Bridge Failures Point to Need for Immediate Capital Investment

IRTBA Press Release February 11, 2019



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 11, 2019

Contact: Mike Sturino (630) 773-1220 msturino@irtba.org

Bridge Failures Point to Need for Immediate Capital Investment

Two major Chicago area arteries experienced structural failures on bridges today. Lake Shore Drive Northbound will be closed indefinitely, while motorists on the Eisenhower Expressway (I-290) suffered from falling concrete from an overhead bridge.

"These are just two of the latest examples of what happens when Springfield and Washington legislators utterly fail to address Illinois' infrastructure needs," said IRTBA President & CEO Mike Sturino. "The time to act is now."

According to the 2018 <u>ARTBA Bridge report</u>, of the 26,775 bridges in the state of Illinois, 2,303, or 8.6 percent, are classified as structurally deficient. This means one of the key elements is in poor or worse condition. Of the structurally deficient bridges in the state, 150 are on the Interstate Highway System.

About Illinois Road and Transportation Builders Association

The Illinois Road and Transportation Builders Association (IRTBA) has spent 81 years as the leading transportation industry trade association in Illinois. IRTBA member firms design, build, and maintain the state highways, transit systems, railways, and aviation systems. The core purpose of IRTBA's existence is to advance and promote the transportation design and construction industry in Illinois.