

= Interstate 380 ( Iowa ) =

Interstate 380 ( I @-@ 380 ) is a 73 @-@ mile ( 117 km ) auxiliary Interstate Highway located in eastern Iowa . The route extends from Interstate 80 near Coralville to Waterloo . I @-@ 380 connects the cities of Cedar Rapids and Waterloo , the second- and sixth @-@ largest cities in the state , respectively , to the Interstate Highway System . Except for its last 1 1 ? 2 miles ( 2 @.@ 4 km ) north of U.S. Route 20 ( US 20 ) , I @-@ 380 runs concurrent with Iowa Highway 27 , which represents Iowa 's portion of the 560 @-@ mile ( 900 km ) Avenue of the Saints Highway connecting St. Louis , Missouri , with St. Paul , Minnesota .

Construction of I @-@ 380 took 12 years to complete , ending in 1985 . After the interstate opened , US 218 was moved onto the new freeway . In the 1990s , the I @-@ 380 corridor was selected as part of the Avenue of the Saints corridor , which Iowa designated as Iowa Highway 27 in 2001 . I @-@ 380 has been affected by two major floods , the Great Flood of 1993 and the Iowa flood of 2008 , both of which closed the road at the Iowa River for two weeks .

= = Route description = =

Interstate 380 begins at a cloverleaf interchange where US 218 and Iowa 27 cross Interstate 80 in Coralville in Johnson County . From the interchange , I @-@ 380 , US 218 , and Iowa 27 , the route assigned to the Avenue of the Saints Highway in Iowa , run together towards Cedar Rapids . The interstate heads north and serves North Liberty . North of North Liberty , the freeway runs parallel to the former routing of US 218 and Iowa 965 ; here the two highways cross the Iowa River . After crossing into Linn County , the three routes enter the Cedar Rapids city limits near The Eastern Iowa Airport . Three miles ( 4 @.@ 8 km ) north of the airport , I @-@ 380 intersects US 30 and US 151 at a cloverstack interchange . At this interchange , US 218 splits away from I @-@ 380 and Iowa 27 .

Through Cedar Rapids , the I @-@ 380 freeway is elevated relative to the nearby streets and residential neighborhoods . As it approaches downtown and the Cedar River , the freeway takes a tight , 90 @-@ degree turn to the east , crosses the river , squeezes between a Quaker Oats plant and the U.S. Cellular Center before turning back 90 degrees to the north . Between downtown and the Coldstream ? 29th Street interchange , I @-@ 380 serves as a dividing line between residential areas to the east and industry to the west . Towards the north end of Cedar Rapids , industry is replaced with commerce as I @-@ 380 / Iowa 27 meet Iowa 100 , locally known as Collins Road , at a volleyball interchange . The collector / distributor ramps for Collins Road also serve the same function for Blairs Ferry Road , the next overpass to the north .

The freeway leaves Cedar Rapids and enters Hiawatha , where there is only one interchange , a diamond with Boyson Road . Quickly escaping the Cedar Rapids area , I @-@ 380 turns to the northwest and passes through predominantly rural areas with small communities and farms dotting the way . Because of its northwestern angle , I @-@ 380 enters four counties within 30 miles ( 48 km ) , as counties in Iowa are generally rectangular in shape . It passes Center Point in northwestern Linn County , Urbana in northeastern Benton County , where it meets Iowa 150 , and Brandon in southwestern Buchanan County . The interstate travels into Black Hawk County heading northwest for 7 miles ( 11 km ) before turning north for 3 miles ( 4 @.@ 8 km ) until a directional T interchange with US 20 .

Together with US 20 , I @-@ 380 and Iowa 27 travel west towards Waterloo and Cedar Falls . The three routes pass the eastern Waterloo suburbs of Raymond , Evansdale , and Elk Run Heights . Almost immediately after crossing the Cedar River again , I @-@ 380 splits away from US 20 and Iowa 27 and rejoins US 218 at a three @-@ level stack interchange . I @-@ 380 and US 218 head north to the east of the Crossroads Center shopping mall . One half @-@ mile ( 0 @.@ 8 km ) north of the interchange which serves the Crossroads Center , I @-@ 380 ends at the traffic light at Mitchell Avenue . US 218 continues to the north at this point .

= = History = =

The first section of I @-@ 380 opened to traffic on September 19 , 1973 . That section connected The Eastern Iowa Airport to I @-@ 80 at Coralville . Within three years , the interstate had been extended into Cedar Rapids at the Cedar River . The bridge which crossed the river would not open until June 1979 . By the end of 1981 , I @-@ 380 was a continuous road to the Coldstream Avenue / Glass Road interchange . The interstate was originally scheduled to be open by Christmas 1984 , but weather delays pushed back the construction timetable . The last section of I @-@ 380 to be completed opened on September 12 , 1985 .

In 1985 , US 218 was bypassed around Iowa City and Coralville , joining I @-@ 380 at the I @-@ 80 interchange . US 218 to Cedar Rapids was replaced by Iowa 965 . In the early 1990s , most of I @-@ 380 was designated as part of the Avenue of the Saints corridor , which connects St. Louis , Missouri , to St. Paul , Minnesota . Avenue of the Saints route markers were erected along the route the next year . In August 2001 , the Avenue of the Saints in Iowa was given a single designation , Iowa 27 , to facilitate following the route through the state .

I @-@ 380 crosses two of Iowa 's major rivers , the Iowa and the Cedar . Both rivers have affected the interstate during major floods , as the case was in 1993 and in 2008 . During the Great Flood of 1993 , I @-@ 380 and Iowa 965 were both closed at the Iowa River 's Coralville Lake reservoir between July 13 and July 28 . The roads reopened after the lake 's waters receded enough to allow Department of Transportation inspectors to check the three bridges over the water .

The great Iowa flood of 2008 affected the same section of I @-@ 380 at the Iowa River in much the same fashion as in 1993 . I @-@ 380 and former Iowa 965 were closed at the Iowa River on June 13 until July 3 . In Cedar Rapids , flooding did not close I @-@ 380 , the only bridge not to close , though traffic was restricted through the city . The flooding damage was much more severe in Cedar Rapids than in Iowa City . The Cedar River crested at over 31 feet ( 9 @.@ 4 m ) on June 13 , causing hundreds of millions of dollars in damage .

= = Exit list = =