

= Interstate 675 (Michigan) =

Interstate 675 (I @-@ 675) is an auxiliary Interstate Highway in the US state of Michigan . The freeway is a 7 @.@ 73 @-@ mile @-@ long (12 @.@ 44 km) loop route through downtown Saginaw as I @-@ 75 passes on the east side of the city . I @-@ 675 is also a state trunkline highway that provided a bypass of the former drawbridge carrying I @-@ 75 and US Highway 23 (US 23) across the Saginaw River . Construction of I @-@ 675 started in 1969 and the freeway opened in 1971 . Since then , sections near downtown were reconstructed in 2009 through 2011 to update one of the freeway 's interchanges and rebuild the bridge over the Saginaw River .

= = Route description = =

I @-@ 675 splits from I @-@ 75 on the eastern side of Saginaw , turning west toward downtown . The freeway runs between residential neighborhoods and has an interchange with Veterans Memorial Parkway . West of that interchange , it crosses a line of the Huron and Eastern Railway . From there , it runs on the northern edge of downtown near the Dow Event Center , crossing the Saginaw River on the Henry G. Marsh Bridge . On the west side of the river , the trunkline meets an interchange with M @-@ 58 . From there it turns northward , crossing a line of the Mid @-@ Michigan Railroad . I @-@ 675 continues northward , passing to the east of the Aleda E. Lutz VA Medical Center and through more residential neighborhoods in Saginaw Township North . After the interchange with Tittabawassee Road , which provides access to the Fashion Square Mall , I @-@ 675 turns northeasterly to merge back to I @-@ 75 north of the Zilwaukee Bridge .

Like other state highways in Michigan , I @-@ 675 is maintained by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) . In 2011 , the department 's traffic surveys showed that on average , 20 @,@ 900 vehicles used the freeway daily across the river and 4 @,@ 000 vehicles did so each day north of Tittabawassee Road , the highest and lowest counts along the trunkline , respectively . As an Interstate Highway , all of I @-@ 675 is listed on the National Highway System , a network of roads important to the country 's economy , defense , and mobility .

= = History = =

Initially planned in the mid @-@ 1950s , the I @-@ 675 freeway was under construction starting in 1969 . The freeway was completed in 1971 and opened to traffic that year .

For nearly a decade (1979 ? 88) , I @-@ 675 served as an alternate route for traffic during construction of a new bridge across the Saginaw River for I @-@ 75 / US 23 at Zilwaukee . The original span , built in 1960 , was designed as a bascule bridge which could be raised to allow shipping traffic to use the river . Opening the drawbridge would back traffic up on the freeway for upwards of four hours on holiday weekends . I @-@ 675 helped relieve the congestion during such times , including during the major construction accident in August 1982 that delayed completion of the new bridge . Originally to be completed in 1983 , it finally opened on September 19 , 1988 .

Starting in May 2009 and ending in November 2011 , sections of I @-@ 675 were closed from exit 2 easterly to begin renovations during the summer construction seasons . These projects included rehabilitation of the Henry Marsh Bridge , the reconstruction of overpasses , and a redesigned exit at Warren Avenue to ease access into downtown Saginaw .

= = Exit list = =

The entire highway is in Saginaw County .