



Split Merge Traffic System

In 2010, MDOT will use an innovative traffic control device called the split merge system. This traffic control device will be used on several major freeway projects, including I-96 in Clinton and Eaton counties and I-75 in Monroe County. Using the split merge system allows MDOT to maintain at least two lanes in each direction during construction, minimizing the impact on motorists.

The split merge system maintains two lanes in each direction by crossing over one lane of traffic to the opposite side of the roadway and maintaining a local lane on the original side of the roadway. Throughout the length of the construction zone there will be three lanes of traffic on one side of the roadway (two lanes in one direction and a thru lane in the opposite direction), and one local lane on the opposite side.

Traffic using the thru lane will not have interchange access throughout the entire length of the lane and traffic must use the local lane to access interchange ramps.

To help clear accidents as quickly as possible, a wrecker service will be on-call 24-hours-a-day, seven days a week. This wrecker service will be under contract with MDOT and will be available to emergency service providers during construction.