

= Washington State Route 96 =

State Route 96 (SR 96) is a 6 @. @ 75 @- @ mile @- @ long (10 @. @ 86 km) state highway located within Snohomish County in the U.S. state of Washington . The highway travels east from an interchange with Interstate 5 (I @- @ 5) in Paine Field @- @ Lake Stickney through Mill Creek and an intersection with SR 527 to end at SR 9 south of Snohomish . SR 96 was established in 1991 and follows the route of a wagon road constructed by Snohomish County in the late 1880s to connect Snohomish to Seattle . The highway was closed during the Great Coastal Gale of 2007 after a culvert was damaged and its eastern terminus was re @- @ constructed in 2009 to serve increasing volumes of traffic .

= = Route description = =

SR 96 begins as 128th Street at a diamond interchange with I @- @ 5 in Paine Field @- @ Lake Stickney , located in suburban Snohomish County south of Everett . The highway travels east and crosses the Interurban Trail and North Creek before turning southeast onto 132nd Street and entering the city of Mill Creek . SR 96 passes north of McCollum Pioneer Park and Henry M. Jackson High School before it intersects SR 527 at the city center . The highway continues east and passes Archbishop Murphy High School before turning northeast onto Seattle Hill Road and ascends the eponymous hill into Silver Firs . SR 96 descends southeast into the Snohomish River valley from Larimers Corner to Rees Corner on 131st Street , ending at an intersection with SR 9 south of Snohomish .

Every year , the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) conducts a series of surveys on its highways in the state to measure traffic volume . This is expressed in terms of average annual daily traffic (AADT) , which is a measure of traffic volume for any average day of the year . In 2011 , WSDOT calculated that the busiest section of SR 96 was its western terminus at I @- @ 5 , serving 43 @, @ 000 vehicles , while the least busy section is its eastern terminus at SR 9 , serving 11 @, @ 000 vehicles .

= = History = =

Seattle Hill Road and 131st Street have existed since 1885 on their present route as part of a wagon road constructed by Snohomish County connecting Snohomish to Seattle . The highway from Seattle Hill through Mill Creek was completed by the late 1950s and paved in the early 1960s by the county . SR 96 was added to the state highway system and codified in 1991 , traveling east from I @- @ 5 to SR 9 via Mill Creek . Seattle Hill Road was bypassed to the south by Cathcart Way in 2004 , planned by the county government since 1978 to redirect traffic on the two @- @ lane SR 96 . During the Great Coastal Gale in December 2007 , Seattle Hill Road was washed out by a damaged culvert and subsequently closed until late January as WSDOT crews repaired the highway . The eastern terminus of SR 96 , an intersection with SR 9 , was expanded between April 2008 and December 2009 by WSDOT , adding turning lanes and a traffic camera .

= = Major intersections = =

The entire highway is in Snohomish County .