

= New Jersey Route 7 =

Route 7 is a state highway in the northern part of New Jersey in the United States . It has two sections , an east ? west alignment running from U.S. Route 1 / 9 Truck in Jersey City to Route 21 in Belleville , and a north ? south alignment running from the Newark / Belleville to the Nutley / Clifton border . The New Jersey Department of Transportation lists Route 7 as a single north ? south highway with a small gap between the alignments . The entire highway has a combined length of 9 @. @ 46 mi ( 15 @. @ 22 km ) .

The southern section of Route 7 , which runs from Jersey City to Belleville , passes through industrial areas , the New Jersey Meadowlands , Arlington Memorial Park , and some residential and business areas . West of the interchange with County Route 508 in Kearny , Route 7 is the Belleville Turnpike , a historic road created in 1759 . The northern section of Route 7 runs north through residential and business areas of Belleville and Nutley into Clifton , where it turns west and crosses back into Nutley , briefly turning to the north to come to its northern terminus . A portion of the route in Nutley is municipally maintained while the portion within Clifton is maintained by Passaic County . The two separate sections of Route 7 are linked by County Route 506 ( Rutgers Street ) in Belleville , which is signed as Route 7 despite the fact it is not officially part of the route .

Route 7 was established in 1927 to run from Jersey City to Paterson , replacing Pre @-@ 1927 Route 11 between Belleville and Paterson . The routing was amended in 1929 to head to Route 3 in Wallington and was extended north to Route 6 ( now U.S. Route 46 ) in East Paterson in 1949 . In 1953 , the route was modified to follow its current alignment .

= = Route description = =

= = = Southern section = = =

The first section of Route 7 begins at an intersection with U.S. Route 1 @-@ 9 Truck and County Route 645 ( Charlotte Avenue ) in Jersey City , Hudson County , heading to the west on a four @-@ lane highway that is signed east ? west . The route crosses the Hackensack River on the Wittpenn Bridge into Kearny . Route 7 interchanges with County Route 659 ( Fish House Road ) and widens to a six @-@ lane divided highway . The route then passes by industrial areas and a railroad yard and then interchanges with County Route 508 . Past this interchange , Route 7 becomes the four @-@ lane , divided Belleville Turnpike , with the eastern end of the Newark Turnpike running in the division between the two sides of Route 7 . It then becomes an undivided two @-@ lane road , heading northwest , narrowing to two lanes before it passes through the New Jersey Meadowlands , under the mainline of the New Jersey Turnpike ( Interstate 95 ) and then the western spur of the New Jersey Turnpike a short distance later .

Route 7 continues northwest , widens , with a painted media , as it passes through two large cemeteries on the border of Hudson County ( Kearny ) to the south and Bergen County ( North Arlington ) to the north , though the route itself is signed north ? south along that border .

After an intersection with Schuyler Avenue ( which runs as Hudson County Route 507 to the south of Route 7 and Bergen County Route 130 to the north of Route 7 ) , the road turns NNW , narrowing again to two lanes undivided . In this portion of the route , it had a concurrency with County Route 507 ( both Bergen and Hudson counties ) . It keeps this configuration for about a half mile , as it still runs along the Kearny / North Arlington border . At that point , it meets the southern terminus of State Route 17 ( Ridge Road ) and the northern terminus of Hudson County Route 697 ( Kearny Avenue ) .

Past this intersection , County Route 507 turns away from Route 7 , becoming concurrent with Route 17 @. @ by heading north on River Road , while Route 7 continues along Bellevill Turnpike for another half mile , Route 7 continues another half mile west , crossing the Passaic River on a lift bridge , known as the Belleville Turnpike Bridge or Rutgers Street Bridge , into Belleville , Essex County , where the local street name changes from Belleville Turnpike to Rutgers Street . The first

section of Route 7 ends at an intersection with Main Street underneath Route 21 .

= = = Gap in the route = = =

The intersection of Main St and Rutgers Street in Belleville forms the end of one section of Route 7 ( signed north , directionally west ) . Rutgers Street is named for Colonel Henry Rutgers , an American Revolutionary War hero and benefactor of what is now Rutgers University . For its entire length , Rutgers carries Essex County Route 506 , which ends , like Rutgers Street itself , at the Rutgers Street Bridge .

Prior to turning onto Rutgers Street , CR @-@ 506 runs along Washington Street concurrent with the northern section of Route 7 . Though the northern section of Route 7 begins a few blocks south , it is not readily recognized ( minimal signing ) . As CR @-@ 506 runs concurrently with it here , and then turns down Rutgers for the short distance that bridges the gap between the two Route 7 sections , Rutgers / 506 is often viewed as if it continues Route 7 , while the short portion of the northern section that lies south of Rutgers is sometimes seen as a spur , even though it is part of the main route .

Rutgers ' identity has become so closely aligned with Route 7 , that though it is not officially part of Route 7 , Rutgers , from Washington Avenue to Main Street , is signed as if it is part of Route 7 .

= = = Northern section = = =

The second section of Route 7 , designated a north ? south road , heads north on Washington Avenue from the Second River crossing on the Newark / Belleville border , passing through a business district . The route intersects County Route 506 ( Belleville Avenue ) , and that county route then forms a concurrency with Route 7 along the next block of Washington Avenue , to the intersection with Rutgers Street . At that point , County Route 506 heads to the east , ending at the intersection of Main Street , Rutgers Street , and bridge to Belleville ( which is also the other section of Route 7 ) .

Route 7 is not signed on Washington Avenue between the Second River bridge and Rutgers Street , except on some overhead signs suspended from traffic signals .

From the Rutgers Street intersection , Route 7 continues along Washington Avenue for about a mile and a half before reaching Nutley , still continuing on Washington Avenue into Nutley . At the intersection with County Route 646 ( Park Avenue ) , Route 7 turns into a municipally maintained road and enters a more residential area . Upon intersecting County Route 606 ( Kingsland Road ) , Route 7 crosses into Clifton , Passaic County and heads to the west on county @-@ maintained Kingsland Street signed east ? west . Kingsland , carrying Route 7 , crosses back into Nutley , regaining state maintenance . When Kingsland becomes County Route 644 at the intersection with Cathedral Avenue , Route 7 turns north from Kingsland onto Cathedral Avenue and comes to its terminus at Orange St in Nutley . However , signage continues to indicate Route 7 up to the terminus of Cathedral Avenue at interchange with Route 3 at the intersection of Cathedral Avenue , Passaic Avenue , and Ward Avenue .

= = History = =

The Belleville Turnpike , which is the majority of the southern portion of Route 7 , was created in 1759 as a turnpike made out of cedar logs . This road was chartered in 1808 . It served as a part of the Underground Railroad route for escaped slaves to get to Jersey City .

The northern segment of Route 7 was originally a part of Pre @-@ 1927 Route 11 , which was legislated in 1917 to run from Newark to Paterson . In the 1927 New Jersey state highway renumbering , Route 7 was designated to run from Jersey City to Paterson , replacing Pre @-@ 1927 Route 11 between Belleville and Paterson .

In 1929 , the routing was amended to run from Route 25 ( now U.S. Route 1 / 9 Truck ) in Jersey City to Route 3 in Wallington . Route 7 was extended north in 1949 to continue to Route 6 ( now

U.S. Route 46 ) in East Paterson ( now Elmwood Park ) .

In the 1953 New Jersey state highway renumbering , Route 7 was legislated onto its current alignment , with the northern terminus moved to the Nutley / Clifton border . The route was also realigned to head south on Washington Avenue between the Newark border and Rutgers Street in Belleville on what was Route 11N , a remnant of Pre @-@ 1927 Route 11 , making Route 7 discontinuous . County Route 506 used to follow the southern portion of Route 7 but has been truncated to the intersection with Routes 7 and 21 in Belleville .

= = Major intersections = =

= = = Southern section = = =

= = = Northern section = = =