

SOUTHWEST REGION

The Southwest Region covers nine counties in the southwestern part of the state: Allegan, Barry, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, and Van Buren counties. Major state highways include I-69, I-94, I-196, US-12, US-31, and US-131.

The Southwest Region is the state's fruit basket thanks to the moderating climate effect of Lake Michigan. The region is traversed by I-94, an important international trade corridor linking Port Huron and Detroit to Chicago and Toronto. This makes the Southwest Region an ideal location for many industries, particularly those supporting the automobile manufacturing industry. To bolster industries and commerce important to the region and the state, project selection emphasizes freeway improvements and modernization.

The Southwest Region also boasts a significant tourist trade. To welcome visitors to Michigan, MDOT's Southwest Region has improved most highway entrances into Michigan, with an additional entrance improvement on US-31 scheduled for 2006.

Past Accomplishments

The Southwest Region continues to work towards meeting MDOT's statewide pavement and bridge condition goals. Achievements of the Southwest Region's past five years include:

Reconstruction of two miles of M-63 from I-94 to Hickory Creek, including the addition of a center turn lane, drainage and bridge improvements. This project will greatly enhance the operation of M-63 near St. Joseph, Berrien County.

Completion and opening of the ten mile segment of US-31 freeway between Berrien Springs and Napier Road in Berrien County.

Replace the I-94 bridges over the CSX Railroad near Sawyer, including the extension of the ramp across the westbound bridge, Berrien County.

Reconstruction of M-89 at the CSX Railroad in Fennville, Allegan County.

Rehabilitation of over five miles of M-43/M-89 from west of Richland to 42nd Street, Kalamazoo County.

Rehabilitation of seven and a half miles of US-131 from Wayland to the Kent County line, Allegan County.

Reconstruction of ten miles of I-69 from north of Girard Road to north of J Drive South, Branch and Calhoun Counties.

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These are but a few of the \$76 million in construction contracts awarded by the Southwest Region in 2003.

Twenty-seven miles of road were improved under the “rehabilitate and reconstruct” program with another 186 miles improved under the capital preventative maintenance program, translating to 18% of all Southwest Region route miles receiving some type of rehabilitation or repair. Nine bridges were improved under the rehabilitate and reconstruct bridge program, and twenty-four bridges received maintenance work which represents 7% of the bridge system for the Southwest Region.

Projects that were awarded in 2003 and will be completed in 2004 include:

Reconstruct more than a half mile of US-12 from Elaine Street to Centreville Road, including minor widening and drainage improvements in Sturgis, St. Joseph County.

Reconstruct and Resurface more than a mile of US-12 from west village limits of Three Oaks to Tulip Street, Berrien County.

Reconstruct more than a mile of M-51 from Mills Street to Park Drive, including minor widening and drainage improvements in Decatur, Van Buren County.

All other Southwest Region projects scheduled for 2003 were completed.

Five Year Road and Bridge Program

The projects identified in this 2004 to 2008 Five Year Road and Bridge Program for the Southwest Region total approximately \$264 million. Investments are allocated in the following manner:

Preserve First	\$ 35 Million
Road & Bridge Preservation	\$209 Million
Capacity Improvements & New Roads	
Design & Pre-Construction Activities	\$ 20 Million

The Program has been developed within the framework of the Department’s goals and investment strategies and in coordination with local agencies. This integrated program consists of Rehabilitate and Reconstruct, New Roads and Improve Capacity, Preserve First, Capital Preventive Maintenance, and Non-Freeway Resurfacing Programs.

The 2004-2008 programs for rehabilitation and reconstruction and capacity improvement work will upgrade more than 145 miles (12%) of the regions 1,232 miles of roadways and improve twenty-five (5%) of the regions 496 bridges. In addition, capital preventative maintenance projects, programmed annually, are planned for a significant number of pavements and bridges. This treatment will improve the pavement/bridge condition and extend the roadways’ life.

Corridor Improvement Strategies

As outlined in the State Long Range Plan 2000-2025, the Southwest Region continues to invest in the corridors of highest significance (I-94, I-69, US-131, and US-31/I-196). These corridors represent the backbone of Michigan's economy and the Southwest Region will continue to focus investments to rebuild and modernize these roadways and the transportation facilities within them.

The Southwest Region continues to use an asset management approach to analyze all of our roadway corridors. This approach groups projects from our program categories; such as, rehabilitate and reconstruct, capital preventative maintenance, scheduled maintenance, and safety, as well as grouping state projects with local projects. Pavement management strategies including remaining service life and roadway condition models are utilized to develop the type of fixes and costs necessary to preserve our roads and bridges.

The US-131BR/Industrial Corridor in Kalamazoo received designated funds through TEA-21 legislation. An economic impact study was conducted by the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study, Kalamazoo's metropolitan planning organization. Though the study did not demonstrate that improvements to the US-131/US-131BR interchange would be economically beneficial to the area, the study team is continuing to study additional possibilities.

The I-69 corridor continues to be improved from the Indiana state line to the southern Eaton County line. To complete the corridor improvements, projects are scheduled in 2004 and 2006.

Capacity Improvements and New Roads

US-31 / Napier Avenue to I-94, Berrien County

The last segment of this new limited access freeway is in the final stages of the environmental clearance process. A preferred alternative has been recommended and the Federal Highway Administration and state resource agencies have completed their review of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS). A Record of Decision for the preferred alternative is expected in 2004. MDOT will proceed with design and right-of-way acquisition phases after a Record of Decision is received from the Federal Highway Administration.

Design and right of way phases will begin in 2004 with design finishing in 2005 and right of way continuing through 2007. The construction phase is deferred to a future Five Year Transportation Program. Napier Avenue, the temporary connection between US-31 and I-94, has been widened to meet projected traffic demand.

I-94 / US-131 to Sprinkle Road, Kalamazoo County

This segment of I-94 between US-131 and Sprinkle Road in the Cities of Kalamazoo and Portage was identified in the 2000 Kalamazoo Area Freeway Needs Study as the section in most need of widening. An Environmental Assessment and FONSI were approved by

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Design work is underway and will be completed in 2004. Funds for right of way and construction have not been identified.

US-131 / State Line to North Township Line Lockport Township, St. Joseph County

MDOT is conducting an EIS to obtain clearance for a preferred improvement alternative on US-131 from the State Line to Edgerton Road north of Three Rivers (16.0 miles). An access management plan is also being prepared for the entire corridor as part of the EPE effort. A DEIS and public hearing is expected in 2004. A FEIS and a Record of Decision could be completed in 2005. Upon completion of the EPE study, the department will review funding opportunities for subsequent project phases along the corridor.

I-94 Business Loop, Battle Creek, Calhoun County

An agreement has been reached between MDOT and the City of Battle Creek regarding a modified project along I-94BL. The proposed improvements include the widening of Dickman Road (relocated I-94 Business Loop) to 5 lanes, from I-194 to Main Street and to 3 lanes between Main Street and Elm Street. The intersection of Elm Street (relocated I-94BL) and Michigan Avenue would receive minor geometric improvements as part of this plan. The design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction have been deferred to a future Five Year Transportation Program.

FIVE YEAR HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE PROGRAM
Repair and Rebuild Roads

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SOUTHWEST BRIDGES

COUNTY	ROUTE(COMMON NAME)	P.F.	LOCATION	TYPE OF WORK	LENGTH	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
ALLEGAN	I-196/US-31		I-196/US-31 SB OVER 71 ST STREET	SUBSTRUCTURE PATCHING	0.000		CON			
ALLEGAN	I-196/US-31		I-196/US-31 NB OVER 71 ST STREET	SUBSTRUCTURE REPAIR	0.000		CON			
ALLEGAN	M-89		M-89 OVER KALAMAZOO RIVER	BRIDGE REPLACEMENT	0.000	CON				
BERRIEN	I-196		AT I-94, BERRIEN COUNTY	MISCELLANEOUS BRIDGE	0.000	CON				
BERRIEN	I-196		I-196 SB OVER I-94	SUPERSTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT	0.000		CON			
BERRIEN	I-196		I-196 NB OVER I-94	SUPERSTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT	0.000		CON			
BERRIEN	I-94		I-94 WB OVER CONRAIL RAILROAD (ABANDONED)	BRIDGE REMOVAL	0.060			CON		
BERRIEN	I-94		I-94 EB OVER CONRAIL RAILROAD (ABANDONED)	BRIDGE REMOVAL	0.060			CON		
BERRIEN	I-94		BOYER ROAD OVER I-94	OVERLAY - SHALLOW	0.000	CON				
BERRIEN	I-94		WASHINGTON AVENUE OVER I-94	OVERLAY - SHALLOW	0.000	CON				
BERRIEN	I-94		LIVINGSTON ROAD OVER I-94	OVERLAY - SHALLOW	0.000	CON				
BERRIEN	I-94		BROWNTOWN ROAD OVER I-94	OVERLAY - SHALLOW	0.000	CON				
BERRIEN	I-94		THREE OAKS ROAD OVER I-94	OVERLAY - SHALLOW	0.000	CON				
BERRIEN	I-94		I-94 WB OVER SAWYER ROAD	DECK REPLACEMENT	0.000			CON		
BERRIEN	I-94		I-94 EB OVER SAWYER ROAD	DECK REPLACEMENT	0.000			CON		
BERRIEN	I-94		I-94 WB OVER GALIEN RIVER	DECK REPLACEMENT	0.080					CON
BERRIEN	I-94		I-94 EB OVER GALIEN RIVER	DECK REPLACEMENT	0.080					CON
BERRIEN	I-94		I-94 WB OVER OLD US-12 (RED ARROW HIGHWAY)	BRIDGE REPLACEMENT	0.630	CON				
BERRIEN	I-94		I-94 EB OVER OLD US-12 (RED ARROW HIGHWAY)	BRIDGE REPLACEMENT	0.630	CON				
BERRIEN	M-63		M-63 OVER ST JOSEPH RIVER	MISCELLANEOUS REHABILITATION	0.000		CON			
CALHOUN	I-94		17 1/2 MILE ROAD OVER I-94	OVERLAY - SHALLOW	0.000		CON			
CALHOUN	I-94		29 MILE ROAD OVER I-94	OVERLAY - SHALLOW	0.000	CON				
CALHOUN	I-94		27 MILE ROAD OVER I-94	OVERLAY - SHALLOW	0.000	CON				
CALHOUN	I-94		I-94 WB OVER RICE CREEK	OVERLAY - SHALLOW	0.000		CON			
CALHOUN	I-94		I-94 EB OVER RICE CREEK	OVERLAY - SHALLOW	0.000		CON			
CALHOUN	M-37		M-37 OVER KALAMAZOO RIVER	OVERLAY - SHALLOW	0.000			CON		
KALAMAZOO	I-94		LOVERS LANE OVER I-94	BRIDGE REPLACEMENT	0.000			CON		
KALAMAZOO	I-94		I-94 BUSINESS LOOP EB OVER I-94	SUPERSTRUCTURE REPAIR	0.000		CON			
KALAMAZOO	US-131		US-131 SB OVER AMTRAK AND KL AVENUE	SUBSTRUCTURE REPAIR	0.000	CON				
KALAMAZOO	US-131		US-131 NB OVER AMTRAK AND KL AVENUE	SUBSTRUCTURE REPAIR	0.000	CON				
KALAMAZOO	US-131		US-131 NB OVER D AVENUE	OVERLAY - DEEP	0.000	CON				
KALAMAZOO	US-131		US-131 SB OVER D AVENUE	OVERLAY - DEEP	0.000	CON				
KALAMAZOO	US-131		US-131 BUSINESS ROUTE SB OVER US-131 NB	MISCELLANEOUS REHABILITATION	0.000	CON				
KALAMAZOO	US-131		M AVENUE OVER US-131	BRIDGE REPLACEMENT	0.000					CON
ST. JOSEPH	M-86		M-86 OVER SWAN CREEK	BRIDGE REPLACEMENT	0.000			CON		
ST. JOSEPH	M-86		M-86 OVER ST JOSEPH RIVER TAILRACE	SUPERSTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT	0.000			CON		

Date 12-18-2003

**FIVE YEAR HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE PROGRAM
Repair and Rebuild Roads**

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SOUTHWEST BRIDGES

COUNTY	ROUTE(COMMON NAME)	P.F.	LOCATION	TYPE OF WORK	LENGTH	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
VAN BUREN	I-196		I-196 SB OVER 32 ND AVENUE (CR 378)	SUBSTRUCTURE REPAIR	0.000	CON				
VAN BUREN	I-94		M-40 OVER I-94	DECK PATCHING	0.000			CON		
VAN BUREN	I-94		41 ST STREET OVER I-94	OVERLAY - SHALLOW	0.000			CON		
VAN BUREN	I-94		I-94 WB OVER EAST BRANCH OF PAW PAW RIVER	OVERLAY - DEEP	0.000			CON		
VAN BUREN	I-94		I-94 EB OVER EAST BRANCH OF PAW PAW RIVER	OVERLAY - SHALLOW	0.000			CON		
VAN BUREN	I-94		M-51 OVER I-94	OVERLAY - SHALLOW	0.000			CON		
VAN BUREN	I-94		I-94 WB OVER PAW PAW RIVER	OVERLAY - SHALLOW	0.000			CON		
VAN BUREN	I-94		I-94 EB OVER PAW PAW RIVER	OVERLAY - SHALLOW	0.000			CON		
VAN BUREN	I-94		24 TH STREET OVER I-94	SUBSTRUCTURE REPAIR	0.000			CON		
					0.770					

FIVE YEAR HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE PROGRAM
Repair and Rebuild Roads

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SOUTHWEST REPAIR AND REBUILD ROADS

COUNTY	ROUTE(COMMON NAME)	P.F.	LOCATION	TYPE OF WORK	LENGTH	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
ALLEGAN	I-196	PF	BLACK RIVER TO 111TH AVE	RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION	5.973				CON	
ALLEGAN	M-40		134TH TO I-196	RESURFACE	5.970		CON			
ALLEGAN	M-40 / M-89		WEST CITY LIMITS OF ALLEGAN TO 124TH AVENUE	RESURFACE	5.448					CON
ALLEGAN	M-89		I-196 / US-31 TO EAST CITY LIMITS OF FENNVILLE	RESURFACE	6.340	CON				
BARRY	M-43		BUSH STREET TO DELTON ROAD, VILLAGE OF DELTON	RESURFACE	0.520				CON	
BARRY	M-66		ASSYRIA ROAD TO FRANCIS STREET IN NASHVILLE	RESURFACE	4.590			CON		
BERRIEN	I-94 EB		EAST OF I-196 TO WEST OF M-140	RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION	5.000				CON	
BERRIEN	I-94		INDIANA STATE LINE NORTHERLY EIGHT MILES	RESURFACE	8.000					CON
BERRIEN	M-51		US-12 BR TO PUCKER STREET	RESURFACE	2.600		CON			
BERRIEN	US-12 BR		US-12 TO SASSAFRAS LANE	RESURFACE	1.810		CON			
BERRIEN	US-31		STATE LINE TO US-12	RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION	3.305			CON		
BERRIEN	US-31 BR AND M-62		M-140 TO FAIRLAND ROAD , M-60 TO HILTON STREET	RESURFACE	4.160	CON				
CALHOUN	I-69		A DRIVE NORTH TO NORTH OF I-94	RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION	4.024			CON		
CALHOUN	I-69		J DRIVE SOUTH TO A DRIVE NORTH	RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION	5.170	CON				
CALHOUN	I-69 SB		AT TURKEYVILLE REST AREA	ROADSIDE FACILITIES - PRESERVE	0.000		CON			
CALHOUN	I-94		11 MILE ROAD TO 17 1/2 MILE ROAD	RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION	7.153					CON
CALHOUN	I-94 EB		23 MILE ROAD TO WEST OF THE COUNTY LINE	RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION	6.204		CON			
CALHOUN	I-94 WB		MARSHALL REST AREA	ROADSIDE FACILITIES - IMPROVE	0.000				CON	
CALHOUN	M-199		I-94BL TO 27 MILE ROAD, 25 1/2 MILE ROAD TO I-94	RESURFACE	2.306	CON				
CALHOUN	M-294		SOUTH OF I-94 TO M-96 (COLUMBIA AVENUE)	RESURFACE	1.530					CON
CALHOUN	M-60		KALAMAZOO RIVER IN HOMER TO JACKSON COUNTY LINE	RESURFACE	4.867				CON	
CALHOUN	M-66		M-66 OVER WANONDAGA CREEK	HMA CAP (NO MEMBRANE)	4.310	CON				
CALHOUN	M-96		LAVISTA BOULEVARD TO FOSTER AVENUE, BATTLE CREEK	RESURFACE	0.344	CON				
CALHOUN	M-99		SOUTH COUNTY LINE TO HOMER AND M-60 TO ALBION	RESURFACE	9.705		CON			
CASS	M-60		EAST VILLAGE LIMITS OF VANDALIA TO COREY LAKE ROAD	RESURFACE	7.514					CON
KALAMAZOO	I-94		AT LOVERS LANE	RECONSTRUCTION	0.330			CON		
KALAMAZOO	I-94 EB		40TH STREET TO HELMER ROAD	RESURFACE	7.490				CON	
KALAMAZOO	M-43		SECOND STREET TO WEST CITY LIMITS OF KALAMAZOO	RESURFACE	7.190				CON	
KALAMAZOO	US-131		WITHIN THE VILLAGE LIMITS OF SCHOOLCRAFT	RESURFACE	0.820		CON			
KALAMAZOO	US-131		NORTH VILLAGE LIMITS OF SCHOOLCRAFT TO U AVENUE	RESURFACE	1.009					CON
KALAMAZOO	US-131		NORTH OF M-43 TO NORTH OF M-89	RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION	10.268	CON				
ST. JOSEPH	M-216		DAVIS STREET IN MARCELLUS TO US-131	RESURFACE	8.772			CON		
ST. JOSEPH	M-60		LITTLE PORTAGE CREEK TO LAKE STREET	RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION	0.080		CON			
ST. JOSEPH	M-60		MENDON EAST VILLAGE LIMITS TO M-66 AND M-60 SPLIT	RESURFACE	1.000		CON			
ST. JOSEPH	US-12		CENTERVILLE ROAD TO EAST CITY LIMITS OF STURGIS	RECONSTRUCTION	1.640			CON		
VAN BUREN	I-196	PF	SOUTH OF M-140 TO THE BLACK RIVER	RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION	5.248				CON	

Date 12-18-2003

FIVE YEAR HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE PROGRAM

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Repair and Rebuild Roads

SOUTHWEST REPAIR AND REBUILD ROADS

COUNTY	ROUTE(COMMON NAME)	P.F.	LOCATION	TYPE OF WORK	LENGTH	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
VAN BUREN	I-94		M-51 TO EAST OF THE KALAMAZOO COUNTY LINE	RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION	12.000			CON		
VAN BUREN	M-40		VAN BUREN STREET TO MILL LAKE ROAD	RESURFACE	0.497			CON		
					163.187					

**FIVE YEAR HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE PROGRAM
New Roads and Capacity Improvements**

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SOUTHWEST CAPACITY IMPROVEMENT

COUNTY	ROUTE(COMMON NAME)	P.F.	LOCATION	TYPE OF WORK	LENGTH	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
KALAMAZOO	I-94		WEST OF 12TH STREET TO EAST OF SPRINKLE ROAD	CAPACITY IMPROVEMENT	6.714	PE	PE	PE	PE	PE
					6.714					

**FIVE YEAR HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE PROGRAM
New Roads and Capacity Improvements**

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SOUTHWEST NEW ROADS (CAPACITY EXPANSION)

COUNTY	ROUTE(COMMON NAME)	P.F.	LOCATION	TYPE OF WORK	LENGTH	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
BERRIEN	I-94 EB		BRITAIN AVENUE TO I-196	NEW ROUTES	3.015	PE	PE	PE	PE	PE
BERRIEN	US-31 REL		NORTH OF NAPIER ROAD TO I-94	RELOCATION	0.000	EPE				
BERRIEN	US-31 REL		NORTH OF NAPIER ROAD TO I-94	RELOCATION	0.000			ROW	ROW	ROW
BERRIEN	US-31 REL		NORTH OF NAPIER ROAD TO I-94	RELOCATION	0.000	PE	PE	PE	PE	PE
BERRIEN	US-31 REL		NORTH OF NAPIER ROAD TO I-94	BRIDGE MISCELLANEOUS	0.000	PES	PES	PES	PES	PES
ST. JOSEPH	US-131		STATE LINE TO NORTH OF THREE RIVERS	RELOCATION	16.400	EPE	EPE			
					19.415					