



FlexRoute 23

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Driving the Flex Route

What is the Flex Route

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has implemented Flex Route technology to manage congestion and improve safety along US-23 in Washtenaw and Livingston counties between M-14 and just south of M-36.

Michigan's first Flex Route uses a lane control system comprised of overhead signs, cameras, and electronic message boards mounted on large gantries. The system manages freeway traffic more efficiently during peak hours by opening and closing the median shoulder to traffic. This promotes safety by providing drivers with advance notice of delays and incidents ahead.

Crash investigation sites were built along the Flex Route to provide a safe refuge for motorists, law enforcement and public service vehicles after an incident. In addition, the Safety Service Patrol is active along the corridor to provide assistance and clear incidents safely and quickly.

What's New

Due to recent research study findings and public feedback, changes are being made to the US-23 Flex Route operation.

Currently, when the left or median shoulder is open to traffic, the recommended speed of 60 mph is displayed overhead on both the general purpose lanes and a green arrow is displayed over the left/median shoulder.

Soon, when the left/median shoulder is open to traffic, the signs over the general purpose lanes will be blank and a green arrow will be displayed over the shoulder. No speed will be shown over the lanes unless there is an observed speed drop and lower speeds are recommended.

When the shoulder is open to traffic and a lower speed is recommended, the speed will be shown over the general purpose lanes **and** over the left/median lane. Drivers will no longer see a green arrow over the median shoulder.

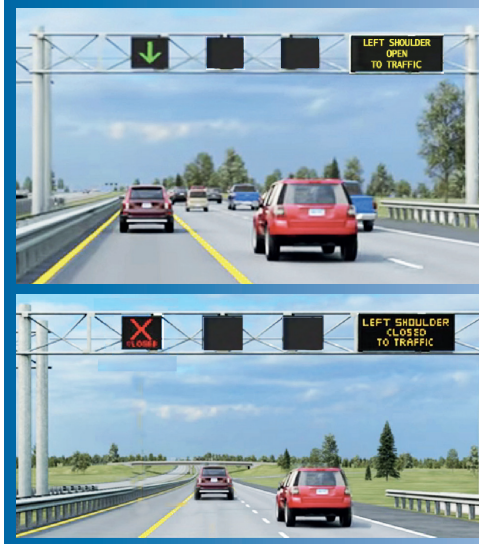
When the shoulder is closed to traffic, there will be a red X displayed over the shoulder. Use of the shoulder lane is prohibited when there is a red X displayed over it.

How Will We Keep Motorist Informed?

For up-to-date information on this project, go to www.Michigan.gov/Drive.

Additional project information can be found at www.Michigan.gov/FlexRoutes, www.facebook.com/MichiganDOT, and www.x.com/MDOT_A2.

Dynamic Lane and Shoulder Use



Green Arrow:

Shoulder is open to relieve congestion and improve travel.

Red X:

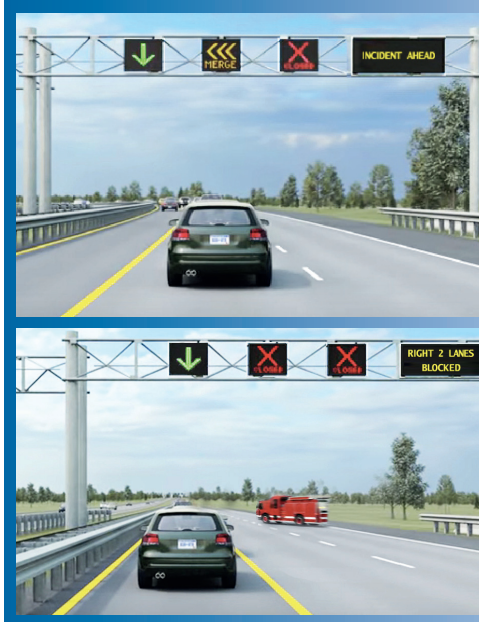
Shoulder is closed when traffic is light and there are no incidents.

Real-time Speed Advance System



When slower speeds are observed, recommended speeds are posted over all lanes to decrease potential for crashes.

Incident Warning System



Yellow chevron/merge signs tell motorists to move over to avoid incidents.

Signs provide motorists with information, such as a crash or blocked lanes ahead.

