Clockwise from top left: I-94BL Marshall; Belle Isle Casino; M-88 Bellaire; US-2 Cut River Bridge

The Laws

National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106)

Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966

Primary resource agency is the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

Clearing for I-196 in Grand Rapids
Historic resources are districts, buildings, sites, structures and objects of historic significance. They can also be called cultural resources, or above-ground resources, or historic properties.

Examples of sites and objects...
Historic Resource Examples

- M-15 south of Davison
- M-28 over Ontonagon River
- M-1 Detroit
- US-31 BR Muskegon
- US-12 Union

More Historic Resource Examples

- US-131 Grand Rapids
- M-125 Monroe
- M-66 Battle Creek
- US-31 south of M-115
- M-25 Unionville
Typical Questions

Does the project include:

- Permanent easement and/or fee ROW?
- Road widening or radius improvements beyond the edge of the existing shoulder and/or curb?
- Tree removals?
- ADA/sidewalk ramp work that will add curb behind the sidewalk, change elevations at buildings, remove landscaping, add/remove stairs?
- Drive closures?
- New guardrail, sidewalk and/or trail?
Determining Project Impacts

- Context is key—every historic property is unique
- Answers to initial questions may lead to more questions
- Historic research, if necessary, takes time
- Working with designers to avoid any “adverse effects”

Common Mitigation Measures

- Narrower lane widths
- Consent to grade/construct
- Tree replacements
- Preservation of historic roadside features
- Videotaping and vibration monitoring
Permanent easement and/or fee ROW

- Most common at intersections
- Laws apply no matter the size of the parcel

Widening
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M-79 Barry Co.

US-12 Irish Hills

M-15 Vassar