

= M @-@ 71 (Michigan highway) =

M @-@ 71 is a state trunkline highway in the Lower Peninsula of the US state of Michigan . It serves as a connector between M @-@ 21 in Owosso to Interstate 69 (I @-@ 69) southwest of Flint . The highway runs along a rail line in a northwest @-@ to @-@ southeast direction in rural Shiawassee County connecting a few small towns along its path .

The highway dates back to the start of the state highway system in 1919 . There were some changes made to the routing in the 1930s which increased its length . Two adjacent highways have been rerouted which affected the locations of M @-@ 71 's termini . The last such change was made in the 1960s when the M @-@ 78 freeway (now I @-@ 69) was completed near Durand .

= = Route description = =

M @-@ 71 starts in downtown Owosso at the corner of Main Street (M @-@ 21) and Water Street . It follows Water Street southeasterly until it reaches Washington Street . The highway follows Washington Street south and over the Shiawassee River and turns southeasterly on Corunna Avenue . M @-@ 71 runs parallel to , and in between , the river and a branch line of the Canadian National Railway . Corunna Avenue continues this way through the community of Middletown and into Corunna . M @-@ 71 turns south through downtown Corunna on Shiawassee Street to McNeil Street . It is along this stretch of the highway that the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) measured the highest traffic volumes for M @-@ 71 . In their 2009 survey , MDOT calculated that 10 @, @ 577 vehicles used this section of roadway in a measurement called average annual daily traffic (AADT) . This value is a count for the average traffic in a day for any average day of the year .

From that junction , M @-@ 71 turns easterly and then southeasterly out of town . The highway continues to run alongside the rail line through farmland to the outskirts of Vernon . M @-@ 71 crosses the Shiawassee River for a second time . The rail line and the highway diverge and run on opposite sides of town ; the highway rounds the northeast side and the rail line runs along the southwest side . This section of trunkline through Vernon had the lowest AADT value in 2009 with 4 @, @ 371 vehicles . M @-@ 71 continues to the interchange with I @-@ 69 at exit 118 northwest of Durand , where the highway designation terminates . No part of M @-@ 71 has been listed on the National Highway System (NHS) . The NHS is a system of roads important to the nation 's economy , defense and mobility .

= = History = =

M @-@ 71 was formed by July 1 , 1919 as a spur route from M @-@ 21 , which ran along Lytle Road , southerly to Durand . Around 1925 , a realignment of M @-@ 21 produced changes in M @-@ 71 . M @-@ 21 was rerouted to its current alignment between Owosso and Lennon , and M @-@ 71 took over the roadway between Owosso and Corunna . At the same time , M @-@ 71 was shifted to run through Vernon . The section of M @-@ 71 between Durand and M @-@ 78 was transferred to M @-@ 78 and M @-@ 71 was shortened by 1934 . This transfer was reversed in 1935 when M @-@ 78 construction was completed . A new section of M @-@ 71 was built parallel to the Ann Arbor Railroad between Durand and Corunna in 1938 . This construction paved the last remaining unpaved segment of M @-@ 71 . The section of M @-@ 71 south of M @-@ 78 into Durand was turned back to local control in early 1939 , and M @-@ 71 was shortened one final time with the completion of the M @-@ 78 freeway (now I @-@ 69) in the area in late 1960 or early 1961 . At that time , the eastern terminus was shifted to the freeway interchange instead of the old route of M @-@ 78 along Lansing Road .

= = Major intersections = =

The entire highway is in Shiawassee County .

