

= Ontario Highway 77 =

King 's Highway 77 , commonly referred to as Highway 77 , is a provincially maintained highway in the Canadian province of Ontario . One of three highways within Essex County , Highway 77 serves to interconnect Highway 3 near Leamington with Highway 401 near Tilbury . Prior to 1998 , the highway extended south into Leamington , ending at the former routing of Highway 3 and Highway 18 . This section was turned over to Essex County and renamed Erie Street . The speed limit on Highway 77 is 80 km / h (50 mph) in most places , dropping to 50 km / h in built @-@ up areas . It is patrolled by the Ontario Provincial Police .

= = Route description = =

Due to the flat topography of Essex County , the land use surrounding Highway 77 is almost entirely agricultural . Soil conditions in Essex are ideal for farming , and as a result very few natural areas can be found in the county . Many streams have been diverted to irrigate the endless farmland to either side of the highway . Relief from the plain is provided only by the few hamlets along the route . In addition , Lake Erie and Lake St Clair are both a short distance from Highway 77 .

Highway 77 begins at the Leamington Bypass , north of the city of the same name . The western section of Highway 3 shares its eastern terminus with Highway 77 ; from there it travels west towards Windsor . Several greenhouses are visible near the southern end of the highway , a small percentage of the 610 hectares (1 @, @ 500 acres) of land occupied by them in the Leamington area . Point Pelee National Park , the southernmost point in Canada , is also nearby .

The highway runs 11 @. @ 5 km (7 @. @ 1 mi) north through Mount Carmel and Blytheswood to the village of Staples before turning to the east . It continues in this direction for 2 km (1 @. @ 2 mi) before returning to its northward orientation . North of there , the highway passes to the east of the Comber and District Historical Society Museum . The museum , which focuses on the history of agriculture , was established in the former Maple Grove Schoolhouse , which was built in 1894 . Pressing north to Highway 401 , it passes Middle Road (once Highway 98) in the centre of Comber . Highway 401 provides access to Windsor and the United States to the west , and to the town of Tilbury and city of Chatham ? Kent to the east . To the north , the road continues as Essex County Road 35 to Stoney Point on the shores of Lake Huron .

Traffic levels along Highway 77 vary , but are generally low . The busiest section of the highway lies at the southern end between Leamington and Blythesville , with an average of 6 @, @ 000 vehicles travelling it per day . North of that , traffic drops considerably to 3 @, @ 000 vehicles , but increases approaching Comber and Highway 401 to around 4 @, @ 500 .

= = History = =

The Highway 77 designation was first applied on August 5 , 1936 to a road running southeast from Rodney , Ontario to Highway 3 at New Glasgow . On December 5 , 1957 , the highway was transferred to Elgin County and is now known as Elgin County Road 103 . The current Highway 77 was designated between Leamington and Highway 401 on April 1 , 1963 . The southern end followed present @-@ day Erie Street south through the city to Talbot Road . At the time , Highway 3 travelled along that road ; Highway 77 continued south of Talbot Road as Highway 18 . In early December 1999 , the Leamington Bypass of Highway 3 opened . The southern terminus of Highway 77 was subsequently truncated by 1 @. @ 7 km (1 @. @ 1 mi) to end at the new bypass .

= = Major intersections = =

The following table lists the major junctions along Highway 77 , as noted by the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario . The entire route is located in Essex County .