

= M @-@ 120 (Michigan highway) =

M @-@ 120 is a state trunkline highway in the US state of Michigan in the southwest Lower Peninsula . The highway runs northeast from Muskegon to Hesperia . In between , the road passes through suburban Muskegon , forests and farmland . Some 5 @,@ 900 ? 26 @,@ 000 vehicles use the highway each day on average as it runs long a series of roads that follow county lines in the area .

The current highway to bear the M @-@ 120 designation is the third in the state . The first was a spur route in the Lansing area in the 1930s . The second was a route that connected to like @-@ numbered state highways in both Ohio and Indiana . The current M @-@ 120 was originally part of M @-@ 20 until that highway was rerouted between New Era and US Highway 31 (US 31) .

= = Route description = =

The current route starts at Business US 31 (Bus . US 31) where Muskegon Lake and the Muskegon River meet in Muskegon . As it crosses the river , it is known as the Veterans Memorial Causeway , with a section of Veterans Memorial Park between the northbound and southbound sections of the road . This road continues north as Whitehall Road , which connects Muskegon to Whitehall . At Whitehall Road , M @-@ 120 turns east on Holton Road and continues in a northeastern direction through the suburb of North Muskegon . The south side of the roadway abuts residential areas and Reeths @-@ Puffer High School ; the north side is largely undeveloped . M @-@ 120 meets the US 31 freeway in Muskegon Township . Holton Road continues northeasterly past Oak Hill Cemetery and turns northerly at Bard Road . The highway curves to the northeast again through Twin Lake to avoid several lakes in the area . The landscape along the road between Twin Lake and Holton , like much of the overall route of the highway , is woodland . Northeast of Holton , those forests transition to farm land as M @-@ 120 turns to the north . The highway meets B @-@ 31 as it turns north to run along the Muskegon ? Newaygo county line .

As M @-@ 120 continues north along the county line , it runs in Holton Township in Muskegon County to the west and Sheridan Township in Newaygo County to the east along Maple Island Road . West of Fremont , the highway meets an intersection with M @-@ 82 and B @-@ 86 . B @-@ 86 runs along the Muskegon ? Oceana county line , and M @-@ 82 runs along a township line in Newaygo County . North of this intersection , M @-@ 120 follows the Oceana ? Newaygo county line that divides Greenwood Township from Dayton Township . Maple Island Road enters the south side of Hesperia on Division Street . M @-@ 120 terminates at an intersection with M @-@ 20 in the middle of the village , 27 @.@ 901 miles (44 @.@ 902 km) from its starting point .

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) maintains M @-@ 120 like all other components of the Michigan state trunkline highway system . As part of these responsibilities , the department tracks traffic volumes along the highway . MDOT uses a metric called average annual daily traffic , which is a calculation of the traffic along a roadway segment for any average day of the year . In 2009 , the highest traffic levels were near the southern terminus at 26 @,@ 736 vehicles each day . The lowest levels MDOT calculated were in Holton at 5 @,@ 936 vehicles daily . The section between the south end and US 31 , M @-@ 120 has been listed on the National Highway System , a network of roads important to the nation 's economy , defense , and mobility . The remainder of the highway has not been listed .

= = History = =

= = = Previous routings = = =

The M @-@ 120 designation was originally used on two different roadways in the state . In 1930 , a road from US 16 for about a mile at the northwest corner of Lansing was numbered M @-@ 120 . In early 1939 , the M @-@ 174 designation replaced the M @-@ 120 moniker on the road . Later that

year , the Michigan State Highway Department (MSHD) used the number for a road along the Michigan @-@ Ohio state line . This highway connected to State Route 120 on its east end at the state line and ran west to US 127 at Meridian Road along the Hillsdale ? Lenawee county line . By the end of 1940 , M @-@ 120 was extended through Hillsdale County to connect to State Road 120 along the short north ? south Michigan ? Indiana border . By the middle of 1961 , the M @-@ 120 designation was retired by the MSHD again . The Ohio and Indiana SR 120 highways are still in place today with only the county road in Michigan connecting them .

= = = Current routing = = =

The MSHD 's successor , the Michigan Department of State Highways , realigned the route of M @-@ 20 through Western Michigan in 1969 . In the aftermath of the reroute , the M @-@ 20 designation was moved from Muskegon to New Era . The former routing of M @-@ 20 south of Hesperia to Muskegon was renumbered M @-@ 120 , including a segment that ran concurrently with M @-@ 82 . That concurrency was removed in 1978 .

= = Major intersections = =