

= Interstate 80 Business (West Wendover , Nevada ? Wendover , Utah) =

Interstate 80 Business (BL @-@ 80) is an unofficial business loop of Interstate 80 (I @-@ 80) that is 2 @. @ 26 miles (3 @. @ 64 km) long and serves as the main street for the US cities of West Wendover , Nevada , and Wendover , Utah , along a roadway named Wendover Boulevard . Wendover Boulevard was originally part of U.S. Route 40 (US 40) , which connected California to New Jersey via Nevada and Utah . A portion of the Nevada segment is concurrent with U.S. Route 93 Alternate (US 93 Alt .) , and the entire portion in Utah is coterminous with Utah State Route 58 (SR @-@ 58) . The Nevada Department of Transportation (Nevada DOT) applied for the business loop designation in the early 1980s but the designation has never been approved ; nevertheless , signs are posted in both states . Between July 1976 and 1993 , BL @-@ 80 was concurrent with State Route 224 (SR 224) in Nevada .

= = Route description = =

Starting at the easternmost Nevada exit of I @-@ 80 , BL @-@ 80 heads south , concurrent with US 93 Alt. until it intersects with , and turns east onto , Wendover Boulevard . Just west of the intersection , the highway passes the West Wendover City Hall , which houses the West Wendover Municipal Court and Eastline Justice Court . Traveling east along Wendover Boulevard , BL @-@ 80 passes by the Peppermill casino , the West Wendover Visitors Center and Scobie Park . US 93 Alt. turns south towards Ely , while BL @-@ 80 continues east until it reaches the Montego Bay Resort and Wendover Nugget casinos . The casinos are connected via a sky bridge that allows pedestrian access between the hotels without crossing the highway . A line painted on the street marks the Nevada ? Utah border . At the border , BL @-@ 80 becomes coterminous with Utah State Route 58 for the final stretch through Wendover , Utah .

BL @-@ 80 continues to the east past Aria Boulevard , which to the north connects to I @-@ 80 , and to the south leads to the historic Wendover Air Force Base , where the 509th Composite Group was stationed while it prepared to conduct atomic bomb attacks against Japan during 1944 and 1945 . The highway briefly parallels the Shafter Subdivision of the Union Pacific Railroad 's Central Corridor , which was formerly part of the Feather River Route of the Western Pacific Railroad . As the highway travels east towards a half trumpet interchange with I @-@ 80 , the number of lanes drops from five to two . Traffic from BL @-@ 80 can access eastbound I @-@ 80 or turn off onto Frontage Road ; however , to access westbound I @-@ 80 , travelers must continue eastbound until the next exit and turn around . Traffic into Wendover can access BL @-@ 80 from both directions of I @-@ 80 , and from Frontage Road .

The Utah segment of BL @-@ 80 is codified into Utah law as Utah Code § 72 @-@ 4 @-@ 111 . Every year , the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) conducts a series of surveys on its highways to measure traffic volume . This is expressed in terms of average annual daily traffic (AADT) , which is a measure of average traffic volume for any day of the year . In 2009 , UDOT calculated that an average of 2 @, @ 370 vehicles per day traveled on BL @-@ 80 at the state line . This is a significant decrease from the traffic counts earlier in the decade , which measured 11 @, @ 205 vehicles in 2006 , 10 @, @ 345 in 2005 , and 13 @, @ 840 in 2004 . Twenty @-@ one percent of this traffic consists of trucks .

= = History = =

A roadway , now named Wendover Boulevard , has existed since June 23 , 1925 , when the Victory Highway was completed through Wendover . Then governors George H. Dern of Utah and James G. Scrugham of Nevada , as well as the Secretary of Agriculture William M. Jardine were present to open the highway . Bill Smith and Herman Eckstein opened a filling station at the present location of the Wendover Nugget Casino at a cost of \$ 500 early in 1926 (equivalent to \$ 33 thousand in 2015) . To welcome travelers to his station , he installed a light bulb at the top of a tall pole , which served as the only light in the desert . The earlier Lincoln Highway was re @-@ routed to follow the Victory

Highway through the region by an order of the Lincoln Highway Association executive committee on October 18 , 1926 .

Wendover Boulevard was numbered US 40 through what are now the cities of West Wendover and Wendover beginning in 1926 . US 40 was the major thoroughfare between San Francisco , in the west , and Atlantic City , New Jersey , in the east . US 40 was routed along the Wendover Cut @-@ off , now known as Frontage Road , which was retained as a service road after the completion of the I @-@ 80 . The US 40 designation was removed by 1976 or 1977 , when I @-@ 80 was completed through the area . The designation of roadway now numbered US 93 Alt. has changed twice in the past . Between 1932 and 1953 , it was designated US 50 , and between 1954 and either 1978 and 1979 , it was designated US 50 Alt .

Two other roads have been numbered Utah SR @-@ 58 in the past . The first route designated SR @-@ 58 was formed in 1945 between SR @-@ 36 and Clover , but was decommissioned in 1953 . The second road to use the designation was formed in 1965 between I @-@ 15 in New Harmony back to I @-@ 15 via Kanarraville , but that road was decommissioned in 1969 . The current SR @-@ 58 was codified into Utah law in 1969 between the state line and the junction with Frontage Road , which was formerly US 40 . Wendover Boulevard between US 93 Alt. and the state line was designated SR 224 between July 1 , 1976 , and April 28 , 1993 , when the highway was transferred to Elko County .

Even though BL @-@ 80 is signed in both Nevada and Utah , the route has never been officially designated a business loop by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) or by the Utah State Legislature . Nevada DOT applied for the designation , but in July 1982 the application was deferred by AASHTO until Utah submitted a request for a business loop . No such request has ever been submitted .

Prior to 2007 , BL @-@ 80 was the only connection to the city of Wendover from Utah . However , a new partial diamond interchange , which allows traffic from I @-@ 80 to exit going westbound and for traffic to enter I @-@ 80 eastbound , at Aria Boulevard was constructed . The Aria Boulevard interchange was first planned in 2005 , and was completed without using any federal funding .

In 2007 , the City of West Wendover had two historical markers installed along BL @-@ 80 , one at the state line , and the other at the intersection of US 93 Alt. to commemorate the Victory Highway and US 40 .

= = Major intersections = =