

= M @-@ 17 (Michigan highway) =

M @-@ 17 is a 6 @. @ 390 @-@ mile @-@ long (10 @. @ 284 km) state trunkline highway in the U.S. state of Michigan , connecting the cities of Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor in Washtenaw County . It was once part of a highway that spanned the southern Lower Peninsula of Michigan before the creation of the U.S. Highway System in 1926 . The designation once extended into downtown Detroit , but the eastern terminus was progressively scaled back in the late 1960s to the current location in Ypsilanti . The changes made to the highways in Washtenaw County spawned Business M @-@ 17 (Bus . M @-@ 17) , a business loop for 11 years between 1945 and 1956 .

= = Route description = =

M @-@ 17 begins at exit 37 along US Highway 23 (US 23) on the Ann Arbor ? Pittsfield Township border . West of this cloverleaf interchange , Washtenaw Avenue is Business Loop Interstate 94 (BL I @-@ 94) and Business US 23 (Bus . US 23) . M @-@ 17 follows Washtenaw Avenue east of this interchange through Pittsfield Township and Ypsilanti Township . The street is five lanes wide through an urban area between Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti running east @-@ southeasterly . Although there are many residential areas near M @-@ 17 , particularly to the south , the road itself is dominated by commercial development , including numerous restaurants . M @-@ 17 crosses into the city of Ypsilanti at Hewitt Road . This intersection provides access north to Rynearson Stadium , home field for the Eastern Michigan University (EMU) Eagles football team .

Continuing east @-@ southeasterly along Washtenaw Avenue , M @-@ 17 meets the southeast corner of the EMU campus at Oakwood Avenue . The highway follows the southern edge of campus to Cross Street , where the highway splits to follow a one @-@ way pairing of streets . Eastbound M @-@ 17 continues along Washtenaw Avenue while westbound traffic follows Cross Street . Eastbound traffic turns southward at Hamilton Street for two blocks before turning east along Michigan Avenue , meeting westbound Bus . US 12 . The two highway designations merge , running concurrently through downtown Ypsilanti . The section of Michigan Avenue between Hamilton and Huron streets is actually a wrong @-@ way concurrency because although it is a two @-@ way boulevard , the eastbound direction is M @-@ 17 and the westbound direction is Bus . US 12 . Both directions of traffic for both highways rejoin at Huron Street , as the westbound M @-@ 17 traffic uses Huron Street north to Cross Street and westbound Bus . US 12 turns south along Huron Street . Northeast of the Huron Street intersection is Riverside Park . Michigan Avenue forms the extreme southern park boundary just before it crosses the Huron River . At Ecorse Road , M @-@ 17 turns south in Ypsilanti Township through a residential area , separating from Bus . US 12 . Ecorse Road turns east four blocks north of I @-@ 94 / US 12 and runs parallel to the freeway . Past Harris Road , US 12 turns northeasterly on a separate expressway . Where it meets Ecorse Road , US 12 follows Ecorse Road , replacing M @-@ 17 . This junction marks the eastern terminus of M @-@ 17 west of Willow Run Airport .

Like other state highways in Michigan , M @-@ 17 is maintained by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) . As a part of these maintenance duties , the department tracks the traffic levels along its roadways using a metric called annual average daily traffic (AADT) . This is a statistical calculation of the average daily number of vehicles on a segment of roadway . In 2009 , MDOT 's surveys found that the highest AADT along the trunkline was 26 @, @ 141 vehicles daily on the westernmost section near the US 23 interchange while the lowest counts were along the north ? south section of Ecorse Road at 8 @, @ 926 vehicles . The section of M @-@ 17 from US 23 to the western junctions with Bus . US 12 has been listed on the National Highway System , a network of roadways important to the country 's economy , defense , and mobility .

= = History = =

M @-@ 17 is an original state trunkline dating back to the 1919 signing of the system . On July 1 , 1919 , the highway started at M @-@ 11 in Berrien County in the southwestern Lower Peninsula

and ran east to Detroit . The debut of the U.S. Highway System replaced most of M @-@ 17 with two different highways . From Watervliet to Ann Arbor , US 12 replaced M @-@ 17 ; east of Ypsilanti to Detroit , US 112 replaced M @-@ 17 . The M @-@ 17 designation also replaced M @-@ 23 on Ecorse Road between Ypsilanti and Lincoln Park and then ran concurrently with US 25 into Detroit . The Ann Arbor segment was rerouted along Boulevard Drive (now Stadium Boulevard) between US 12 and US 23 .

A realignment in 1937 ? 38 moved the M @-@ 17 designation in Allen Park . Changes made moved the highway to turn east on Southfield Road to US 25 and follow US 25 back to the former routing into Detroit . Another larger change came before 1945 with the completion of the Willow Run Expressway . M @-@ 17 was rerouted west of the Wayne ? Washtenaw county line along the expressway that replaced Ecorse Road . M @-@ 17 was joined by Bypass US 112 (BYP US 112) along the Willow Run Expressway to a southern freeway bypass of Ypsilanti . M @-@ 17 continued past the end of BYP US 112 at US 112 / Michigan Avenue along a two @-@ lane highway to US 23 . It then followed US 23 back to Washtenaw Avenue in Pittsfield Township to rejoin the original alignment of M @-@ 17 west to Ann Arbor . The former M @-@ 17 through downtown Ypsilanti was redesignated Business M @-@ 17 (Bus . M @-@ 17) .

The Michigan State Highway Department (MSHD) completed the freeway bypass of the Ann Arbor ? Ypsilanti in 1956 , then moved the M @-@ 17 designation back to Washtenaw Avenue , Michigan Avenue and Ecorse Road , removing Bus . M @-@ 17 in the process . US 12 and US 112 replaced the BYP US 112 designation on the freeway . The former US 112 designation through downtown Ypsilanti was converted to a BUS US 112 designation , including sections concurrent with M @-@ 17 . Another change was made to the Ann @-@ Arbor section of the highway as it was truncated to end at US 23 . The 1962 completion of the US 23 freeway through the Ann Arbor area by MSHD moved the western terminus of M @-@ 17 west to meet the new freeway at the current terminus . The eastern terminus was progressively scaled back starting in 1968 . The US 25 concurrency was removed and the terminus was moved to M @-@ 39 / Southfield Road in Allen Park . A second truncation scaled the terminus back to US 12 , the current eastern endpoint .

= = Major intersections = =

The entire highway is in Washtenaw County .

= = Business loop = =

Business M @-@ 17 (Bus . M @-@ 17) was a business route designation used along a section of highway from 1945 until 1956 . It was routed along Washtenaw and Michigan avenues and Ecorse Road in the Ypsilanti area . At the time of its commissioning , M @-@ 17 was moved to a freeway bypass of downtown Ypsilanti . It was later decommissioned in 1956 when the freeway bypass was completed west around the south side of Ann Arbor . M @-@ 17 was moved back to its original routing through downtown Ypsilanti , supplanting Bus . M @-@ 17 when US 12 / US 112 supplanted M @-@ 17 on the freeway .