

= M @-@ 54 (Michigan highway) =

M @-@ 54 is a north ? south state trunkline highway in the US state of Michigan that bypasses the city of Flint . It is named Dort Highway in much of its length , in honor of Flint carriage and automobile pioneer Josiah Dallas Dort . The portion from the north end of Dort Highway to Clio Road is part of the historic Saginaw Trail , and was also part of the old Dixie Highway . The modern highway runs for 30 @.@ 276 miles (48 @.@ 724 km) through Genesee and Saginaw counties from a connection with Interstate 75 (I @-@ 75) near Grand Blanc on the south to Birch Run on the north . The highway serves mostly suburban and urban sections of the Flint area . Outside of the city , it also passes through agricultural areas in northern Genesee County and southeastern Saginaw County .

The first state highway along the general route of M @-@ 54 was M @-@ 10 , one of the original state trunklines signed in 1919 . Later , it was redesignated as part of US Highway 10 (US 10) in the 1920s . After a series of realignments in the 1940s and 1960s , the roadway was given the M @-@ 54 designation in 1962 . A segment of Saginaw Road through Flint was redesignated a business route in the 1940s that became Business M @-@ 54 (Bus . M @-@ 54) as well in 1962 . That business loop was decommissioned in 1974 . Previously , two other highways in Michigan bore the M @-@ 54 designation : a roadway that is now part of M @-@ 37 and one that is Bus . US 2 in Ironwood .

= = Route description = =

M @-@ 54 starts at exit 109 along I @-@ 75 and follows Dort Highway northward through suburban Grand Blanc Township . The area near the southern end is mostly residential , but north of Reid Road , there is the Grand Blanc Metal Center plant for GM to the east of the highway . M @-@ 54 intersects Hill and Saginaw roads in the unincorporated community of Whigville as the trunkline passes out of the industrial area surrounding the plant . North of the Maple Road intersection , Dort Highway crosses into Burton , and the suburban residential neighborhoods give way to commercial properties along the roadway . There is a rail line owned by CSX Transportation that runs parallel to the highway about a half mile (0 @.@ 8 km) to the east . North of Atherton Road , M @-@ 54 crosses into Flint and runs through the city 's east side . The trunkline intersects I @-@ 69 near the Amtrak station in the city , and a crossing with a line of the Canadian National Railway . Between Robert T. Longway Boulevard and Davison Road , Dort Highway passes another industrial area . North of Leith Street , the highway turns to the northwest , and the parallel railroad , still part of the CSX line , follows suit .

Dort Highway crosses the Flint River on the northeast side of the city near the interchange that connects the highway to I @-@ 475 . This interchange uses the connection with Stewart Avenue on the western side of the river to provide all of the possible traffic movements between the freeway and the highway . M @-@ 54 turns due northerly past the interchange and crosses under the rail line as it heads out of Flint . The area north of the city line on Carpenter Road is dominated by industrial properties as far north as Coldwater Road . Running northward through a more rural area , M @-@ 54 passes to the east of Mount Morris . Turning northwesterly , the trunkline is dotted with commercial businesses as it continues to the Clio area . The highway runs parallel to east of the railroad , now part of the Lake State Railway . It passes the Flint Memorial Park cemetery and the Auto City Speedway , a motorsports race track in an area that is otherwise agricultural in nature away from the main highway . The Dort Highway name ends at the intersection with Saginaw Road , and the highway takes on the latter name . East of Clio , M @-@ 54 intersects M @-@ 57 in the unincorporated community of Pine Run .

Past the town , M @-@ 54 turns due north on Clio Road before crossing into southern Saginaw County . Over the county line , the name changes to Gera Road , and the trunkline runs through farm fields to an intersection with Birch Run Road . At that intersection , M @-@ 54 northbound turns westward and joins M @-@ 83 to run concurrently to Birch Run while M @-@ 83 continues north to Frankenmuth on Gera Road . Birch Run Road carries opposing directions of the two

highways , a phenomenon called a wrong @-@ way concurrency . Running westward , the road is signed as both M @-@ 54 northbound or M @-@ 83 southbound . About two miles (3 @. @ 2 km) west of the intersection between Gera and Birch Run roads , the two highways meet a common terminus at exit 136 on I @-@ 75 / US 23 in a commercial district that includes a large outlet mall bordering that freeway .

M @-@ 54 is maintained by MDOT like other state highways in Michigan . As a part of these maintenance responsibilities , the department tracks the volume of traffic that uses the roadways under its jurisdiction . These volumes are expressed using a metric called annual average daily traffic , which is a statistical calculation of the average daily number of vehicles on a segment of roadway . MDOT 's surveys in 2010 showed that the highest traffic levels along M @-@ 54 were the 30 @, @ 145 vehicles daily north of the I @-@ 69 interchange in Flint ; the lowest counts were the 2 @, @ 880 vehicles per day along the M @-@ 83 concurrency . M @-@ 54 between I @-@ 75 in Grand Blanc Township and M @-@ 57 near Clio has been listed on the National Highway System , a network of roads important to the country 's economy , defense , and mobility .

= = History = =

= = = Previous designations = = =

The first version of M @-@ 54 began at M @-@ 16 (later US 16) near Grand Rapids and ran northerly along the current M @-@ 37 corridor to M @-@ 20 (later US 10) . This version of M @-@ 54 was replaced by an extension of M @-@ 37 by 1927 . The second incarnation of M @-@ 54 was designated in Ironwood along the former US 2 routing through downtown in 1934 . This was replaced by the current Bus . US 2 in August 1942 .

= = = Current designation = = =

Originally , Saginaw Road in the Flint area was a part of the Saginaw Trail , a Native American foot path in the area . In the early 20th century , the highway was a part of the Dixie Highway through the area . When the state signed its highway system in 1919 , Saginaw Road was part of M @-@ 10 ; later it was used as a section of US 10 in 1926 . In August 1926 , the Flint City Council renamed the former Western Road after Joasiah Dallas Dort , a partner in GM . In 1941 , the highway was moved eastward to follow Dort Highway , and the route through the city was designated Bus . US 10 .

The current M @-@ 54 was designated in 1962 for a former routing of US 10 through the Flint area ; US 10 was moved after the completion of the I @-@ 75 freeway , and the M @-@ 54 designation was applied to the Saginaw Road @-@ Dort Highway routing of US 10 from I @-@ 75 in Grand Blanc to M @-@ 83 in Birch Run . At the same time , Bus . US 10 became Bus . M @-@ 54 through Flint . An extension of Dort Highway in 1987 relocated the southern end of M @-@ 54 in Grand Blanc to end at exit 109 on I @-@ 75 .

= = Major intersections = =

= = Business route = =

Business M @-@ 54 (Bus . M @-@ 54) was a business loop in the Flint area . It ran for about 14 @. @ 8 miles (23 @. @ 8 km) along Saginaw Road , which was also called Saginaw Street in the city of Flint . The highway connected to its parent , M @-@ 54 , in Grand Blanc Township on the south end and ran through suburban Burton northwesterly into Flint . There it ran through downtown , passing under I @-@ 475 without an interchange . Bus . M @-@ 54 ran parallel to that freeway and met I @-@ 69 at an interchange near downtown . There were intersections with both directions of M @-@ 21 ; eastbound M @-@ 21 was routed on 5th Street while westbound traffic followed

Court Street one block north . The highway crossed the Flint River and turned northward . Saginaw Street continued parallel to what is now I @-@ 475 before passing out of town . In Mount Morris Township north of Flint , the business loop terminated at the intersection with M @-@ 54 (Dort Highway) .

Originally , Saginaw Road in the Flint area was a part of the Saginaw Trail , a Native American foot path in the area . When the state signed its highway system in 1919 , Saginaw Road was part of M @-@ 10 . Later it was used as a section of US 10 in 1926 . In 1929 , the highway was moved eastward to follow Dort Highway , and the route through the city was designated M @-@ 10 again . In 1941 , this was renumbered to Bus . US 10 . Later , in 1962 , US 10 was moved again to follow the recently completed I @-@ 75 freeway ; the former route of US 10 was redesignated M @-@ 54 and its business loop was renumbered to match . This business route lasted until 1974 ; at the same time that I @-@ 475 was completed , Bus . M @-@ 54 was decommissioned and turned over to local control .

Major intersections

The entire highway was in Genesee County .