

= M @-@ 109 (Michigan highway) =

M @-@ 109 is the designation of a state trunkline highway in the Lower Peninsula of the US state of Michigan that runs between Empire and Glen Arbor . The highway is a loop connected to M @-@ 22 at both ends that allows tourists access to Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and the Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive located on a section of sandy forest land between Lake Michigan and Glen Lake . The trunkline traverses an area named the " Most Beautiful Place in America " by Good Morning America , the morning show on ABC . The highway was designated by 1929 and fully paved in 1939 .

= = Route description = =

M @-@ 109 starts at an intersection on M @-@ 22 north of Empire . The trunkline runs northward along Dune Highway past Maple Grove Cemetery and through woods in the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore . The area was named the " Most Beautiful Place in America " by Good Morning America in August 2011 ; the designation came after a social media campaign to capitalize on the show 's website poll . Further north , the highway passes the entrance to Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive before reunning along the western shore of Glen Lake . Near the northwestern corner of the lake , M @-@ 109 passes the entrance to the Dune Climb in an area that 's predominantly fields . The trunkline makes a 90 @-@ degree turn at the intersection with Glen Haven Road , the former M @-@ 209 , south of Glen Haven , a former logging town on the shores of Lake Michigan . M @-@ 109 turns easterly at the intersection to follow Harbor Highway . It runs through another wooded area between Glen Lake and Sleeping Bear Bay . The highway passes the D.H. Day Campground and enters Glen Arbor , following Western Avenue . At the intersection with M @-@ 22 (Ray Street) , M @-@ 109 terminates in the middle of town .

Like other state highways in Michigan , M @-@ 109 is maintained by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) . In 2011 , the department 's traffic surveys showed that on average , 783 vehicles used the highway daily along Dune Highway and 758 vehicles did so each day along Harbor Highway , the highest and lowest counts along the highway , respectively . No section of M @-@ 109 is listed on the National Highway System , a network of roads important to the country 's economy , defense , and mobility .

= = History = =

The first section of roadway to receive the M @-@ 109 designation was in place and signed on maps by May 1 , 1929 . The roadway was a spur from M @-@ 22 north of Empire that ended at Glen Haven , just west of the D.H. Day State Park . The highway was extended east along an existing road between Glen Haven and Glen Arbor . This extension was in place by May 1 , 1933 , completing the modern routing of M @-@ 109 . The highway was fully paved in 1939 .

= = Major intersections = =

The entire highway is in Leelanau County .