

= Interstate 470 (Missouri) =

Interstate 470 (I @-@ 470) is a 16 @. @ 72 @-@ mile (26 @. @ 91 km) loop of the Interstate Highway System that serves to link southeast Kansas City to Independence via Lee 's Summit in Jackson County , Missouri . The western terminus of the freeway is at the Grandview Triangle interchange with I @-@ 49 , I @-@ 435 , U.S. Route 50 (US 50) , and US 71 while the northern terminus is an cloverleaf interchange with I @-@ 70 . The freeway travels west to east through southern Kansas City , curving towards the north at the Lee 's Summit Municipal Airport and becoming concurrent with Missouri Route 291 (Route 291) as the highway travels north towards Independence .

An intermediate interchange with US 50 provides access to southern Jackson County , and to Raytown to the north via Route 350 , a former alignment of US 50 before the construction of I @-@ 470 . Plans for a southern freeway were first published in 1955 , and the first portions of I @-@ 470 were completed in 1970 . By 1983 the entire freeway was open to traffic . Since construction two new interchanges have been constructed , along with the expansion of the US 50 cloverleaf . In 2010 , part of the freeway was closed by the Grandview Triangle due to a landslide underneath the freeway . Between about 38 @, @ 000 and 75 @, @ 000 vehicles use the freeway on an average day .

= = Route description = =

I @-@ 470 begins in southern Kansas City at the Grandview Triangle interchange with I @-@ 49 , I @-@ 435 , US 50 , and US 71 . The freeway , concurrent with US 50 , travels east through grasslands before meeting the westernmost interchange , a diamond interchange with Blue Ridge Boulevard . A rail line belonging to Kansas City Southern Railway passes under the freeway west of the interchange . The concurrent highways continue east through lightly populated Jackson County past a light residential zone , towards an interchange with Raytown Road . Raytown Road provides access to Longview Lake to the south of I @-@ 470 . Crossing into urbanized Lee 's Summit , the Kansas City Metropolitan Junior College is accessible from the View High Drive interchange . The city line between Kansas City and Lee 's Summit is near View High Drive . Exit 7 consists of a cloverleaf interchange with the southern end of Route 350 and US 50 , as well as Northwest Blue Parkway and Northwest Pryor Road . Two rail lines surround the cloverleaf interchange , both operated by the Union Pacific Railroad , however only the eastern line is operational . US 50 leaves the freeway and travels southeast as I @-@ 470 curves to the north near the Lee 's Summit Municipal Airport .

A partial interchange with Northeast Colburn Road is quickly followed by a partial interchange with Route 291 , which becomes concurrent with I @-@ 470 as it heads north towards Independence . Just north of the airport is an interchange with Strother Road , followed by an interchange with Woods Chapel Road . Lakewood Lakes , a pair of connected lakes , passes to the west of the freeway as it travels north . Lakewood Lakes was home to the Lollapalooza music festival in 1996 . An interchange with Northeast Bowlin Road serves as an access road to Blue Springs Lake to the east of the freeway . US 40 , which parallels I @-@ 70 through most of Missouri is the penultimate exit , serving the southern portions of Independence and Blue Springs . US 40 is named after Corporal Michael E. Webster , a Missouri State Highway Patrol officer who was killed in the line of duty by a drunk driver . The northern terminus of I @-@ 470 is at a cloverleaf interchange with I @-@ 70 southwest of the Independence Center mall . The roadway continues north after the interchange with I @-@ 70 as Route 291 towards its ultimate end point at an interchange with I @-@ 435 .

Every three years , the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) conducts a series of surveys on its highways in the state to measure traffic volume . This is expressed in terms of annual average daily traffic (AADT) , which is a measure of traffic volume for any average day of the year . In 2009 , MoDOT calculated that as few as 38 @, @ 152 vehicles traveled along the highway at the northern terminus just north of the interchange with I @-@ 70 , and as many as 75 @, @ 647

vehicles used the highway just east of the Grandview Triangle . As part of the Interstate Highway System , the entire route is listed on the National Highway System , a system of roads that are important to the nation 's economy , defense , and mobility .

= = History = =

Plans for a freeway linking southeast Kansas City to Independence were first published in 1955 in a document titled General Location of National System of Interstate Highways Including All Additional Routes at Urban Areas . The first portions of the highway that were signed I @-@ 470 were established in 1970 , between I @-@ 70 and US 40 in Independence . The north @-@ south portion of the highway , then designated US 71 Bypass had been in existence since 1970 and was renumbered to Route 291 between 1970 and 1971 . Between 1979 and 1980 , the portion of the freeway between the Grandview Triangle and the Exit 7 cloverleaf had been completed . US 50 's alignment was changed to follow I @-@ 470 west to the Grandview Triangle , and the old routing of US 50 was renumbered Route 350 . The section of freeway between US 50 and Route 291 was opened to traffic in 1983 , completing the route . Between 1980 and 1983 , the portion of the route that is concurrent with Route 291 was upgraded to freeway standards and included in the I @-@ 470 loop .

Since construction of the highway , three interchanges have been added or expanded . The first addition was an interchange with View High Drive , which was constructed in early 1993 costing about \$ 2 million to complete . The second was an addition to the existing cloverleaf at US 50 in Lee 's Summit , adding access roads to Pryor Road and Northwest Blue Parkway . Construction on that interchange began in July 2007 , and was completed by September 2008 . The third interchange , with Strother Road was first planned to be constructed in 2008 . The road served to provide access to the industrial park west of the freeway , and to spur new development on land pending sale by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter @-@ day Saints to the east of the freeway . The interchange was opened to traffic in August 2010 at a final construction cost of around \$ 18 million .

In July 2010 , MoDOT closed the westbound lanes of I @-@ 470 near the Grandview Triangle due to large cracks that formed in the roadway . A buildup of ground water underneath the westbound lanes caused a 42 @-@ foot @-@ high (13 m) retaining wall to fail . A landslide occurred on July 17 which created a 35 @-@ by @-@ 200 @-@ foot (11 m x 61 m) hole in the roadway . The eastbound lanes were not affected and were not closed . The affected area was replaced by a 225 @-@ foot @-@ long (69 m) bridge extension that opened in the following month .

= = Exit list = =

The entire route is in Jackson County .