

= Ohio State Route 161 =

State Route 161 (SR 161) is an east - west state highway in central Ohio . Its western terminus is in Mutual at State Route 29 and its eastern terminus is near Alexandria at State Route 37 . It is 57 @. @ 46 miles (92 @. @ 47 km) long . State Route 161 passes through Columbus , Ohio 's capital , and a variety of towns including Plain City , Dublin , and New Albany .

The route was established in 1924 to connect Plain City and Dublin . It was later expanded to cover Mutual and Granville . Parts of SR 161 in Dublin and New Albany were upgraded to a freeway in 1969 and 1997 .

= = Route description = =

SR 161 starts off in Mutual as Milford Road , at a T @-@ intersection at SR 29 . The road turns northeast and later meets SR 559 and Bullard Rutan Road in a 5 @-@ point intersection . Two miles later , a concurrency begins with SR 4 . One mile later , the concurrency ends with SR 4 continuing to move north . About five miles later , SR 38 starts a very short concurrency at Chuckery . After Chuckery , SR 38 splits off . There would be no more major intersections until SR 161 has reached Plain City , as it meets U.S. Route 42 (US 42) . SR 161 goes through Madison and a small section of Franklin County without major intersections . In Union County , it meets US 33 and Post Road in an interchange . SR 161 goes on the freeway and starts a concurrency . The concurrency goes back to Franklin County and into Dublin . In Dublin , the freeway has interchanges with Avery ? Muirfield Drive and Interstate 270 (I @-@ 270) . The freeway becomes an at @-@ grade highway as it meets Post Road again .

The road goes into Dublin downtown and has intersections with SR 745 and SR 257 . At SR 257 , US 33 splits off and the concurrency ends . After that , there are no more major intersections until SR 161 reaches Worthington , as it meets SR 315 in a diamond interchange , and US 23 at an at @-@ grade intersection . After the intersection at US 23 , SR 161 enters Columbus . There is an intersection with SR 710 and an interchange with I @-@ 71 . Three miles later , in Minerva Park , SR 161 becomes a limited access freeway . The first exit is SR 3 , a partial cloverleaf interchange with service roads . A mile later , SR 161 re @-@ enters Columbus and meets I @-@ 270 again in a modified cloverleaf interchange . There is a SPUI @-@ parclo hybrid interchange at Sunbury Road , and an incomplete interchange for Little Turtle Way , a half of a diamond interchange . The next two interchanges , Hamilton Road and New Albany Road , uses diamond interchanges . SR 161 enters New Albany , and has two interchanges with US 62 , in Franklin County , and Beech Road , in Licking County . Then it exits New Albany and enters St. Albans Township . In the township , SR 161 has two diamond interchanges with SR 310 and SR 37 . SR 161 ends at SR 37 . SR 161 is part of the Big Darby Plains scenic byway . The parts of the route that are included in the byway are from Homer Road to Rosedale Road and from Kramer Road to US 33 .

= = History = =

SR 161 was designated in 1924 , as a connection from Plain City to Dublin . Its east end was a junction with SR 21 , five miles (8 @. @ 0 km) west of Dublin . It was later expanded to include an unnumbered section between Mutual and Plain City , and Dublin and Granville . In 1938 , a concurrency from five miles (8 @. @ 0 km) west of Dublin to the city itself was changed from SR 31 to US 33 . Much later , in 1969 , the five @-@ mile section in Dublin was upgrade to a freeway . Seven years later , the section between I @-@ 71 and Sunbury Road was upgraded to a divided highway . In 1997 , a bypass was created around New Albany , from I @-@ 270 to a point two miles (3 @. @ 2 km) east of it . SR 161 's route was changed to use the bypass , no longer intersecting New Albany 's downtown area . The project completed in 2000 . On June 14 , 2004 , Ohio Department of Transportation began the Northwest Expressway Transformation , replacing 17 bridges , 18 ramps , and 5 miles of highway . The project finished in 2008 . The freeway in New Albany was extended to SR 37 , SR 161 's eastern terminus . Currently , new interchanges and

solutions are being designed for interchanges of I @-@ 270 and Avery @-@ Muirfield Drive . Study started for the interchanges in 2011 , and phase one of the project will start in 2014 .

= = Junction list = =

= = State Route 161J = =

An unsigned state route named SR 161J exists in Licking County . The actual name of the road is Jersey Mills Road . It starts as a dead end and ends at Jug Street Road . It intersects SR 310 , but never meets SR 161 . The route suffix " J " means " awaiting abandonment . "