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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CONTACT:
Paris Ervin 217.782.5025
Jac Miller 312.814.4693

IDOT Alters Roadway Pattern for State Fairgrounds Access to Improve Safety, Traffic Flow for Fairgoers *Detour Signage in Place to Assist Motorists*

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) today announced that traffic pattern changes around the 2014 Illinois State Fair will be implemented on August 7 to increase safety and accommodate the parade along with anticipated traffic. Similar to last year, traffic patterns will be changed to a counterclockwise one-way pattern on streets around the state fairgrounds from August 7 to August 18. Portable, changeable message signs will be located at the fairgrounds advising motorists prior to the traffic pattern change.

While the one-way traffic pattern is in effect, the westbound left-turn lane and the eastbound right-turn lane on Veterans Parkway will be closed at the 8th Street intersection. The closures are needed to ensure that traffic does not back up on 8th Street and onto Veterans Parkway.

The State Fair Parade route and staging area will be the same as last year. The parade will begin at the intersection of 9th Street and North Grand Avenue and continue into the Main Gate via Peoria Road and 11th Street. The staging area will be bounded by North Grand Avenue, 10th Street, Carpenter Street and 8th Street. Some additional staging will be set up along North Grand Avenue between 9th and 11th streets.

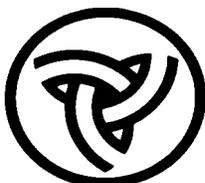
The approximate times of traffic pattern changes are as follows:

Thursday, August 7

Fairgrounds traffic pattern:

Between 5:30 a.m. and 6 a.m., one-way counterclockwise traffic will begin around the fairgrounds.

State Fair Parade traffic pattern:



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At approximately 11:30 a.m., 9th St. staging area will be closed. 9th St. will be closed between Carpenter St. and North Grand Ave.

At approximately 4:30 p.m., 9th St. will be closed between North Grand Ave. and Peoria Road. Peoria Road will be closed from 9th St. to 11th St. 11th St. will be closed from Peoria Road to the fairground's Main Gate.

At approximately 4:45 p.m., the staging area will be closed along North Grand Ave. between 9th and 11th St.

Detour signage will be in place to assist motorists around the parade route. Travelers will be able to bypass the parade area to the east by using 19th and Carpenter St. Motorists will be able to bypass the parade area to the west by using 5th St. /6th St. / North Grand and J. David Jones Parkway.

The parade is scheduled to begin at approximately 6 p.m. and end by 10 p.m. The parade route will remain closed until midnight to allow city crews to perform street sweeping and clean-up duties.

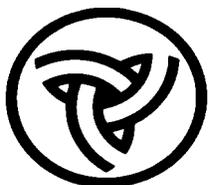
Monday, August 18

Fairgrounds traffic pattern:

Between 5:30 a.m. and 6 a.m., one-way counterclockwise traffic will end.

Should you have questions regarding this matter, please contact IDOT District 6 at 217/785-5312.

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