

= Delaware Route 16 =

Delaware Route 16 (DE 16) is an east @-@ west state highway in Delaware , mainly across northern Sussex County , with a small portion near the Maryland border in extreme southwestern Kent County . It runs from Maryland Route 16 (MD 16) at the Maryland border in Hickman to the Delaware Bay at Broadkill Beach . The route runs through rural areas , passing through the towns of Greenwood , Ellendale , and Milton . DE 16 intersects U.S. Route 13 (US 13) and DE 36 in Greenwood , US 113 in Ellendale , DE 30 and DE 5 in the Milton area , and DE 1 between Milton and Broadkill Beach . West of DE 1 , the route serves as part of a connection between the Baltimore @-@ Washington Metropolitan Area and the Delaware Beaches . DE 16 was built as a state highway during the 1920s and 1930s . By 1936 , the route was designated onto its current alignment .

= = Route description = =

DE 16 begins at the Maryland border in Hickman , Kent County , where the road continues west into that state as MD 16 . From the state line , the route heads east on two @-@ lane undivided Hickman Road , passing through a mix of farmland and woodland with some homes . The road crosses into Sussex County and turns to the southeast . DE 16 comes to an intersection with DE 36 , at which point it turns east to form a concurrency with that route . The road enters Greenwood and becomes Market Street , passing several homes along with a few businesses . The highway crosses Norfolk Southern 's Delmarva Secondary railroad line before it intersects US 13 on the eastern edge of Greenwood . Past this intersection , DE 16 / DE 36 leaves Greenwood and becomes Beach Highway , crossing the Nanticoke River .

In Saint Johnstown , DE 36 splits from DE 16 by heading to the northeast on Shawnee Road . DE 16 continues east through agricultural areas and woods with some residences . Farther east , the road passes through Oakley . The route comes to an intersection with US 113 and enters Ellendale , where it becomes Main Street . In Ellendale , DE 16 runs past several homes , crossing Norfolk Southern 's Indian River Secondary railroad line . The road leaves the town and becomes Milton @-@ Ellendale Highway , turning southeast . The route heads through woodland and farms , running immediately to the north of a Delaware Coast Line Railroad line . DE 16 turns east away from the railroad tracks and comes to an intersection with DE 30 . At this point , DE 5 Alternate (DE 5 Alt .) , which runs south along DE 30 , heads east along with DE 16 . The road reaches Milton , where it passes homes and businesses . DE 16 comes to an intersection with DE 5 , where DE 5 Alt. ends and the road name changes to Broadkill Road . The route leaves Milton and continues into farmland with a few residences , turning to the northeast . The road intersects DE 1 and runs through a mix of farms and woods with some homes . DE 16 turns east and northeast through marshland within the Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge before reaching the community of Broadkill Beach , where it crosses Bay Shore Drive before ending at a dead end on the Delaware Bay .

The portion of DE 16 west of DE 1 serves as part of a route connecting the Chesapeake Bay Bridge and the Baltimore @-@ Washington Metropolitan Area to the Delaware Beaches . DE 16 has an annual average daily traffic count ranging from a high of 9 @,@ 886 vehicles at the eastern edge of Greenwood to a low of 1 @,@ 815 vehicles at west end of the DE 36 concurrency . None of DE 16 is part of the National Highway System .

= = History = =

What is now DE 16 originally existed as a county road by 1920 . By 1924 , the section of road in Greenwood was constructed as a state highway . A year later , the route between the Dupont Highway and Ellendale became a state highway . In 1929 , the road was completed as a state highway between Ellendale and Milton . A year later , the state highway was built between Owens and Ellendale . The entire road west of Milton was finished as a state highway by 1931 . By 1936 ,

DE 16 was designated to run from the Maryland border to Broadkill Beach along its current alignment . The portion of route east of DE 14 (present @-@ day DE 1) was paved by 1942 .

= = Major intersections = =