

Freeway detour

Southfield, I-94 ramp to close 2 years

All ramps at the heavily traveled interchange of the Southfield (M-39) and I-94 freeways in Wayne County will be closed to traffic from Feb. 5 to the summer of 1986.

A detour will be posted, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) said.

"Through" traffic will continue on both freeways, but the ramp closures will prevent traffic from switching from I-94 onto the Southfield Freeway, or vice versa.

The ramps will be closed while the aging interchange undergoes complete reconstruction.

NORTH OF the interchange, the posted detour will direct traffic onto Ford Road (M-153), west to Telegraph Road (US-24), then south to I-94.

Traffic on I-94 will be detoured north onto Telegraph Road and east on Ford Road to the Southfield Freeway.

MDOT also will post signs for an alternate route to Metropolitan Airport. Drivers from eastern Oakland County who would ordinarily use the Southfield Freeway and I-94 to get to Metro Airport will be directed by signs westbound on I-94, south on I-275, then back east along I-94.

Other local roads may be used as alternatives to the official detour.

MDOT said it is working closely with business and local officials in Allen Park, Taylor, Dearborn Heights, Dearborn and Southfield to minimize traffic disruption and potential economic loss to area businesses.

The state is also working with Wayne County staff at Metro Airport to insure that travelers will not miss flights due to the new traffic routing.

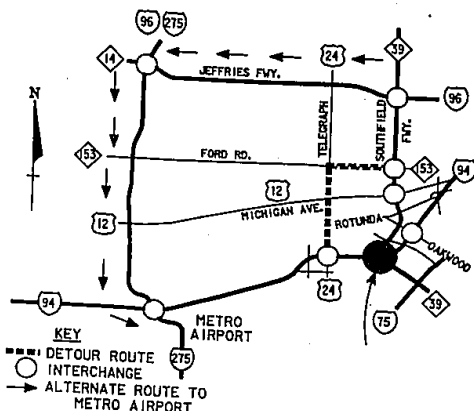
MDOT WILL install special signs directing traffic to Greenfield Village — one of Michigan's top three tourist attractions — in Dearborn.

The Southfield interchange, which carries 180,000 vehicles a day, will be completely reconstructed during 1985-87.

Although all ramps are scheduled to be reopened by early summer of 1986, several bridges on the interchange, as well as the roadways, are showing signs of severe deterioration. Traffic accidents also are a problem.

Construction will continue until the scheduled completion date in the summer of 1987.

Contractor is Holloway Construction Co. of Wilton. The contract contains provisions for bonus payments if the contractor finishes various phases of the project ahead of schedule and penalizes if the company fails to make the target dates.



Source: Michigan Department of Transportation

The I-94/M-39 interchange will be closed after Feb. 5, and drivers will have to take other routes to make turns.

MDOT will install special signs directing traffic to Greenfield Village — one of Michigan's top three tourist attractions — in Dearborn.

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