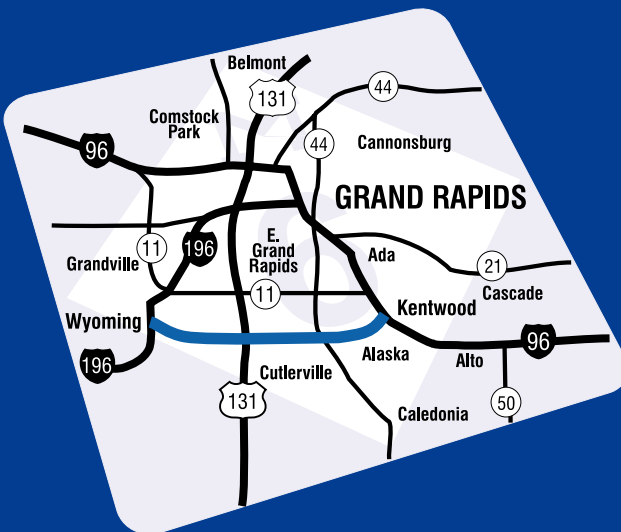


Work is under way on a greatly anticipated east-west limited access freeway in the southern Grand Rapids area. The Paul B. Henry Freeway (M-6), which has been under development for approximately 20 years, will provide high-quality travel service in southern Kent and southeastern Ottawa counties. The southern portion of the Grand Rapids metropolitan area continues to be one of the fastest growing areas in southwestern Michigan.

With support from Governor John Engler and the Michigan Legislature, the new *Build Michigan III* program is allowing for the acceleration of this project. Providing \$900 million statewide, *Build Michigan III* will cut three years off the construction schedule for M-6.

This freeway, with its eight interchanges, will help alleviate traffic and congestion on local roads as well as reduce travel times through the area by an estimated 50 percent.



Freeway Highlights

The 20-mile-long M-6 project will be completed in three phases. The first phase will be open to traffic by 2002, while the final two phases will be open to traffic by 2005.

Phase I	5.7 miles from I-96 west to M-37 - Open by 2002
Phase II	7.4 miles from M-37 west to US-131 - Open by 2005
Phase III	6.9 miles from US-131 west to I-196 - Open by 2005

The freeway will be constructed with two 12-foot lanes in each direction and an 80-foot wide grassy median. This median width allows for the addition of a third lane in each direction as future capacity needs dictate. Even if a third lane is added, a grassy median will remain.

There will be eight interchanges connecting M-6 to interstates and primary local roads:

Interchanges	• I-96
	• M-37
Interchanges	• Kalamazoo Avenue
	• US-131
	• Byron Center Avenue
	• Wilson Avenue
Interchanges	• 8 th Avenue
	• I-196

	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III
PLANNING	●	●	●
DESIGN	●	✍	✍
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT	●	●	●
RIGHT OF WAY	●	✍	✍
CONSTRUCTION	✍	✍	■

COMPLETED
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 PENDING



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Designed by: Departmental Services, Graphics, Office of Communications\brochures\M-6\m6.p65 rev. 9/00
 2,600 copies printed at \$0.147 each for a total of \$382.00

Paul B. Henry Freeway

the new
 Grand Rapids



South Beltline



SEPTEMBER 2000

the *new*
Grand Rapids South Beltline



Phase



6.9 miles from US-131
 west to I-196
 open to traffic by 2005



Phase



7.4 miles from M-37
 west to US-131
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Phase



5.7 miles from I-96
 west to M-37
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