

= State Route 1002 ( Lehigh County , Pennsylvania ) =

State Route 1002 ( SR 1002 ) , locally known as Tilghman Street and Union Boulevard , is a major 13 @. @ 8 mi ( 22 @. @ 2 km ) long east ? west road in the Allentown @-@ Bethlehem @-@ Easton metropolitan area of the U.S. state of Pennsylvania . The majority of the roadway is the former alignment of U.S. Route 22 , maintained by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation as a Quadrant Route , and is not signed except on small white segment markers .

Tilghman Street begins at Pennsylvania Route 100 in Fogelsville , though SR 1002 continues west on Main Street ( also old US 22 ) to the intersection of Church Street ( SR 3014 ) . It becomes Union Boulevard just east of the bridge over the Lehigh River in Allentown ; SR 1002 ends at the interchange with Pennsylvania Route 378 in Bethlehem . Union Boulevard continues over Monocacy Creek , which forms the border between Lehigh and Northampton Counties , and ends in downtown Bethlehem .

The highway attracts more than the average traffic for roads in the Lehigh Valley . An average of 21 @, @ 018 vehicles use it in South Whitehall Township and 21 @, @ 706 in Allentown each day .

= = History = =

When the state began taking over state highways through the Sproul Road Bill , signed May 31 , 1911 , this system did not include the direct Allentown @-@ Harrisburg route that Interstate 78 and the parallel Tilghman Street now form part of . The main route to Harrisburg , which would soon become the William Penn Highway , left Allentown further south , on Hamilton Boulevard ( now Pennsylvania Route 222 and U.S. Route 222 ) ; the portion near Allentown was Legislative Route 157 ( LR 157 ) . Another route west from Allentown ( LR 163 , later U.S. Route 309 ) ran northwest from Allentown via Walbert Avenue to Schnecksville . Travelers could continue via New Tripoli to Lenhartsville , and then along a route approximating the present I @-@ 78 to Harrisburg . From Allentown east to downtown Bethlehem , LR 159 used Hanover Avenue and Broad Street . No state highways existed within the city limits of Allentown .

The William Penn Highway was organized as an alternative to the Lincoln Highway being parallel to the Pennsylvania Railroad west of Harrisburg . The route 's New York Extension , adopted in 1916 , passed through Allentown . The state assigned the Pennsylvania Route 3 designation to this road in 1924 , and in 1926 it became part of U.S. Route 22 . The road west from Allentown , now College Heights Boulevard , Broadway , Tilghman Street , and Main Street , was designated LR 443 in 1925 , and soon the entire shortcut between Allentown and Harrisburg was designated Pennsylvania Route 43 . The New York Times was recommending use of this cutoff by early 1931 and the American Association of State Highway Officials officially moved US 22 to PA 43 on June 8 , 1931 . The Pennsylvania Department of Highways moved the William Penn Highway name to match . Tilghman Street and Union Boulevard ( then Union Street ) were once local streets in Allentown and Bethlehem , with no bridge over the Lehigh River connecting them ; Allentown built that bridge in 1929 .

Prior to 1931 , there were no state highways in Allentown or a number of other major cities in the state . However , the state did define paths through these cities for the public ; in Allentown , US 22 used Hamilton Street , and PA 43 entered on Liberty Street and turned south on 17th Street to reach Hamilton Street . The Pennsylvania General Assembly passed , on June 22 , 1931 , a law defining state highways through these cities and changing routes in other cities . LR 443 was defined to use College Heights Boulevard and Tilghman Street to 15th Street , where LR 157 continued along Tilghman Street and Union Boulevard to the Allentown @-@ Bethlehem line . LR 159 was redefined to begin at the same point , continuing on Union Boulevard to Main Street in downtown Bethlehem ( and beyond to Easton ) . The newest part of Tilghman Street includes the bridge over Little Cedar Creek in Trexler Park west of Cedar Crest Boulevard , which dates to 1936 , and bypasses the older route via Broadway and College Heights Boulevard . Tilghman Street and Union Boulevard became a major long @-@ distance traffic route , and as of 1999 had eight diners as a reminder of this past importance .

In addition to US 22 , Tilghman Street also carried U.S. Route 309 and Pennsylvania Route 29 between 19th Street and Seventh Street . They were moved from Hamilton Street with US 22 in 1931 , and to a freeway bypass of Allentown in the late 1950s . The Lehigh Valley Thruway , a freeway taking US 22 around Allentown and Bethlehem to the north , was opened on September 21 , 1954 . With the opening of these two highways , and the western extension of the Thruway in the late 1950s , no signed Traffic Routes remained on Tilghman Street and Union Boulevard , yet the road was still state maintained . It still carried LR 443 , LR 157 , and LR 159 through the cities , since the Thruway was assigned a new number ? LR 772 ? but west of the crossing at Kuhnsville , LR 443 was moved to the freeway , and the old route became LR Old 443 , later LR 443 Parallel .

The road west of Church Street in Fogelsville , which was also a state highway ( LR 39084 ) , was removed from the state highway system in the late 1970s . A gap in LR 159 through downtown Bethlehem was created in 1971 , at the same time as Washington Avenue and Stefko Boulevard were added to the system as a bypass , with Union Boulevard east of Pennsylvania Route 378 becoming a city street . Thus in 1987 , when the new Location Referencing System was adopted , only the portion of Tilghman Street and Union Boulevard between Church Street and PA 378 was assigned a new number : State Route 1002 .

In late October 2012 , the Tilghman Street Bridge over the Lehigh River was repaved in order to accommodate construction vehicles for the long @-@ awaited beginning of the American Parkway Bridge project .

= = Route description = =

= = = Tilghman Street = = =

SR 1002 begins at an intersection with Church and Main Streets ( State Route 3014 ) in Fogelsville . It then proceeds east for three @-@ tenths of a mile ( 0 @. @ 5 km ) as Main Street to an intersection with Pennsylvania Route 100 . Upon crossing SR 100 , SR 1002 becomes Tilghman Street . As Tilghman Street approaches the limited @-@ access U.S. Route 22 , the road splits into two carriageways in preparation for an interchange with US 22 , northeast of where US 22 separates from Interstate 78 . Past the interchange with US 22 , Tilghman Street returns to an undivided roadway and enters the village of Cetronia .

At an intersection with Werley Road , SR 1002 connects to Interstate 476 ( the Northeast Extension of the Pennsylvania Turnpike ) via a ramp leading to the toll plaza for the nearby I @-@ 476 / US 22 interchange . SR 1002 continues to the southeast , passing over the turnpike . After turning to the northeast , Tilghman Street has a cloverleaf interchange with Pennsylvania Route 309 . SR 1002 enters Allentown one quarter mile west of this interchange just before its intersection with 40th Street . Tilghman Street then re @-@ enters South Whitehall for about one block as it crosses Cedar Crest Boulevard , a local north ? south arterial , before entering into the city 's incorporated limits for a second time .

In Allentown , Tilghman Street ( SR 1002 ) crosses more than 30 major streets in the city . In the more populated part of the city , SR 1002 intersects the 6th and 7th street one @-@ way couplet forming Pennsylvania Route 145 . East of 4th Street , the road uses the Tilghman Street Bridge to cross Jordan Creek and American Parkway . After intersecting Front Street , SR 1002 crosses the Lehigh River on the Tilghman Street Viaduct and becomes Union Boulevard . Tilghman Street is still found in east @-@ side Allentown , but it is not connected to SR 1002 in west @-@ side , center city , and upper east @-@ side Allentown .

= = = Union Boulevard = = =

East of the Tilghman Street Viaduct , SR 1002 traverses numerous streets in the eastern section of Allentown . After the intersection with Fenwick Street , SR 1002 has a solid west ? east routing . East of the Irving Street intersection , SR 1002 intersects Airport Road , the main road to Lehigh

Valley International Airport . Briefly east of Airport Road , Union Boulevard traverses the other streets of east Allentown . SR 1002 enters the city of Bethlehem from the west as West Union Boulevard .

Approximately 1 @, @ 500 feet east of the Allentown @-@ Bethlehem boundary , Eaton Avenue is concurrent with SR 1002 for one @-@ tenth of a mile . The route turns to the south near the junction with Pennsylvania Avenue before taking an increasingly eastern alignment . Third Avenue provides access to and from PA 378 south . SR 1002 terminates at an interchange with Pennsylvania Route 378 . The highway only has access to PA 378 north . The designation continues as W. Union Boulevard upon entering the eastern sections of Bethlehem in Northampton County .

= = Major intersections = =

The entire route is in Lehigh County .