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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **IDOT: Willow Road Improvement Project to Start in Northfield; Drivers Urged to Expect Delays**

SCHAUMBURG - The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) announced that advance work is starting this week for a two-year project to reconstruct and widen Willow Road through Northfield from Waukegan Road to the Edens Expressway/I-94.

Drivers can expect delays and daytime lane closures starting tomorrow, March 28, as advance work begins to prepare to shift all traffic onto the south side of the roadway. This shift is expected to take place, weather permitting, on April 15.

The project will improve safety and relieve congestion by widening Willow Road from one lane in each direction to two lanes in each direction, with traffic separated by a median. The project will provide new sidewalks on both sides of the roadway, drainage improvements, modernized traffic signals and new lighting to improve safety along the 1.8 mile route.

In the first year of work all traffic will be shifted onto two 11-foot wide lanes on the south side of Willow Road, while new lanes are constructed on the north side. In the 2014 construction season, all traffic will be on the new lanes on the north side while the south side is reconstructed. The completion date is the end of October, 2014, weather permitting.

IDOT is warning drivers to expect significant delays and to take alternate routes if possible.

The contractor for the \$27 million project is Lorig Construction.

Motorists should pay close attention to the signs, observe the speed limit and remain alert for workers and construction equipment.

Find details on other construction projects in IDOT's District 1 at [www.dot.state.il.us](http://www.dot.state.il.us). Updates on the impacts to traffic are available at [www.travelmidwest.com](http://www.travelmidwest.com).

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