

## = Arizona State Route 96 =

State Route 96 ( SR 96 ) , is an east ? west , 21 @. @ 79 @- @ mile @- @ long ( 35 @. @ 07 km ) state highway in central part of the U.S. state of Arizona . It runs from Bagdad east to Yavapai County Road 15 ( CR 15 ) near Hillside . The road was built in the late 1930s and logged as a state route from Bagdad to Hillside in 1962 . The section from Bagdad to SR 97 was never officially part of the State Highway system , though the remainder of the highway was officially designated as such at the turn of the century .

## = = Route description = =

SR 96 begins at an intersection with Old Dick Road in Bagdad . Approximately four miles ( 6 @. @ 4 km ) to the east is a junction with SR 97 , which heads south to meet U.S. Route 93 ( US 93 ) . From the SR 97 intersection , SR 96 heads east through a desert area . The roadway then turns southward , and after intersecting Santa Maria River Road , it crosses the Santa Maria River and turns slightly southeastward . Through a hilly area , SR 96 turns eastward and passes through a series of hairpin turns . The highway ends at the west end of CR 15 at the intersection with Hillside Road . The road continues east as CR 15 ( Bagdad Road ) towards Prescott .

The highway is maintained by the Arizona Department of Transportation ( ADOT ) who is responsible for constructing and maintaining highways in the state . As part of this role , ADOT surveys volumes of traffic on their highways . These surveys are most often presented in the form of annual average daily traffic ( AADT ) , which is the number of vehicles that travel a road during an average day during the year . In 2009 , ADOT calculated that an average of only 450 vehicles used the road daily at both termini . No part of the highway has been listed in the National Highway System , a system of roads in the United States important to the nation 's economy , defense , and mobility .

## = = History = =

A road connecting Bagdad to Hillside was built by 1939 . The road was logged into the state highway system in 1962 , its extent defined from Hillside to Bagdad . In 1981 , a right @- @ of @- @ way was acquired for the improvement of approaches and bridges on the route . In 2000 , the portion of the route from SR 97 to its eastern terminus was officially added to the State Highway system . Although some signage west of the SR 97 junction exists , that portion is not officially part of the state highway .

## = = Junction list = =

The entire route is in Yavapai County .