

= New Jersey Route 27 =

Route 27 is a state highway in New Jersey , United States . It runs 38 @. @ 53 mi ( 62 @. @ 01 km ) from U.S. Route 206 in Princeton , Mercer County northeast to an interchange with Route 21 ( McCarter Highway ) and Broad Street in Newark , Essex County . The route passes through many communities along the way , including New Brunswick , Metuchen , Rahway , and Elizabeth . Route 27 is a two- to four @- @ lane undivided highway for most of its length , passing through a variety of urban and suburban environments . It intersects many roads along the way , including Route 18 in New Brunswick , Interstate 287 in Edison , the Garden State Parkway in Woodbridge Township , Route 35 in Rahway , Route 28 in Elizabeth , and U.S. Route 22 in Newark . Route 27 crosses the Raritan River on the Albany Street Bridge , which connects Highland Park on the east with New Brunswick on the west .

Route 27 was part of the alignment through New Jersey of the Lincoln Highway , the United States ' first transcontinental highway that was established in 1913 . Route 27 is still referred to as the Lincoln Highway in many municipalities , such as Edison Township . The Lincoln Highway became part of pre @- @ 1927 Route 1 between New Brunswick and Elizabeth in 1916 and pre @- @ 1927 Route 13 between Trenton and New Brunswick in 1917 . In 1927 , the Lincoln Highway was renumbered as Route 27 between Trenton and Newark . U.S. Route 1 was designated on this portion of the road until it was relocated by the 1940s . U.S. Route 206 followed the route from Trenton to Princeton until 1953 , when the southern terminus of Route 27 was cut back to Princeton to avoid the concurrency with U.S. Route 206 .

= = Route description = =

= = = Mercer County = = =

Route 27 begins at a traffic light with U.S. Route 206 and County Route 533 in downtown Princeton , Mercer County . The route heads northeast along Nassau Street , the main street of Princeton that runs along the northern edge of Princeton University and is lined with numerous shops and restaurants . This portion of Route 27 sees between 10 @, @ 000 and 20 @, @ 000 cars a day . Just past the beginning of Route 27 , County Route 583 heads to the southwest on Mercer Street . Route 27 moves through downtown Princeton , passing by the main gates to Princeton University near Nassau Hall , and intersecting County Route 571 ( Washington Road , also signed as County Route 526 ) . After leaving the downtown area , Route 27 continues through residential areas and the route becomes Princeton @- @ Kingston Road . Route 27 runs parallel to Carnegie Lake , then crosses over the Millstone River just north of the historic Kingston Bridge . The portion of the road from Princeton to Kingston is part of the KIng 's Highway Historic District .

= = = Middlesex / Somerset County border = = =

Upon crossing the Millstone River , Route 27 runs along the border of Franklin Township , Somerset County to the west and South Brunswick Township , Middlesex County to the east , passing through the historic community of Kingston . It continues northeast through a mix of woodland and residences , intersecting Promenade Boulevard , which heads east and becomes County Route 522 after crossing U.S. Route 1 . Route 27 briefly runs entirely into Somerset County before resuming along the Middlesex / Somerset County border . The route continues north to an intersection with County Route 518 ( Gateway Boulevard ) , where it resumes its northeast direction and heads into Kendall Park as a variable two- to four @- @ lane road , entering denser suburban development . Route 27 then passes through Franklin Park , intersecting County Route 610 ( Henderson Road ) . Past that intersection , Route 27 forms the border of Franklin Township to the west and North Brunswick Township to the east , passing through suburban development with some areas of farmland , seeing about 38 @, @ 487 cars a day . The road forms the border of Franklin

Township and New Brunswick upon intersecting County Route 680 ( How Lane ) becoming four @-@ lane Somerset Street . Route 27 follows Somerset Street northeast through residential and commercial areas , passing by the community of Somerset on the west side of the road .

= = = Middlesex County = = =

The route splits from Somerset Street and heads entirely into New Brunswick , Middlesex County along French Street . At the Sandford Street intersection , Route 27 becomes a county @-@ maintained road that is also signed as County Route 644 . It then intersects County Route 693 ( Jersey Avenue ) , which heads to the southwest to become Route 91 . Past this intersection , the route becomes a two @-@ lane road that heads into downtown New Brunswick , south of the main campus of Rutgers University . Here , the route has a daily traffic count of approximately 11 @, @ 559 vehicles . It crosses under the Northeast Corridor rail line adjacent to the New Brunswick train station . The route turns into a four @-@ lane divided highway and intersects County Route 514 and County Route 527 ( Easton Avenue ) . At this point , County Route 644 ends , with Route 27 forming a concurrency with both county routes 514 and 527 , heading east along Albany Street . About 200 yards ( 180 m ) later , the road crosses George Street , which heads to the north as County Route 672 and to the south as Route 171 . County Route 527 splits from Albany Street by heading south on Route 171 while Route 27 and County Route 514 continue east , interchanging with Route 18 ( Memorial Parkway ) a quarter of a mile later . At the Route 18 interchange , Route 27 becomes state @-@ maintained again , crossing the Raritan River on the Albany Street Bridge into Highland Park .

Upon entering Highland Park , Route 27 becomes two @-@ lane Raritan Avenue , intersecting County Route 622 ( River Road ) and continuing through the downtown area of Highland Park . County Route 514 splits from Route 27 by heading east on Woodbridge Avenue 0 @. @ 75 mi ( 1 @. @ 21 km ) later . Route 27 resumes heading northeast past this intersection as a four @-@ lane road that passes by homes , entering Edison Township , where the name changes to Lincoln Highway . The route continues northeast , intersecting County Route 676 ( Suttons Lane / Duclos Lane ) and County Route 529 ( Plainfield Avenue ) , then travels through a mix of residences and businesses , briefly becoming a divided highway before intersecting Interstate 287 at a partial interchange with access to southbound Interstate 287 and from northbound Interstate 287 . At this interchange , Route 27 sees approximately 14 @, @ 386 cars a day . Beyond this interchange , Route 27 crosses into Metuchen and becomes two @-@ lane Essex Avenue , which turns to the east and heads through residential areas . The route turns north onto Lake Street and intersects County Route 501 ( Amboy Avenue ) , forming a concurrency with that route . It passes under the Northeast Corridor and comes to Middlesex Avenue , where County Route 501 turns to the left and Route 27 turns to the right to resume its northeast direction .

Route 27 intersects County Route 531 ( Main Street ) after 0 @. @ 2 mi ( 0 @. @ 32 km ) and continues northeast on Middlesex Avenue , passing through a residential environment where the route carries about 22 @, @ 414 vehicles daily . The route crosses back into Edison Township and becomes the Lincoln Highway again , passing over the Rahway River . It heads through business areas and passes near the Thomas Alva Edison Memorial Tower and Museum , which is located on the site of Thomas Edison 's Menlo Park laboratory . The route closely parallels the Northeast Corridor rail line and crosses into Woodbridge Township , widening to four lanes at this point . Route 27 passes by the Metropark train station and interchanges with the Garden State Parkway near Iselin , where approximately 19 @, @ 780 vehicles travel on Route 27 on a daily basis . Past the Garden State Parkway , Route 27 narrows back to two lanes and continues northeast alongside the Northeast Corridor , passing through a mix of residential and commercial development as a three @-@ lane road with two northbound lanes and one southbound lane .

= = = Union and Essex counties = = =

Route 27 crosses into Rahway , Union County and intersects the northern terminus of Route 35 . Route 27 continues north using four @-@ lane St. Georges Avenue . The route passes through

Rahway , passing by residences and businesses . In Rahway , the route sees about 25 @, @ 022 cars a day . It continues northeast and crosses into Linden , where the route heads through a more commercial setting with businesses lining both sides of the road . At the intersection with County Route 617 ( Wood Avenue ) , Route 27 forms the border of Roselle to the west and Linden to the east , with about 23 @, @ 081 vehicles using the road on a daily basis . It passes by Warinaco Park and forms the border between Elizabeth to the west and Linden to the east before entirely entering Elizabeth at the Richford Terrace intersection .

In Elizabeth , Route 27 narrows to two lanes and becomes Rahway Avenue , crossing Route 439 and continuing to the northeast through residential and commercial areas . Route 27 splits into a one @-@ way pair with northbound Route 27 following Rahway Avenue east and turning north onto Cherry Street and southbound Route 27 following Westfield Avenue west and turning south onto Chilton Avenue . The southbound direction of Route 27 intersects the eastern terminus of Route 28 , where that route continues west on Westfield Avenue . Past the one @-@ way pair , Route 27 resumes east on four @-@ lane Westfield Avenue , turning north onto Broad Street . The route heads into a more urbanized setting and continues northeast onto Newark Avenue , intersecting the northern terminus of Route 439 . Through Elizabeth , about 10 @, @ 000 to 20 @, @ 000 vehicles travel on Route 27 every day .

Route 27 crosses into Newark , Essex County at the Virginia Street intersection , where it becomes Frelinghuysen Avenue , a road that heads north through the Dayton neighborhood of Newark , passing through urban areas and by Weequahic Park . Route 27 interchanges with U.S. Route 22 and immediately passes under Interstate 78 . Route 27 continues north to an intersection with Poinier Street , where the route heads east along that road to its northern terminus at an interchange with Route 21 and Broad Street .

= = History = =

The southern part of Route 27 follows the Lenape Assunpink Trail that during the colonial era was known as the Old Dutch Trail , and later became the Kings Highway . Route 27 follows portions of several 19th @-@ century turnpikes , including the Essex and Middlesex Turnpike , which was chartered on March 3 , 1806 to run from New Brunswick to Newark along what is today Route 27 , the Northeast Corridor rail line , and Broad Street in Newark , the Georgetown and Franklin Turnpike , chartered on February 15 , 1816 to run from Lambertville to New Brunswick along the present @-@ day alignments of County Route 518 and Route 27 , the Newark and Elizabeth Plank Road , chartered on March 14 , 1856 , and the Princeton and Kingston Branch Turnpike , chartered on December 3 , 1807 to run from Trenton to Kingston along current County Route 583 and Route 27 . The route became a portion of the Lincoln Highway , the United States ' first transcontinental highway that was established in 1913 to run from New York City to San Francisco . It is still known by that name in a few places along the route , particularly in Edison Township .

In 1916 , the Lincoln Highway was legislated as part of pre @-@ 1927 Route 1 between New Brunswick and Elizabeth and as pre @-@ 1927 Route 13 between Trenton and New Brunswick in 1917 . In the 1927 New Jersey state highway renumbering , Route 27 was designated to run from Trenton to the intersection of Frelinghuysen Avenue and Astor Street in Newark , replacing the portions of Routes 1 and 13 that ran along the Lincoln Highway . With the creation of the U.S. Highway System , U.S. Route 1 was designated along the length of Route 27 from 1927 until sometime before the 1940s , when the U.S. Route 1 designation was moved to Route 26 , Route S26 , and Route 25 between Trenton and Newark . U.S. Route 206 was designated along the portion of route between Trenton and Princeton by the 1940s . In the 1953 New Jersey state highway renumbering , the southern terminus of Route 27 was cut back to Princeton to avoid the U.S. Route 206 concurrency .

= = Major intersections = =