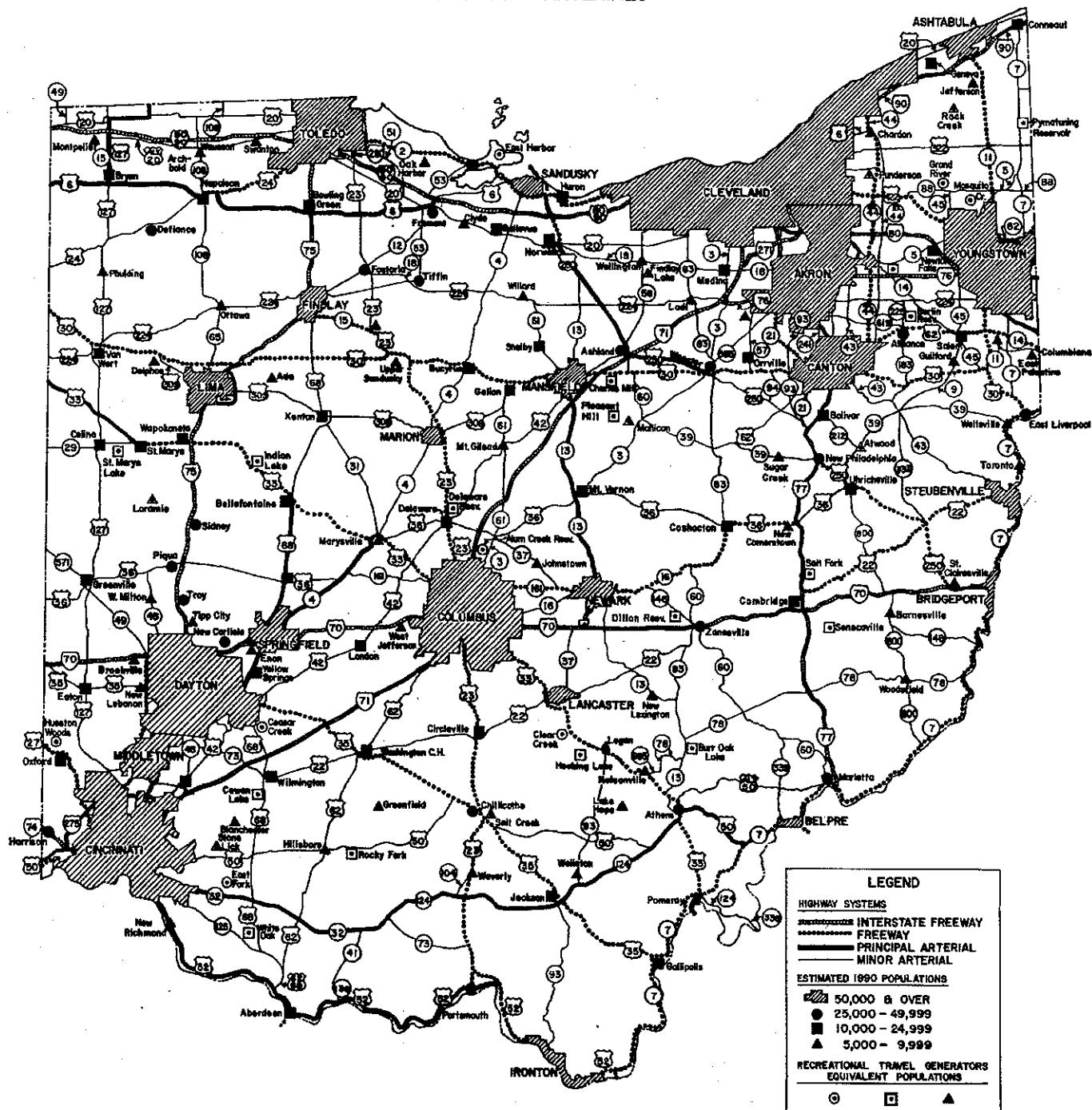


Fig. 201-I  
Feb. 1978

## HIGHWAY FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION MAP SHOWING RURAL FREEWAYS AND ARTERIALS



(205) RURAL DESCRIPTIONS

205.1 RURAL FREEWAYS (RF)

.11 SERVICE FUNCTION - Rural Freeways are intended to serve traffic movements having longer trip lengths which are interstate or intrastate in character. These highways connect the larger cities, industrial concentration and recreational areas. They provide optimum mobility for through traffic. Rural freeways are intended to accommodate the movement of large volumes of traffic at high speeds under free-flow conditions.

To provide optimum mobility for through traffic, all access to adjacent lands is eliminated. No pedestrians or slow moving traffic is allowed.

.12 FLOW CHARACTERISTICS - On Rural Freeways, traffic should be uninterrupted and unrestricted. These conditions can only be achieved by grade separation of all railroads and crossroads, with vehicular access only at interchanges.

.13 VEHICLE TYPES - All types of vehicular traffic use Rural Freeways except bicycles and other slow moving vehicles. There are high volumes of truck traffic.

.14 STAGE CONSTRUCTION - All Rural Freeways should be planned and designed as multi-lane, divided, fully limited access facilities even though they may be developed by stage construction. In the plans for each stage of development, provision should be made for further improvements to existing sections.

205.2 RURAL PRINCIPAL ARTERIAL (RA)

.21 SERVICE FUNCTION - This system serves all urban areas over 50,000 population and most others over 25,000 population. This system provides an integrated network serving interstate and intrastate traffic without stub connections except at areas of concentrated traffic demand such as recreation areas, industrial complexes and airports. Rural Principal Arterial Roads are intended to carry large volumes of traffic at high speeds. The major difference between this class and the Freeway class is in the control of access. Where Freeways always have fully limited access, Rural Principal Arterials may vary from partial to no access control.

.22 FLOW CHARACTERISTICS - Rural Principal Arterial Roads carry heavy traffic volumes at high speeds and

should be designed for uninterrupted flow of traffic except at controlled intersections with major cross-roads. However, intersections on high speed roads controlled by traffic signals or stop signs are hazardous and should be avoided if at all possible. In some cases, grade separated interchanges may be warranted.

.23 VEHICLE TYPES - All types of vehicular traffic use Rural Principal Arterial Roads. There are high volumes of truck traffic.

#### 205.3 RURAL MINOR ARTERIAL (RMA)

.31 SERVICE FUNCTION - Rural Minor Arterial Roads are expected to provide for relatively high overall travel speeds, with minimum interference to through traffic. This system should, in conjunction with the Principal Arterial System, form an integrated network providing intrastate and intercounty service. This system should link cities, large towns and other large traffic generators to provide service to corridors with greater trip lengths than those served by the lower systems. They should be spaced at such intervals that all the developed areas of the State are within a reasonable distance of an Arterial Highway.

.32 FLOW CHARACTERISTICS - Rural Minor Arterial Roads should accommodate heavy traffic volumes but at a more moderate speed than that of the Principal Arterial Road system, since greater interference to traffic is allowed due to the greater number of access points.

.33 VEHICLE TYPES - All types of vehicular traffic use Rural Minor Arterial Roads. Trucks of all kinds use this system and may comprise a substantial percentage of the total volume.

#### 205.4 RURAL MAJOR COLLECTOR (RMC)

.41 SERVICE FUNCTION - Rural Major Collector Roads should provide service to any county seat or large town not served by the higher systems, and to other traffic generators of equal intracounty importance, such as consolidated schools, shipping points, county parks, etc. Through integration with higher systems, this system also links these places with nearby larger towns or cities and serves as the more important intracounty corridors.

.42 FLOW CHARACTERISTICS - On Rural Major Collector Roads the trips are shorter than on arterial routes, and, therefore, more moderate travel speeds can be tolerated. Traffic is interrupted by stop conditions or signalized intersections with Arterials or other Connector Roads and also by vehicles.

## 401 BASIC DESIGN STANDARDS

(A) **GENERAL**  
 The following criteria are the basic standards to be used in designing highways in the State of Ohio. Where there is a choice of a minimum or desirable criteria, the desirable should be used.

(B) **REFERENCE ITEMS PERTAINING TO TABLE 401-1**  
 The following lettered items, A thru Q, refer to various items that are on Table 401-1. To fully understand the table these references should be used.

### Critical Length of Grade for All Design Speeds of 30 MPH or More

PERCENT OF GRADE	CRITICAL LENGTH IN FEET
Less than 2	*
2	3500
2.5	2350
3	1800
3.5	1500
4	1250
4.5	1075
5	950
5.5	850
6	750
Over 6	*

(A) Design Year traffic volumes may be obtained from the Bureau of General Services. If Design Year traffic volumes are not available from the Bureau of Technical Services, an approximate method of determining Design Year traffic is shown below in reference "B". Design Year ADT volumes in the range of 4,000 to 9,000 vehicles should be investigated for required number of initial or future lanes, using the more detailed analysis of the Highway Capacity Manual and/or the AASHTO publications titled "A Policy on Geometric Design of Rural Highways" and "A Policy on Design of Urban Highways and Arterial Streets".

### Formula for Adjusting Current Average Daily Traffic:

Current (P-A) traffic + T(B+C) traffic. T varies with the type of terrain as shown:

Terrain:	Flat	Rolling	Hilly	Rugged	8
T	2	4	6	8	

### To Increase Current ADT to Design Traffic:

Multiply the computed volume above by the factor (indicated below) corresponding to the applicable locale.

Design Yr.	Urban	Locale Factor	Suburban	Rural
20	1.40	1.70	1.60	1.60
10	1.20	1.35	1.30	1.35
5	1.10	1.18	1.15	1.15

### Terrain Selection

Selection of terrain for the purpose of determining adjustment factor shall be made as follows for design speeds of 50 MPH or more except in rugged terrain:

- (D) Same as (C) except that percentage of total length shall not be less than 50%.

(Q) See table 602-2 for appropriate superelevation rates which are based on a maximum superelevation rate of 0.06 ft/ft.

- (1) Assume a reasonable terrain classification, and calculate the probable design traffic.
- (2) From Table 401-1 find the maximum grade allowed for the type of terrain selected in (1).
- (3) Check the project grade line to determine whether any grade must exceed the maximum allowable.
- (4) If no grade exceeds the maximum, determine whether the length of any allowable grade must exceed the critical length indicated in the following table.

(E) Minimum and Desirable Stopping Sight Distance are based on height of eye of 3.75 feet and height of object of 6 inches. Passing Sight Distance is based on a height of eye of 3.75 feet and height of object of 4.5 feet.

- (F) Effective shoulder is the width of shoulder measured between the edge of the pavement and the face of the guard rail.

(G) Shoulders to be bituminous treated 4 feet each side of pavement where total of current Type B and C vehicles exceeds 250 per day, or if required for erosion control.

(H) 4-foot-wide bituminous treatment on the left side of divided directional pavements and 8-foot-wide treatment on right side of all pavements if current average total of Type B and C units is less than 1000 per day. 4-foot-wide paving on left side of divided directional pavements and 8-foot-wide paving on right side of all pavements if current average total of B and C units is more than 1000 per day.

(J) Vertical clearance for Strategic Network may vary plus or minus 2 inches. The "Strategic Network" comprises all rural Interstate Mileage and approved Urban or Bypass Interstate Mileage.

(K) These minimum dimensions apply if the route is not on the Strategic Network. Design tolerance is not to exceed 4 inches.

(L) Where continuous barrier curbs are used on narrow medians, such curbs shall be offset at least one foot from the edge of the through traffic lane. Where vertical elements more than 12 inches high, other than abutments, piers, or walls, are located in a median, there shall be a lateral clearance of at least 3.5 feet from the edge of through traffic lane to the face of such elements.

(M) To face of parapet or guard rail.

(N) The Engineer of Bridges and Structures shall be consulted for structure criteria not covered herein.

(P) A desirable minimum longitudinal grade of 0.48% is recommended for all pavements. A minimum grade of 0.24% may be used in areas where the terrain is extremely flat. Flatter grades will require special ditches for uncurbed pavements and a more expensive drainage system for curbed pavements.

**Table 401-1**  
**Feb. 1978**