

= Delaware Route 6 =

Delaware Route 6 (DE 6) is a state highway in Kent County , Delaware . It runs from Maryland Route 291 (MD 291) at the Maryland border west of Blackiston to the Delaware Bay in Woodland Beach . The route passes through rural areas of northern Kent County as well as the towns of Smyrna and Clayton . DE 6 intersects DE 42 in Blackiston , DE 15 in Clayton , DE 300 and U.S. Route 13 (US 13) in Smyrna , and DE 9 to the east of Smyrna . The road was built as a state highway during the 1920s and 1930s and received the DE 6 designation by 1936 . The easternmost part of the route was paved in the 1960s and the route was moved to its current alignment bypassing downtown Smyrna by the 1990s .

= = Route description = =

DE 6 begins at the Maryland border , where the road continues west into that state as MD 291 . From the state line , the route heads east on two @-@ lane undivided Millington Road , passing through the Blackiston Wildlife Area . The road runs through areas of woods and farms with some homes . In Blackiston , DE 6 intersects the western terminus of DE 42 , which heads southeast toward Kenton . The route continues east through more agricultural areas and reaches an intersection with DE 15 , at which point residential development near the road increases . DE 15 turns east to form a concurrency with DE 6 , with the two routes continuing east . Upon reaching the western edge of Clayton , DE 15 splits from DE 6 by heading to the north .

DE 6 proceeds northeast through Clayton on Main Street , where it passes homes along with a few businesses . In Clayton , the road crosses Norfolk Southern 's Delmarva Secondary railroad line at @-@ grade as it turns more to the east . The route continues into Smyrna , where it becomes Smyrna Clayton Boulevard . Shortly after crossing into Smyrna , DE 6 intersects DE 300 , where it turns northeast onto Glenwood Avenue and forms a concurrency with DE 300 . The two routes pass a mix of homes and businesses before entering a commercial area in the northern part of Smyrna . Here , the road widens into a divided highway before intersecting US 13 . At this point , DE 300 ends and DE 6 turns southeast to form a concurrency with US 13 . The two routes pass more businesses on four @-@ lane divided Dupont Boulevard . DE 6 splits from US 13 by heading to the east on two @-@ lane undivided Commerce Street , running through residential areas . The route passes over the DE 1 toll road without an interchange and leaves Smyrna .

Upon leaving Smyrna , DE 6 becomes Woodland Beach Road and passes to the north of Smyrna Airport . The road heads east into agricultural areas , crossing Mill Creek as it winds east . The route intersects DE 9 before turning northeast into marshland within the Woodland Beach Wildlife Area . DE 6 turns north and reaches its eastern terminus at an intersection with Delaware Avenue in the community of Woodland Beach , located along the Delaware Bay .

The portion of the route between Alley Mill Road west of Clayton and DE 300 in Smyrna is part of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway , a Delaware Byway . DE 6 has an annual average daily traffic count ranging from a high of 21 @, @ 997 vehicles at the east end of the US 13 concurrency to a low of 764 vehicles at the Lighthouse Road intersection . None of DE 6 is part of the National Highway System .

= = History = =

By 1920 , what is now DE 6 existed as an unimproved county road . The road was completed as a state highway within Clayton and was proposed as one from Clayton west to Blackiston by 1924 . On August 5 , 1925 , the state highway between Clayton and Blackiston was completed . In 1929 , the road leading to Woodland Beach was completed as a state highway . The portion of the road between Blackiston and the Maryland border was upgraded to a state highway in 1930 . When Delaware created its state highway system by 1936 , DE 6 was routed between the Maryland border west of Blackiston and Woodland Beach , following its current alignment to Smyrna , passing through Smyrna on Commerce Street , and continuing east on its current alignment to Woodland

Beach . All of the route was paved except for the easternmost portion . The eastern portion of the road was paved by 1967 . By the 1990s , DE 6 was routed onto its current alignment through Smyrna along DE 300 and US 13 , bypassing the downtown area .

= = Major intersections = =

The entire route is in Kent County .