

## = New Jersey Route 166 =

Route 166 is a short , 3 @. @ 73 @- @ mile ( 6 @. @ 00 km ) state highway in Ocean County , New Jersey . The route provides an alternate alignment of U.S. Route 9 through South Toms River and Toms River . The southern terminus is at an intersection with U.S. Route 9 northbound in Beachwood , where it heads northward along Atlantic City Boulevard . The route continues until ending where U.S. Route 9 leaves the Parkway north of Toms River . US 9 itself uses the Garden State Parkway to bypass Toms River .

Route 166 is a former alignment of New Jersey Route 4 , designated in 1920 and U.S. Route 9 , designated in 1927 through Toms River . The highways were realigned when the Garden State Parkway was built , and the original alignment became U.S. Route 9 Alternate in the 1950s , which was eventually replaced with Route 166 . The alignment has remained the same since .

## = = Route description = =

Route 166 begins at an interchange with U.S. Route 9 northbound ( Atlantic City Boulevard ) in the community of South Toms River . The route heads northward along the right @- @ of @- @ way of Atlantic City Boulevard , progressing northward along residential homes . Paralleling to the north of U.S. Route 9 , Route 166 continues , passing a war memorial in the southern portion of the business district . In the center of the community , the highway intersects with Ocean County Route 621 ( Admiral Avenue ) . There , Route 166 turns to the northeast , running along the shoreline for the Atlantic Ocean . Heading past a marina , the highway crosses on a four @- @ lane bridge over the ocean and into Toms River .

After landing down on the Toms River side , Route 166 heads to the northwest , intersecting with the incomplete Herficker Boulevard . The highway turns off its right @- @ of @- @ way , and crosses another branch into the center of Toms River . Passing the Riverfront Landing , Route 166 intersects with the eastern / southern terminus of County Route 527 ( Water Street ) . The highway continues northward along commercial buildings as Main Street , passing to the west of Toms River High School and back into the residential districts . Route 166 continues northbound to an interchange with New Jersey Route 37 ( Little League World Champions Boulevard ) in Toms River . At the interchange , Route 166 switches names from Main Street to Lakewood Road , which heads northwestward .

Route 166 , after changing monikers , continues northwestward through the commercial and industrial portions of Toms River , intersecting with several local and county roads until a fork with Ocean County Route 623 , where the highway forks at Riverside Cemetery . A short distance later , the highway begins a split parallel with the Garden State Parkway and U.S. Route 9 to the east . Route 166 then leaves the commercial and industrial districts for the residential ones soon later , crossing through several developments including Colonial Gardens . The highway continues northward , intersecting with Albert Avenue , where it returns to the commercial area . After an intersection with Briar Knoll , Route 166 divides , approaching Interchange 83 on the Garden State Parkway , where the designation terminates . The right @- @ of @- @ way continues northward as U.S. Route 9 .

## = = History = =

The alignment of Route 166 was originally part of Route 4 prior to 1927 , designated from Absecon to Rahway . This designation remained in place for seven years , until the 1927 state highway renumbering , which remained part of an extended Route 4 . A year prior to the state highway renumbering , the alignment of Route 4 was also co @- @ designated as part of U.S. Route 9 , which had been assigned as part of a nationwide system . Route 4 remained intact concurrent with Route 9 until the state highway renumbering on January 1 , 1953 . On that day , Route 4 was truncated back to Fort Lee in Bergen County , and the alignment became only U.S. Route 9 . A bypass was built of the Route 9 alignment in the 1950s along with construction of the Garden State

Parkway , which was completed soon after . The route currently Route 166 became U.S. Route 9 Alternate by 1954 , remaining for several years , when it was decommissioned in place for Route 166 . The route has remained intact since .

= = Major intersections = =

The entire route is in Ocean County .