

= New Jersey Route 47 =

Route 47 is a state highway in the southern part of New Jersey , United States . It runs 75 @. @ 20 mi (121 @. @ 02 km) from Atlantic Avenue in Wildwood , Cape May County north to U.S. Route 130 in Brooklawn , Camden County . It is also referred to as Delsea Drive , as it connects the Delaware River near Brooklawn to the Atlantic Ocean (the sea) in Wildwood . This name was assigned by the New Jersey Legislature in 1933 . The route runs through rural areas of Cape May and southern Cumberland counties as a two @-@ lane road . Traffic jams along this portion of Route 47 are commonplace in the summer vacation season and can stretch for miles due to the missing southern section of Route 55 , where all Jersey Shore @-@ bound traffic enters the small two @-@ lane road . North of here , the route runs through the cities of Millville and Vineland before entering Gloucester County , where it passes through more rural areas as well as Clayton and Glassboro . Past Glassboro , it heads through suburban areas in Washington and Deptford townships before running through Westville and Brooklawn . Route 47 is the longest state route in New Jersey .

What is now Route 47 was originally designated as part of pre @-@ 1927 Route 15 between Rio Grande in 1917 and as a branch of pre @-@ 1927 Route 20 between Millville and Westville in 1923 . In 1927 , Route 47 was designated to run from Tuckahoe to Brooklawn , following current Route 49 south of Millville . Meanwhile , current Route 47 was a part of Route 49 between South Dennis and Millville and Route S49 between Rio Grande and South Dennis . The latter was extended to Wildwood in 1938 . Route 47 and Route 49 were shifted onto their current alignments south of Millville in 1953 . Since then , Route 47 has seen a few improvements and modifications including realignment in Millville and the reconstruction of the intersection with Route 83 in Dennis Township .

= = Route description = =

= = = Cape May County = = =

Route 47 begins at a traffic light with Atlantic Avenue in the beach resort of Wildwood , Cape May County , heading to the northwest on Rio Grande Avenue , a four @-@ lane divided highway that is county maintained and signed as County Route 661 . From this intersection , Rio Grande Avenue continues southeast a block to an intersection with Ocean Avenue near the Wildwood boardwalk . The road passes through resort residential and commercial areas before crossing County Route 621 (Ocean Drive) , where it becomes a four @-@ lane undivided road . Upon crossing Park Boulevard , the route passes businesses and intersects Susquehanna Avenue . Here , Route 47 becomes signed and maintained by the New Jersey Department of Transportation , turning into a divided highway again a short distance later at the intersection with County Route 624 (West Rio Grande Boulevard) . At this intersection , the route enters Lower Township and crosses over the Grassy Sound via the George Reading Wildwood Bridge . The road turns more to the west @-@ northwest and runs through wetlands with some homes to the south of the road . Route 47 enters Middle Township and continues past more marshland as well as some marinas adjacent to the Richardson Sound on the south side of the road . The route turns northwest again and comes to a partial cloverleaf interchange with the Garden State Parkway . Past this interchange , Route 47 heads into a commercial district in the Rio Grande section of Middle Township . At the intersection with Fifth Street , the route becomes a three @-@ lane undivided road with a center left @-@ turn lane and continues to an intersection with U.S. Route 9 (Shore Road) .

Past the U.S. Route 9 intersection , Route 47 becomes Delsea Drive and continues past more businesses , crossing the Cape May Seashore Lines railroad before intersecting County Route 626 . Here , the route becomes a two @-@ lane road and heads into more residential areas with some commercial establishments . At the intersection with County Route 654 , Route 47 turns north and leaves the Rio Grande area , heading into woods with some farm fields . It passes homes again and intersects County Route 603 in Green Creek . From here , the road continues past homes with some

areas of forests and farms . Route 47 comes to an intersection with County Route 618 which , along with Route 147 , provides an alternate route to The Wildwoods . Past this intersection , the road passes more rural dwellings and enters the community of Dias Creek , where it intersects County Route 612 . The route crosses over Bidwell Creek near wetlands and heads into forests . It reaches the residential community of Goshen , where there is an intersection with County Route 615 . Past Goshen , Route 47 turns northeast and heads through rural woods and farms with some homes and wetlands .

Upon crossing Sluice Creek , the route enters Dennis Township and heads into residential areas in the community of South Dennis . Here , the road intersects County Route 657 and turns to the north . Route 47 briefly widens into a two @-@ lane divided highway as it intersects the western terminus of Route 83 . Past this intersection , the road heads through marshland and crosses over the Dennis Creek . It continues into Dennisville , where the route intersects County Route 610 before turning west near Johnson Pond and intersecting County Route 611 (Tyler Road) . Route 47 passes more homes before coming to the southern terminus of County Route 557 . Past the County Route 557 intersection , the road runs through woodland before coming to the southern terminus of Route 347 . Here , Route 47 turns to the west and passes a mix of residences , woods , and fields . It turns northwest and crosses East Creek before coming to an intersection with County Route 550 Spur . Past this intersection , the road intersects Old State Highway , a connector road to County Route 550 Spur , before turning west into wooded areas .

= = = Cumberland County = = =

Upon crossing West Creek , Route 47 enters Maurice River Township , Cumberland County and continues west through more forests . It enters a mix of residences and woodland as it makes a turn to the north past the intersection with County Route 651 . The route runs through more woods , with a clearing for Bayside State Prison to the east of the road . The road comes to an intersection with County Route 550 and County Route 710 to the east of Leesburg and continues north . Route 47 reaches an intersection with County Route 670 in a commercial area prior to Route 347 merging back into the route . Here , Route 47 splits into a brief one @-@ way pair with the northbound direction heading east on County Route 670 and north on Route 347 , and the southbound direction remaining on Delsea Drive . From here , Route 47 continues north on Delsea Drive through forested areas with some homes before crossing over the Muskee Creek . It continues into the community of Port Elizabeth , where it meets the western terminus of County Route 548 . Just past this intersection , the route crosses the Manumuskin River and continues north through woodland with some development . The route intersects the southern terminus of Route 55 , where that route continues north along the road and Route 47 turns off at a jughandle . South of the Route 55 intersection , Route 47 is part of a major road linking the Philadelphia area with the Jersey Shore resorts of Cape May County . During the summer months , it sees regular traffic jams from traffic coming off Route 55 . A proposal to extend Route 55 south to Cape May County , on hold for decades due to environmental concerns , would relieve traffic along Route 47 .

From here , Route 47 continues through a mix of trees and residences , intersecting Schooner Landing Road , which provides access to and from northbound Route 55 . Just past this intersection , the route crosses the Manantico Creek into Millville , where it becomes South Second Street , and continues past more woodland containing residences . As the route continues north , residential development increases along with commercial and industrial establishments . Route 47 reaches the commercial downtown of Millville , where it crosses Route 49 / County Route 555 and becomes North Second Street . County Route 555 parallels Route 47 a block to the east as the road crosses a Conrail Shared Assets Operations railroad line and intersects County Route 552 Spur . Past this intersection , County Route 555 heads farther to the east and Route 47 crosses the Conrail Shared Assets Operations line a second time , passing a mix of residences , businesses , and industrial buildings . The road becomes three lanes with a center @-@ left turn lane as it heads through commercial areas in the northern part of Millville . Upon intersecting High Street , the route widens to five lanes before entering Vineland , where the name becomes Delsea Drive again and it intersects

Route 55 at a partial cloverleaf interchange .

Past this interchange , Route 47 passes the Cumberland Mall on the east side of the road as a six @-@ lane divided highway . Past the mall , the route becomes a five @-@ lane road with a center left @-@ turn lane again and passes more commercial establishments in the southern part of Vineland , before heading into wooded residential areas with some farmland . It crosses County Route 552 and becomes a two @-@ lane road , running through business areas with some homes . As Route 47 continues north through the city , it comes to an intersection with Chestnut Avenue , where it gains a center left @-@ turn lane . From here , it passes more commercial buildings before crossing Landis Avenue , which heads to the west as Route 56 . Past this intersection , the road crosses a Winchester & Western Railroad line before intersecting County Route 540 . Route 47 continues north through a mix of dwellings and businesses in the northern part of Vineland , narrowing back into a two @-@ lane road at the crossing of County Route 681 . The road heads through predominantly residential areas as it comes to an intersection with County Route 674 . Past this intersection , the route passes near Kroelinger Airport and continues through mostly rural inhabited areas with some businesses . It crosses County Route 690 (Weymouth Road) before passing through wooded sectors with some homes and farms .

= = = Gloucester and Camden Counties = = =

Route 47 crosses into Franklin Township , Gloucester County , where it passes more farms , woods , and homes before coming to an intersection with U.S. Route 40 in the community of Malaga . Here , U.S. Route 40 and Route 47 form a concurrency and head northeast through populated areas as a three @-@ lane road with a center left @-@ turn lane , crossing over a Conrail Shared Assets Operations railroad line . Immediately after this crossing , U.S. Route 40 splits from Route 47 by heading southeast on Harding Highway while Route 47 turns northwest to continue along Delsea Drive , a two @-@ lane road . Route 47 leaves Malaga and passes through a mix of dwellings and businesses with some areas of farms and woods , running a short distance to the east of the railroad line . The road heads into more forested areas before it comes to an intersection with County Route 612 in the residential and business community of Iona . Route 47 continues past homes and commercial establishments as it comes to a crossroads with County Route 538 , where it turns to the north . The route passes more development with some farmland before it enters Clayton .

Here , the road heads through residential areas with some commercial establishments , crossing County Route 610 in the center of town . As the road continues north , it heads through a mix of homes and farmland with a few commercial areas . Route 47 enters inhabited areas again as it crosses into Glassboro . The road continues north and enters business areas before heading into neighborhoods and coming to an intersection with High Street , which runs east as U.S. Route 322 / County Route 536 and west as County Route 641 . Here , U.S. Route 322 and County Route 536 join Route 47 for a concurrency . The three routes head through commercial areas before U.S. Route 322 and County Route 536 turn to the west on West Avenue . Past this intersection , Route 47 continues north as a three @-@ lane road with a center left @-@ turn lane , passing more buildings . The route intersects County Route 553 and forms a concurrency with that route which lasts until County Route 553 turns north onto Woodbury Avenue . Along this concurrency , the road widens to five lanes as it passes a couple shopping centers . Past the concurrency , Route 47 runs north through suburban localities as a two @-@ lane road , entering Washington Township at the crossing of Kressey Lake . In Washington Township , the road passes more populated areas as well as businesses . Route 47 runs to the east of Bethel Mill County Park before entering more residential areas , crossing County Route 635 . The road passes through a mix of homes and commercial establishments with some farmland and wooded areas as it continues through more of Washington Township .

At the border with Deptford Township , Route 47 reaches an intersection known as Five Points . Here , the road meets Route 41 , County Route 603 , and County Route 630 . Route 47 turns northwest at this intersection and runs through wooded areas with some dwellings , with Route 55

intersecting the route at a cloverleaf interchange a short distance later . Past this interchange , the road continues through wooded inhabited areas , eventually turning due north . It comes to an intersection with the western terminus of County Route 534 as the route heads through more suburban homes along with businesses . Past this intersection , Route 47 passes businesses before crossing over the New Jersey Turnpike without an interchange . From here , it heads through more inhabited areas before entering Westville . Upon entering Westville , the route has a partial cloverleaf interchange with Interstate 295 . Past this interchange , the road runs through neighborhoods , intersecting County Route 621 (Almonesson Road) and County Route 551 . The latter forms a concurrency with Route 47 and these two routes run northeast through commercial areas as a four @-@ lane undivided road , crossing the Big Timber Creek into Brooklawn , Camden County . Here , it comes to a traffic circle with U.S. Route 130 and County Route 753 , where Route 47 ends and County Route 551 continues on to Camden , forming a brief concurrency with U.S. Route 130 .

= = History = =

What is now Route 47 was originally designated as a segment of pre @-@ 1927 Route 15 between Rio Grande and Millville in 1917 , and as one of two branches of pre @-@ 1927 Route 20 between Millville and Westville in 1923 . In the 1927 New Jersey state highway renumbering , Route 47 was legislated to run from Route 50 in Tuckahoe to Brooklawn , following present @-@ day Route 49 between Tuckahoe and Millville and its current alignment north of Millville . Meanwhile , the present @-@ day alignment of Route 47 between the current Route 83 intersection in South Dennis and Millville was designated a part of Route 49 while the current alignment between South Dennis and U.S. Route 9 / Route 4 in Rio Grande became Route S49 , a spur of Route 49 . In 1933 , the New Jersey Legislature named Route 47 Delsea Drive after a reporter for the Woodbury Times joked how the road connected the DELaware River to the Atlantic SEA . Route S49 was extended from Rio Grande to Park Boulevard in Wildwood in 1938 . In the 1953 New Jersey state highway renumbering , Route 47 and Route 49 switched alignments south and east of Millville and Route 47 replaced Route S49 south to Wildwood .

By the 1980s , Route 47 was moved from High Street to North Second Street through the northern part of Millville . An alternate route of Route 47 was eventually created to the east along county routes in Cape May and Cumberland counties ; this eventually became Route 347 by the 1990s . In the 2000s , Rio Grande Avenue in Wildwood received improvements to make it reminisce the doo wop atmosphere the beach resort is known for . The Route 47 bridge over Dennis Creek in Dennis Township and the Route 83 intersection received improvements that were completed in July 2007 . The Route 47 bridge over the creek was structurally deficient and in need of replacing . The job was completed with wider shoulders and a wider sidewalk on the new bridge . The intersection between Route 47 and Route 83 was also realigned and had signals installed .

= = Major intersections = =