

= New Jersey Route 70 =

Route 70 is a state highway located in the U.S. state of New Jersey . It extends 59 @. @ 84 mi (96 @. @ 30 km) from an interchange with Route 38 in Pennsauken Township , Camden County to an intersection with Route 34 and Route 35 in Wall Township , Monmouth County . Route 70 cuts across the middle of the state as a two @-@ lane highway through the Pine Barrens in Burlington and Ocean counties . The western section in Cherry Hill and Marlton is a four to eight @-@ lane divided highway that serves as a major suburban arterial ; as such , it is congested . It is locally known as the Marlton Pike . The eastern section in Monmouth and Ocean counties is also a multilane divided highway that runs through suburban areas . Route 70 is officially known as the John Davison Rockefeller Memorial Highway its entire length in honor of John Davison Rockefeller .

The portion of the current route between Whitesbog and Lakehurst became a part of pre @-@ 1927 Route 18 in 1923 . In 1927 , Route 40 was legislated to run from Camden to Lakewood ; the termini were eventually moved to the Airport Circle in Pennsauken and the Laurelton Circle in Brick Township . Route 40 became Route 70 in 1953 in order to avoid conflicting with U.S. Route 40 ; in addition , the western terminus was cut back to its current location to avoid a concurrency with Route 38 and the eastern terminus was moved to the Brielle Circle , replacing a portion of Route 34 between the Laurelton Circle and the Brielle Circle .

= = Route description = =

= = = Camden County = = =

Route 70 begins at an interchange with Route 38 and County Route 601 (CR 601) in Pennsauken Township , Camden County . From this interchange , it heads to the southeast on Marlton Pike , a six @-@ lane divided highway that runs through suburban residential and commercial areas . The road is also officially called the John Davison Rockefeller Memorial Highway for its entire length after John Davison Rockefeller . The road enters Cherry Hill and comes to a cloverleaf interchange with CR 636 before crossing under New Jersey Transit 's Atlantic City Line , a short distance to the south of the Cherry Hill Station . In this area , Route 70 passes to the south of the former site of the Garden State Park before crossing CR 644 . Past this intersection , the route narrows to four lanes and turns more to as it comes to the Ellisburg area . In Ellisburg , it has an intersection with Route 41 and the northern terminus of Route 154 . The road runs through more suburban areas as it encounters Interstate 295 at another cloverleaf interchange . A short distance past I @-@ 295 , Route 70 passes over the New Jersey Turnpike without an interchange before widening into an eight @-@ lane highway and continuing east to junctions with CR 674 and CR 673 . Following CR 673 , the road narrows back to four lanes before it encounters CR 600 , a former alignment of the road known as Old Marlton Pike .

= = = Burlington County = = =

Route 70 crosses the Pennsauken Creek into Evesham Township , Burlington County , running east through more commercial areas within the Marlton section of the township . A short distance later , the route intersects Route 73 at an interchange that was formerly the Marlton Circle . After the Marlton Circle , the road heads east passing through some more commercial areas and then into residential neighborhoods that are separated from the road by trees , narrowing into a two @-@ lane undivided road . It continues into a mix of suburban development and rural woods and farms as it crosses into Medford Township , coming to a crossroads with CR 618 . From this intersection , Route 70 continues east through the Medford area , passing a couple shopping centers before crossing CR 541 . After the CR 541 intersection , the route leaves the suburban development and runs through a mix of woodland and farmland with occasional homes . It enters Southampton Township , where the road enters more wooded surroundings before coming to U.S. Route 206 at

the Red Lion Circle .

Past here , Route 70 loses the Marlton Pike name and continues east into the heavily wooded Pine Barrens . It passes to the south of the Leisuretowne retirement village before entering predominantly rural areas , with two fire lanes paralleling the road on either side . Route 70 eventually turns slightly to the northeast and forms the border between Southampton Township to the north and Woodland Township to the south . Along this borderline , the route comes to the Four Mile Circle , where it intersects the western terminus of Route 72 as well as CR 644 and CR 646 . Past the traffic circle , Route 70 becomes the border between Pemberton Township to the north and Woodland Township to the south . The road passes to the south of the wooded Presidential Lakes Estates residential development before turning northeast through more of the Pine Barrens entirely within Pemberton Township . The road passes near some cranberry bogs before intersecting CR 530 . At this intersection , CR 530 heads east concurrent with Route 70 .

= = = Ocean and Monmouth counties = = =

A short distance later , the two routes enter Manchester Township in Ocean County and continue east through a tract of the Brendan T. Byrne State Forest within the Pine Barrens as well as a corner of the Fort Dix Military Reservation . The road eventually reaches the community of Whiting , where it passes commercial development at the intersection with CR 539 . Here , CR 530 turns south to follow CR 539 and Route 70 continues northeast back into the Pine Barrens . The road turns more to the north @-@ northeast before heading east into Lakehurst to the south of the Lakehurst Naval Air Station . In Lakehurst , Route 70 comes to a traffic circle with CR 4 and CR 12 before running through residential and commercial areas of the town . It intersects with the southern terminus of CR 547 , where it widens into a four @-@ lane divided highway . From here , the route crosses over a Conrail Shared Assets Operations railroad line before coming to the Lakehurst Circle , where it intersects the western terminus of Route 37 .

Route 70 enters Manchester Township again past this traffic circle and becomes a two @-@ lane undivided road , passing near the wooded residential Leisure Knoll community before crossing CR 571 . Past CR 571 , the route heads through wooded suburban residential and business areas , crossing into Toms River . Here , the road intersects CR 527 and CR 637 before becoming a four @-@ lane divided highway again and encountering U.S. Route 9 at an interchange . Following the US 9 interchange , Route 70 enters Lakewood Township and turns more to the east , crossing CR 623 prior to a partial interchange with the Garden State Parkway . This interchange has access from eastbound Route 70 to the northbound parkway and from the southbound parkway to Route 70 . From here , the route continues into Brick Township and passes several shopping centers , intersecting CR 528 and CR 549 . At the CR 528 intersection , the road is briefly an undivided highway . It turns northeast , crossing the Metedeconk River before intersecting Route 88 . After this intersection , Route 70 passes more inhabited areas separated from the road by trees , crossing both CR 632 and CR 549 Spur . A short distance later , it becomes an undivided road and crosses the Manasquan River on the September 11th Memorial Bridge , entering Brielle , Monmouth County . The September 11th Memorial Bridge is dedicated to residents of Monmouth and Ocean counties who lost their lives in the September 11 attacks . After the bridge , the route turns north through residential areas and becomes a divided highway again , briefly forming the border between Wall Township to the west and Brielle to the east before fully entering Wall Township . Route 70 ends at the former Brielle Circle intersection with Route 34 and Route 35 , where the road continues north as part of Route 35 .

Route 70 is a major road providing access between the Philadelphia area and the Jersey Shore resorts , particularly Long Beach Island by way of Route 72 . It is also a congested commercial route within the suburban areas of Philadelphia .

= = History = =

The Camden , Ellisburg , and Marlton Turnpike was chartered in 1849 as a turnpike that was to run

from Camden east to Marlton along what is today Route 70 and CR 601 . The Marlton Pike was taken over by the county in 1907 at a time many other turnpikes became public roads . The current alignment of Route 70 between Whitesbog (the west end of the CR 530 concurrency) and Lakehurst was legislated as a part of pre @-@ 1927 Route 18 in 1923 , a route that was to run from Camden to Toms River . In the 1927 New Jersey state highway renumbering , Route 40 was designated to run from Camden to Lakewood along the current alignment of Route 70 . In addition a spur of this route called Route S40 (now Route 72) was designated to head from the route at Four Mile to Manahawkin . Eventually , the eastern terminus of Route 40 was moved to the Laurelton Circle in Brick Township , where it intersected Route 35 (now Route 88) as well as Route 34 , which continued north from this point ; the western terminus was placed at the Airport Circle with U.S. Route 30 and U.S. Route 130 in Pennsauken , ending concurrent with Route 38 . In the 1953 New Jersey state highway renumbering , Route 40 was renumbered to Route 70 in order to avoid the conflict with U.S. Route 40 in the state . Also , Route 70 was designated onto its current alignment between Route 38 in Pennsauken and Route 34 and Route 35 at the Brielle Circle , removing the concurrency with Route 38 and replacing the portion of Route 34 between the Laurelton Circle and the Brielle Circle .

Since 1953 , many changes have occurred to Route 70 . Several traffic circles that had existed on the road had been either modified or replaced by at @-@ grade intersections . The Marlton Circle at Route 73 in Marlton was modified in 1974 to allow Route 73 to run directly straight through the circle . This circle became known for traffic backups and was replaced with an interchange . Construction on this interchange , which cost \$ 31 million , began in April 2009 . In May 2010 , the circle was eliminated with a temporary at @-@ grade intersection constructed while the Route 73 bridge over Route 70 was being built . The interchange was completed in June 2011 . Also , the Race Track Circle at the intersection with CR 644 (Haddonfield Road) was eventually replaced by an at @-@ grade intersection . The Laurelton Circle at Route 88 , built in 1937 , was replaced by the 1990s . The Ellisburg Circle at Route 41 and Route 154 , was replaced by an intersection with jughandles . The Brielle Circle at the eastern terminus was also converted to an intersection with jughandles in 2001 . In conjunction with eliminating the Brielle Circle , Route 70 was also widened between the intersection with Jack Martin Boulevard in Brick Township and the former circle . In July 2004 , floods caused by heavy rain washed away a bridge along the route in Southampton Township , leading for it to be replaced . The New Jersey Department of Transportation replaced the September 11th Memorial Bridge over the Manasquan River in a \$ 52 million project that increased capacity on the bridge and added monumental decorations and increased pedestrian access . Construction was scheduled to be complete in December 2010 ; however , the project was completed ahead of schedule in September 2008 .

= = Major intersections = =