

= Texas State Highway 168 =

State Highway 168 (SH 168 or TX 168) is a short state highway located entirely within the city of Galveston in the U.S. state of Texas . The highway connects SH 87 to Coast Guard Station Galveston , on the eastern portion of Galveston Island . At just under 0 @. @ 9 miles (1 @. @ 4 km) in length , the highway is the second @-@ shortest in the state , and the shortest signed highway (SH165 , which is shorter , is officially designated but not signed) . The road travels along the edge of residential area for most of its length before it bends northeast and runs through a small marsh .

The route was first proposed in 1933 ; it would have traveled through Atascosia and Wilson counties . Portions of the proposal were replaced by SH 97 by at least 1936 , while the rest was cancelled . State Highway 87 first followed the routing of SH 168 , but was moved by 1961 . A short railroad spur was built along the course of the route , and SH 168 was officially designated in 1986 .

= = Route description = =

State Highway 168 begins at an at @-@ grade intersection with SH 87 , or Ferry Road , on the eastern portion of Galveston Island . The highway runs eastward for a short distance , being bordered by an apartment complex and a small gas station . After bending northward , the road enters rural areas , while following the course of a small , man @-@ made drainage creek . The roadway continues northwest , bordered by marsh and brushland to the east and several resorts and apartment complexes to the west . It bends northeast and proceeds past a small portion of a U.S. Coast Guard station . The route splits away from the creek and continues past Corps Woods Nature Sanctuary , a major birdwatching destination . The highway intersects a small access road to the Coast Guard station , before continuing northward to its northern terminus , the main entrance gate to the Coast Guard facility . A small road continues inside the station from the gate .

The highway is maintained by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) . Part of the TxDOT 's job is to measure traffic along the highway . These counts are taken using a metric called annual average daily traffic (AADT) , a statistical calculation of the average daily number of vehicles that travel along a portion of the highway . The TxDOT usually measures AADT near an intersection . In 2011 , the highway 's AADT count was 1500 vehicles , taken at a point just after the intersection with SH 87 . This was an increase from the previous year , when the AADT at the same point was approximately 1400 vehicles . This was also an increase from 2009 , when the route 's AADT was just 1100 vehicles , also taken from the same point . No portion of the roadway is listed on the National Highway System , a network of roads important to the country 's economy , defense , and mobility .

= = History = =

State Highway 168 was first proposed in 1933 , traveling from Campbellton in Atascosia County northeastward to Floresville in Wilson County before bending further eastward and terminating at SH 81 . The proposal was listed as a conditional designation , meaning that it would not be maintained by the State Highway Commission . However , by 1935 , the portion traveling from Floresville to SH 81 , a distance of approximately 11 miles (18 km) , was designated as a portion of SH 97 , while the rest of the proposed State Highway 168 was cancelled . On September 26 , 1939 , SH 87 was designated to a road that followed the general course of present @-@ day SH 168 .

By 1961 , the highway had been shifted westward , but a spur of the Gulf , Colorado and Santa Fe Railroad had been constructed along the approximate location of the highway 's present route . On October 24 , 1985 , SH 168 was approved for designation by the Texas Transportation Commission (TTC) , and on April 18 , 1986 the highway was officially designated by the TxDOT 's Administration Circle . At the time , the road was approximately 0 @. @ 5 miles (0 @. @ 80 km) in length . By 1994 , the highway had been extended to approximately 0 @. @ 9 miles (1 @. @ 4 km) in length , due to an extension of its northern terminus .

= = Junction list = =

The entire highway is in Galveston , Galveston County .