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Downtown Connector Trail (Columbus) Ohio



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Columbus' Downtown Connector Trail provides a vital link between neighborhoods and schools on the city's east side and the downtown area. On its east end, the paved pathway begins adjacent to I-670 near Avalon Park and south of Ohio Dominican University. Here, the trail connects to the 25-mile <u>Alum Creek Greenway Trail</u>, allowing trail users to continue north to Westerville or south to the Three Creeks Metro Park.

The trail speeds west paralleling the interstate and, at Leonard Avenue, swings southwest, winding past the Fort Hayes Metropolitan Education Center and Columbus State Community College. Continuing west from the campus, the route becomes on-road for its last 1.5 miles, but is well signed. From Cleveland Avenue, you'll travel south, heading under I-670. After one block, turn right on McCoy Street, then take your next left on N. Grant Avenue. Shortly, you'll take a right on Edwards Street, then left on N. 6th Street. Take a right onto Mt. Vernon Avenue, which you'll follow until N. 4th Street (US 23); here, you'll transition onto Nationwide Boulevard.

As you approach N. High Street, you'll be just north of Sensenbrenner Park; a short side excursion to the park will allow you to enjoy its beautiful gardens and picnic areas. Continuing along Nationwide Boulevard, you'll pass many shops and restaurants, Nationwide Arena and McFerson Commons, which features a stone archway from the Old Union Train Station.

Turn left at Neil Avenue and parallel the roadway for two blocks south. Approaching the end of your adventure, you'll cross W. Spring Street and then W. Long Street to reach the North Bank Park Pavilion, where you'll be rewarded with scenic views of the Scioto River and Columbus skyline. There is also a children's splash fountain, a dining terrace and other amenities available in the park.

On its western end, the bike route meets the <u>Scioto Greenway</u> <u>Trail</u> along the north bank of the Scioto River. All three pathways—the Downtown Connector Trail, Alum Creek Greenway Trail and Scioto Greenway Trail—are part of the state-spanning <u>Ohio to Erie Trail</u>, which connects Columbus, Cleveland and Cincinnati.





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States: Ohio Counties: Franklin Length: 5miles Trail end points: Alum Creek Greenway Trail at Avalon Place to Scioto Greenway Trail at the North Bank Park Pavilion Trail surfaces: Asphalt Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT Trail activities: Bike,Inline Skating,Wheelchair Accessible,Walking,Cross

Country Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

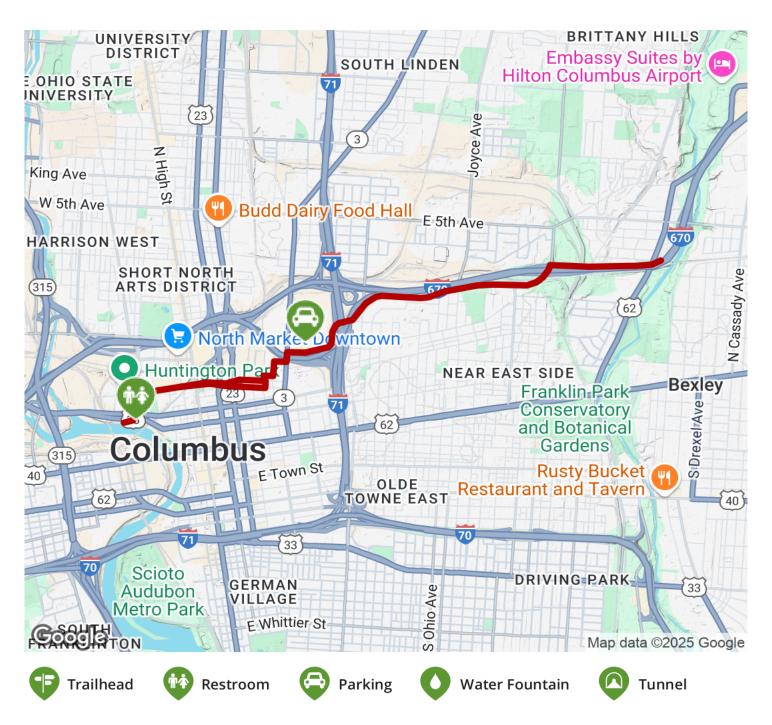
While there are no official parking areas for the Downtown Connector Trail, parking can be found at Sawyer Park on Bolivar Street and Saunders Park on Fairfield Avenue. The trail is located a few blocks north of the parking lots.

Metered on-street parking is also available along N. High Street, adjacent to Sensenbrenner Park (300 N. High St.), and along W. Long Street, adjacent to the North Bank Park Pavilion (311 W. Long St.).



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