

= Maryland Route 23 =

Maryland Route 23 (MD 23) is a state highway in the U.S. state of Maryland . The state highway runs 20 @.@ 58 miles (33 @.@ 12 km) from U.S. Route 1 (US 1) in Hickory north and west to the Pennsylvania state line near Norrisville , where the highway continues as Pennsylvania Route 24 (PA 24) . MD 23 is an L @-@ shaped highway in northwestern Harford County that consists of two major sections . Between US 1 and MD 165 in Jarrettsville , MD 23 is marked east ? west along a two @-@ lane controlled access road named East ? West Highway . From MD 165 to the state line , the state highway is marked north ? south along Norrisville Road , a rural two @-@ lane highway that passes through the villages of Madonna and Shawsville . The two sections of MD 23 are connected by a short concurrency with MD 165 .

MD 23 from Hickory to Jarrettsville was one of the original state highways marked for improvement by the Maryland State Roads Commission in 1909 and one of the original state @-@ numbered highways in 1927 . The state road was constructed from Hickory to Jarrettsville and from Norrisville to the state line in the early to mid @-@ 1910s . The gaps between Jarrettsville and Shawsville and from Shawsville to Norrisville were filled in the early 1920s . East ? West Highway was constructed in the early 1960s to replace the parallel Jarrettsville Road . MD 23 's eastern terminus was moved to US 1 's new bypass of Hickory in 2000 .

= = Route description = =

MD 23 begins at an intersection with US 1 (Hickory Bypass) in Hickory . The state highway heads west as two @-@ lane East ? West Highway . MD 23 passes through a commercial area where the highway intersects US 1 Business (Conowingo Road) and Water Tower Way before the road passes through a narrow forested corridor . The state highway intersects Commerce Road at a roundabout ; Commerce Road heads north into an industrial park surrounding Forest Hill Airport . After crossing over Bynum Run and the Ma and Pa Trail , a rail trail along the abandoned right @-@ of @-@ way of the Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad , MD 23 intersects MD 24 (Rocks Road / Rock Spring Road) just south of Forest Hill . MD 23 continues west through a mix of farmland and forest , passing south of the hamlet of Fairview and crossing over Phillips Mill Road and Morse Road before East ? West Highway reaches its western terminus at MD 165 (Baldwin Mill Road) south of Jarrettsville .

MD 23 turns north and joins MD 165 in a concurrency to the center of Jarrettsville . MD 165 continues north as Federal Hill Road and MD 23 turns west onto Norrisville Road ; the east leg of the intersection is Jarrettsville Road . MD 23 heads west through farmland and intersects MD 146 (Jarrettsville Pike) and Madonna Road in the village of Madonna . The state highway gradually curves to the north through Shawsville , where MD 23 intersects two highways that head west into Baltimore County , MD 138 (Troyer Road) and MD 439 (Old York Road) . The state highway makes a sharp , curvaceous descent to a crossing of Deer Creek , next to which is the historic Ivory Mills complex . MD 23 ascends out of the forested creek valley into Norrisville and meets the north end of MD 136 (Harkins Road) . The state highway continues north to just south of the Pennsylvania state line . MD 23 turns west and closely parallels the state line for about 2 @,@ 000 feet (610 m) before the highway veers northwest to cross the border . The highway continues north as PA 24 (Barrens Road) toward Stewartstown .

MD 23 is a part of the National Highway System as a principal arterial from US 1 in Hickory west to High Point Road west of Forest Hill .

= = History = =

The first section of MD 23 to be paved was the part of the Old York Turnpike from MD 138 to MD 439 , which was improved as a 12 @-@ foot @-@ wide (3 @.@ 7 m) macadam state @-@ aid road by 1910 . The portion of MD 23 from Hickory to Jarrettsville was designated one of the original state roads by the Maryland State Roads Commission in 1909 . The state road was constructed with

a 14 @-@ foot @-@ wide (4 @.@ 3 m) macadam surface from Hickory to Grafton Shop Road in 1910 , from Morse Road to Jarrettsville in 1914 , and between Grafton Shop Road and Morse Road in 1915 . Another section of 12 @-@ foot @-@ wide (3 @.@ 7 m) macadam road was constructed under state aid from south of Norrisville to the Pennsylvania state line by 1915 . The highway from Jarrettsville to MD 138 was under construction as a concrete road by 1919 and completed in 1921 . The final portion of MD 23 , also paved in concrete , was completed from MD 439 to south of Norrisville in 1923 . MD 23 was one of the original state @-@ numbered highways designated by the roads commission in 1927 . The state highway was widened to a width of 20 feet (6 @.@ 1 m) from Hickory to Jarrettsville by 1930 .

Jarrettsville Road was replaced by East ? West Highway , which was under construction by 1961 and completed in 1963 . The MD 23 designation was moved to the new highway and Jarrettsville Road was immediately transferred to county maintenance . At its eastern end , East ? West Highway was constructed to tie into the Bel Air Bypass that was completed in 1965 and was proposed to continue to east of Hickory . Close to its eastern end , MD 23 curved south to an intersection with Granary Road . MD 23 turned east onto Granary Road for its eastern terminus at US 1 (now US 1 Business) . East ? West Highway continued south as MD 23A ; at Bynum Road , MD 23A became a one @-@ lane ramp that joined the Bel Air Bypass . In 2000 , the Hickory Bypass was completed ; US 1 was moved to the new bypass and US 1 Business was extended along US 1 's old route through Hickory . As part of the same project , MD 23 was extended east to a new terminus at the Hickory Bypass . East ? West Highway 's curve to the south was replaced with a perpendicular intersection with MD 23A , which was renamed Water Tower Way , extended north to new MD 23 , and gained a ramp from northbound US 1 at its southern end . The portion of Granary Road that formed MD 23 's terminus was designated MD 23B . Both MD 23A and MD 23B were transferred to Harford County maintenance in 2002 . MD 23 's roundabout at Commerce Road in Forest Hill was constructed in 2008 .

= = Junction list = =

MD 23 is signed east ? west east of MD 165 and north ? south west of MD 165 . The entire route is in Harford County .

= = Auxiliary routes = =

MD 23 previously had two auxiliary routes .

MD 23A was the designation for the portion of East ? West Highway between Granary Road and the ramp to southbound US 1 (Bel Air Bypass) . The 0 @.@ 38 @-@ mile (0 @.@ 61 km) state highway was constructed in 1963 as a connection between MD 23 and southbound US 1 . In 2000 , MD 23A was extended north to the new MD 23 and a ramp from northbound US 1 to MD 23A was added . The highway had a new length of 0 @.@ 53 miles (0 @.@ 85 km) and was renamed Water Tower Way . MD 23A was removed from the state highway system in 2002 .

MD 23B was the designation for the 0 @.@ 16 @-@ mile (0 @.@ 26 km) section of Granary Road between US 1 Business and MD 23A (Water Tower Way) that was part of MD 23 from the construction of East ? West Highway in 1963 until 2000 . MD 23B was assigned in 2000 and removed from the state system in 2002 .