

= Maryland Route 97 =

Maryland Route 97 (MD 97) is a state highway in the U.S. state of Maryland . The route runs 55 @. @ 27 mi (88 @. @ 95 km) from U.S. Route 29 (US 29) in Silver Spring , Montgomery County north to the Pennsylvania border in Carroll County , where the road continues into that state as Pennsylvania Route 97 (PA 97) . Throughout most of Montgomery County , MD 97 is known as Georgia Avenue , which continues south from the southern terminus along US 29 into Washington , D.C. It is a suburban four- to six @-@ lane divided highway from Silver Spring north to Olney . From here , the route continues as a rural two @-@ lane road north through Brookeville and into Howard County . MD 97 continues through Carroll County where it passes through the county seat of Westminster . The route intersects many major roads , including Interstate 495 (I @-@ 495 , Capital Beltway) north of Silver Spring , MD 200 (Intercounty Connector) in Aspen Hill , MD 28 in Norbeck , I @-@ 70 and US 40 in Cooksville , MD 26 in Dorsey Crossroads , and MD 27 , MD 32 , and MD 140 in the Westminster area .

With the creation of the U.S. Highway System in 1926 , present @-@ day MD 97 north of Westminster became a part of US 140 . MD 97 was first designated by 1933 from MD 27 / MD 410 (now US 29) in Silver Spring to north of US 40 in Cooksville . Two portions of the route between Cooksville and Westminster became MD 570 in 1939 . In 1956 , MD 97 was extended north from Cooksville to the Pennsylvania border northwest of Emmitsburg , Frederick County . It replaced the two sections of MD 570 and replaced the MD 32 designation between Westminster and the Pennsylvania border . MD 97 was rerouted to bypass Westminster in 1960 and was moved to a new alignment between Westminster and Taneytown in 1965 ; both former alignments became MD 32 . In 1961 , the route was realigned between MD 26 and MD 32 , with the former segment becoming MD 854 . MD 97 was rerouted to its current northern terminus in 1979 , replacing that portion of US 140 , while the former route between Westminster and northwest of Emmitsburg became part of MD 140 .

= = Route description = =

MD 97 runs through the Washington , D.C. suburbs in Montgomery County , connecting several communities including Silver Spring , Wheaton , Glenmont , Norbeck , and Olney . It continues north from there into rural areas of Howard and Carroll counties , passing through the Carroll County seat of Westminster , before reaching the Pennsylvania border .

MD 97 has two stretches along which it is a part of the National Highway System . The highway is a principal arterial from its southern terminus in Silver Spring north to Brookeville Road in Brookeville . Within that section , MD 97 is an intermodal connector from I @-@ 495 north to MD 192 in Forest Glen . The highway is also a principal arterial from MD 32 at Fenby north to MD 140 in Westminster and from MD 140 in Westminster to a point south of MD 496 north of Westminster . MD 97 is a part of the main National Highway System along its concurrency with MD 140 in Westminster .

= = = Montgomery County = = =

MD 97 begins at an intersection with US 29 and MD 384 (Colesville Road) in downtown Silver Spring in Montgomery County , heading north on Georgia Avenue , a six @-@ lane divided highway . Washington Metro 's Red Line runs below the route at this point . From the route ' s southern terminus , Georgia Avenue continues south as part of US 29 toward Washington , D.C. MD 97 passes commercial areas of high @-@ rise buildings in Silver Spring before heading into residential neighborhoods . The route intersects the northern terminus of MD 390 (16th Street) , which heads south and becomes 16th Street Northwest upon entering the District of Columbia . It continues north as a six @-@ lane undivided road with reversible lanes through commercial areas before coming to a modified cloverleaf interchange with I @-@ 495 (Capital Beltway) .

Past this interchange , the road becomes a divided highway again and intersects MD 192 (Forest Glen Road) . MD 97 passes more residences and continues toward Wheaton . The road heads into

business areas again as it intersects MD 586 (Veirs Mill Road) near the Westfield Wheaton shopping mall . A short distance later , the road crosses MD 193 (University Boulevard) and continues back into residential areas past that intersection . The route heads into a mix of residential and commercial areas as it heads toward Glenmont , where it crosses Randolph Road . A short distance later , MD 97 intersects the southern terminus of MD 182 (Layhill Road) .

From here , MD 97 turns northwest through residential neighborhoods and passes the Glenmont station terminus of Washington Metro 's Red Line , before reaching some businesses near the intersection with the northern terminus of MD 185 (Connecticut Avenue) in Aspen Hill . It turns north again past this intersection and crosses Bel Pre Road . After crossing Bel Pre Road , the route heads into wooded neighborhoods before it passes through a mix of businesses and houses , with MD 655 running to the west of the road . MD 97 crosses MD 28 (Norbeck Road) in Norbeck , and continues past some residences where it intersects MD 655A , a short connector that provides access to westbound MD 28 . MD 97 enters more wooded areas and narrows to four lanes , interchanging with MD 200 (Intercounty Connector) .

The route eventually passes parkland and residential areas as it crosses Emory Lane . The road approaches Olney and passes by residential neighborhoods before heading into a business district at the intersection with MD 108 (Olney Sandy Spring Road) . After this intersection , the road heads into wooded residential areas as a two @-@ lane undivided road and enters Brookeville . Upon entering Brookeville , MD 97 becomes High Street and passes more residences . The route makes a left turn onto Market Street and continues through wooded residential areas . It heads out of Brookeville , with the name changing back to Georgia Avenue . The road heads into a more rural setting , with areas of farms , woods , and some residences . MD 97 reaches Sunshine , where the road crosses MD 650 (New Hampshire Avenue / Damascus Road) . Past Sunshine , MD 97 resumes through rural areas and enters woodland within Patuxent River State Park as it approaches the Patuxent River .

= = = Howard and Carroll counties = = =

MD 97 crosses the Patuxent River into Howard County , where it becomes Roxbury Mills Road , named after the Roxbury Mill built in 1753 . It continues north , passing areas of woods and farms along with suburban residential developments . The road passes through the community of Glenwood and continues through agricultural areas before intersecting MD 144 (Frederick Road) in Cooksville . A short distance later , the route interchanges with I @-@ 70 and US 40 . Past this interchange , MD 97 becomes Hoods Mill Road and passes rural residential areas , intersecting Old Frederick Road . From here , the road winds through a mix of woods , farm fields , and residences before crossing the South Branch of the Patapsco River .

Upon crossing the river , MD 97 enters Carroll County and becomes Old Washington Road . The road crosses CSX 's Old Main Line Subdivision railroad as it passes wooded areas with some residences . It runs through a mix of woods and farms with some residences along the road . The number of residences increases as the route crosses Streaker Road in Berrett . From here , MD 97 passes more residences before intersecting MD 850 (Old Liberty Road) at a roundabout ; a short distance later , it intersects MD 26 (Liberty Road) at a folded diamond interchange in Dorsey Crossroads . Past MD 26 , MD 97 becomes New Washington Road and heads north through a mix of farmland , woodland , and residential neighborhoods , paralleled to the west by MD 854 (Old Washington Road) . The road passes through woodland before intersecting Nicodemus Road , where it continues past farms and woods before crossing MD 32 (Sykesville Road) in Fenby .

Past this intersection , MD 97 passes to the east of Carroll Community College and heads into residential areas as it approaches Westminster , bypassing the center of the town to the east . The route becomes Malcolm Drive past the intersection with Main Street / Old Westminster Road and continues to an intersection with MD 140 (Baltimore Boulevard) . Here , MD 97 makes a left turn to form a concurrency with MD 140 on Baltimore Boulevard , a six @-@ lane divided highway . The two routes head through commercial areas on the outskirts of Westminster , passing by the TownMall of Westminster before interchanging with MD 27 (Manchester Road) at a folded @-@

diamond interchange . Past this interchange , the road passes over the Maryland Midland Railway and passes more businesses . At the Sullivan Road intersection , the road becomes College View Boulevard and a short distance later , MD 97 splits from MD 140 at an interchange near McDaniel College .

MD 97 continues north on Littlestown Pike , a two @-@ lane undivided road . The road passes Carroll County Regional Airport before heading into a mix of farmland and residences . MD 97 intersects the southern terminus of MD 496 (Bachmans Valley Road) , and continues northwest through agricultural and wooded areas with intermittent residences . It passes through Union Mills , where the road intersects Old Hanover Road . MD 97 continues to the community of Silver Run , where it passes residences . Upon leaving this community , the route continues through woods and farm fields . A short distance later , MD 97 reaches the Pennsylvania border , where it becomes PA 97 and continues north into Adams County .

= = History = =

In 1911 , Georgia Avenue was proposed as a state highway between the Washington , D.C. border and Brookeville . This section of state highway was completed by 1915 . By 1921 , a state highway was proposed between Roxbury Mills and Cooksville , with a small piece completed to the south of Cooksville . Also , a state highway was completed between Westminster and the Pennsylvania border , connecting to a road that continued northwest to Gettysburg , Pennsylvania . By 1923 , the state road was finished between south of Cooksville and north of Roxbury Mills and to the north of Cooksville . With the creation of the U.S. Highway System on November 11 , 1926 , the portion of present @-@ day MD 97 north of Westminster was designated as part of US 140 , a U.S. Highway that ran from Baltimore to Gettysburg . In addition , the portion of Georgia Avenue between Norbeck and Olney was designated as part of MD 28 in 1927 . The state highway was completed south to Roxbury Mills in 1928 . By 1933 , the state road between Brookeville and Roxbury Mills was finished .

MD 97 was designated by 1933 to run from MD 27 / MD 410 (now US 29) in Silver Spring to north of US 40 in Cooksville . In 1935 , a state highway was finished south of the MD 26 west Eldersburg and heading south from MD 32 in Fenby . Both these highways were extended south about 0 @.@ 5 miles (0 @.@ 80 km) in 1938 . In 1939 , the state highway running south from MD 26 west of Eldersburg and from MD 32 south of Fenby were both designated as MD 570 . By 1946 , the MD 28 concurrency between Norbeck and Olney was removed . The southern section of MD 570 was extended south 0 @.@ 5 miles (0 @.@ 80 km) again in 1948 . MD 97 was widened into a divided highway between Silver Spring and Glenmont in 1950 .

In 1956 , MD 97 was extended north to the Pennsylvania border northwest of Emmitsburg , Frederick County . The route ran north from Cooksville to Fenby , replacing both sections of MD 570 , before it replaced MD 32 from Fenby north to Westminster and northwest through Taneytown and Emmitsburg . In 1960 , MD 97 was moved to a new alignment that bypassed Westminster along newly constructed New Washington Road between Fenby and US 140 and the Westminster Bypass to the northwest side of the city . MD 32 was designated onto the former alignment of MD 97 that passed through Westminster on Washington Road and Main Street . In 1961 , MD 97 was shifted to a new alignment to the east between MD 26 and MD 32 ; the former alignment became MD 854 . The intersection with MD 26 was replaced with an interchange in 1962 . In 1964 , construction began on a new alignment of MD 97 slightly to the north between Westminster and Taneytown . This alignment was completed in 1965 , and the former alignment became a part of MD 32 (now MD 832) . In 1966 , the divided highway portion of MD 97 was extended north from Glenmont to MD 28 in Norbeck .

In 1977 , plans were made for US 140 to be decommissioned , with MD 97 to replace the section between Westminster and the Pennsylvania border , where it would connect to PA 97 . This proposal was made in order to eliminate short routes from the U.S. Highway System . The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials approved the removal of the US 140 designation on October 28 , 1977 . On January 1 , 1979 , MD 97 was rerouted at Westminster to

head north to the Pennsylvania border , replacing US 140 . At the Pennsylvania border , the route connected to PA 97 , which replaced the US 140 designation in Pennsylvania . Meanwhile , the former alignment of MD 97 between Westminster and the Pennsylvania border northwest of Emmitsburg became a part of MD 140 . Dualization of MD 97 in Montgomery County was extended further north from MD 28 to MD 108 by 1989 . There are plans to build an interchange at the route ' s intersection with Randolph Road in order to improve movements for automobiles as well as for pedestrians and bicycles accessing the nearby Glenmont Metro station . Another new interchange was built with MD 200 (Intercounty Connector) north of MD 28 and opened on February 23 , 2011 .

= = Junction list = =

= = Auxiliary route = =

MD 97A runs along an old section of MD 97 that parallels the route to the west , running from a cul-de-sac north to an intersection with MD 97 at Emory Church Road in Olney , Montgomery County . The route is 0 @. @ 32 mi (0 @. @ 51 km) long .