



Blanton Road Speed Limit Reduction Request Response

August 03, 2026



Staff recommend to keep the Blanton Road speed limit at 35 mph.

- Request does not meet the requirements established under Council Policy 160.3 for speed limit modifications
- Proposed speed limit reduction is not supported by FayPD
- Crash Review does not indicate a roadway deficiency or pattern of crashes
- City data and industry guidance shows lowering speed limits do not significantly reduce speeds
- Above standard signage is currently provided

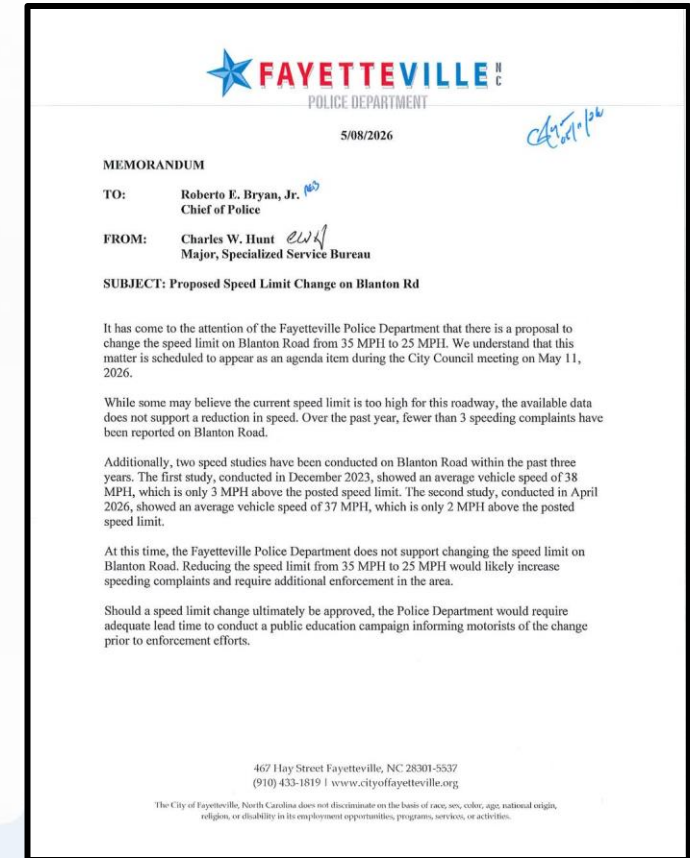
Council Policy 160.3 (revised September 2024)

A petition may be submitted by a majority of the residents abutting streets in a neighborhood for reduction or increase of the speed limit. Upon receipt of a valid petition, City Council will hold a public hearing to consider the request.

SUBJECT – STREETS, TRAFFIC, AND PARKING Requests for Speed Limit Changes	Number 160.3	Revised 3-15-99 9-9-24	Effective Date 10-25-82	Page 1 of 1
--	------------------------	------------------------------	-------------------------------	-------------

A petition may be submitted by a majority of the residents abutting streets in a neighborhood for reduction or increase of the speed limit. Upon receipt of a valid petition, City Council will hold a public hearing to consider the request.

- Speed limit reduction is not supported by FayPD
 - Fewer than 3 speeding complaints have been reported on Blanton Road.
- Average speed from two speed studies show:
 - 12/2023 – Avg. Speed = 38 mph
 - 04/2026 – Avg. Speed = 37 mph
- Reducing the speed limit to 25 mph will likely increase speeding complaints and require additional resources in the area.

A memorandum from the Fayetteville Police Department. At the top is the Fayetteville NC logo and the text "POLICE DEPARTMENT". To the right of the logo is a handwritten signature and the date "5/08/2026". The memorandum is titled "MEMORANDUM" and contains the following information:

TO: Roberto E. Bryan, Jr., Chief of Police

FROM: Charles W. Hunt, Major, Specialized Service Bureau

SUBJECT: Proposed Speed Limit Change on Blanton Rd

It has come to the attention of the Fayetteville Police Department that there is a proposal to change the speed limit on Blanton Road from 35 MPH to 25 MPH. We understand that this matter is scheduled to appear as an agenda item during the City Council meeting on May 11, 2026.

While some may believe the current speed limit is too high for this roadway, the available data does not support a reduction in speed. Over the past year, fewer than 3 speeding complaints have been reported on Blanton Road.

Additionally, two speed studies have been conducted on Blanton Road within the past three years. The first study, conducted in December 2023, showed an average vehicle speed of 38 MPH, which is only 3 MPH above the posted speed limit. The second study, conducted in April 2026, showed an average vehicle speed of 37 MPH, which is only 2 MPH above the posted speed limit.

At this time, the Fayetteville Police Department does not support changing the speed limit on Blanton Road. Reducing the speed limit from 35 MPH to 25 MPH would likely increase speeding complaints and require additional enforcement in the area.

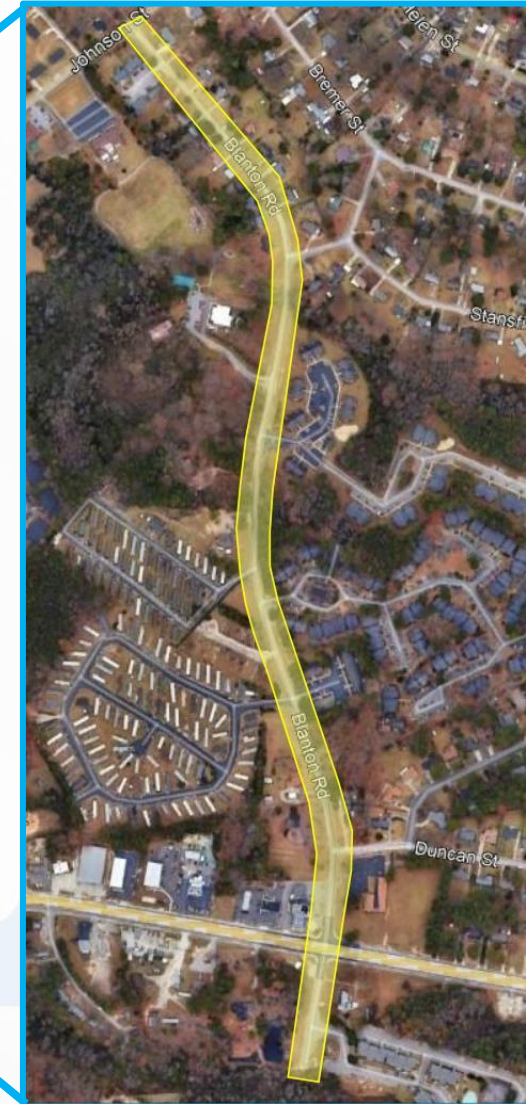
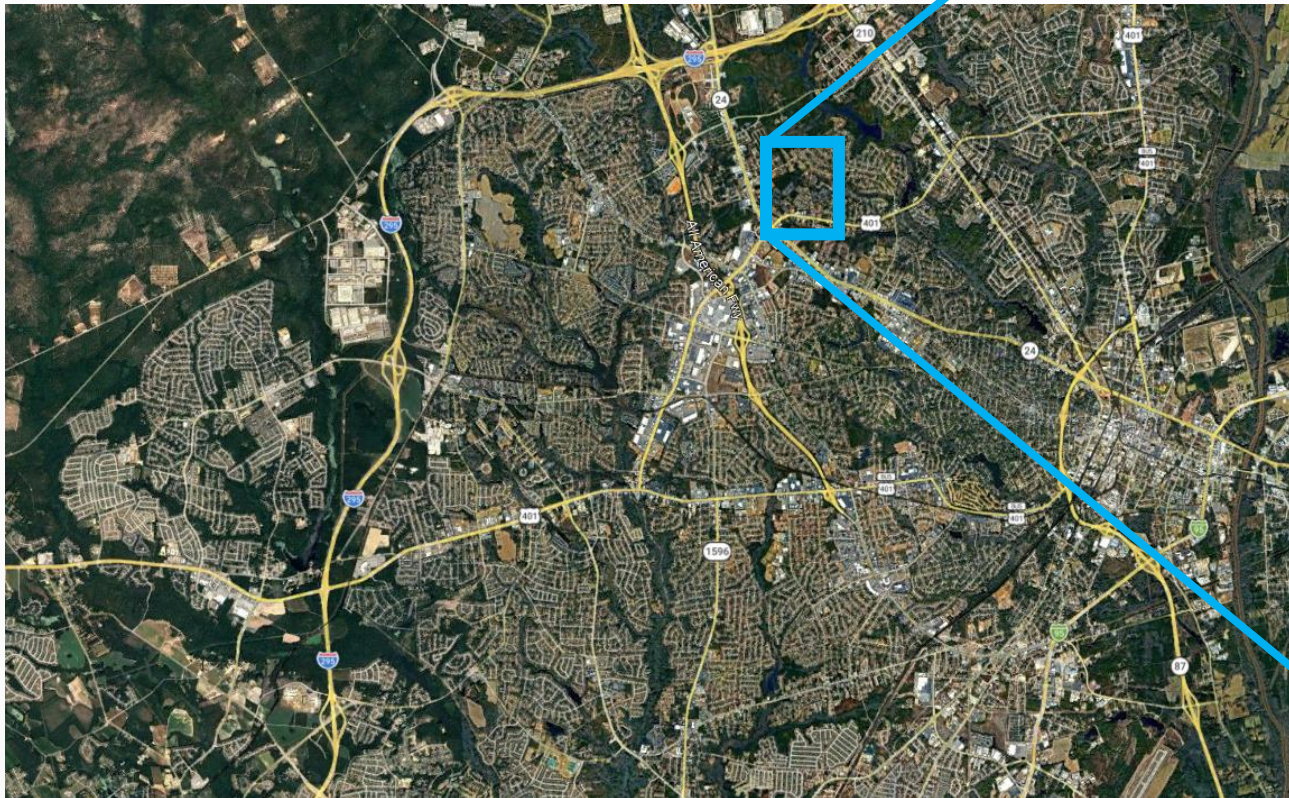
Should a speed limit change ultimately be approved, the Police Department would require adequate lead time to conduct a public education campaign informing motorists of the change prior to enforcement efforts.

467 Hay Street Fayetteville, NC 28301-5537
(910) 433-1819 | www.cityoffayetteville.org

The City of Fayetteville, North Carolina does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, national origin, religion, or disability in its employment opportunities, programs, services, or activities.

Crash Review Background

Currently 35 mph
Approx. 1,800 vehicles/day
Approx. 0.87 miles long



Crash Review

65 crashes identified over 5 years.

48 (74%) crashes occurred at Pamalee Drive.

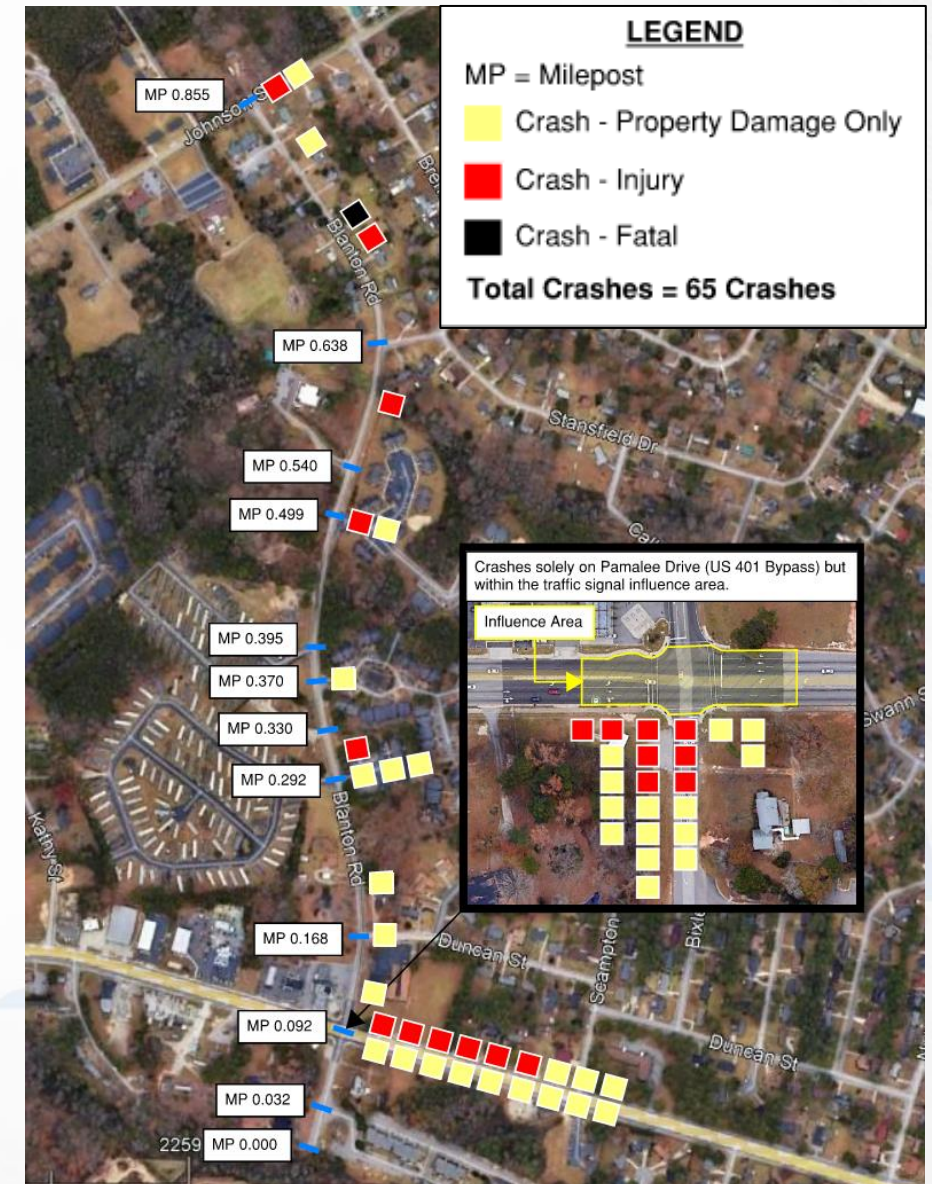
- 22 (34%) crashes occurred exclusively on Pamalee Drive.

97% of crashes were driver behavior.

No crash patterns identified.

1 fatal crash

- Driver passed a stopped school bus
- Crossed a double-yellow line
- Traveling 70 mph
- On a wet road



Crash Review

<u>Route</u>	<u>Total Crash Rate^a</u>	<u>Fatal Crash Rate^a</u>	<u>Non- Fatal Injury Crash Rate^a</u>	<u>Wet Road Crash Rate^a</u>	<u>Night Crash Rate^a</u>	<u>Run-Off Road Crash Rate^a</u>	<u>Severity Index</u>	<u>Total Miles</u>
Blanton Road (Johnson St to S. of Galleria Dr)	22.74	0.35	7.70	3.85	4.90	5.60	8.88	0.87
Urban US Route 2 lanes undivided	322.59	1.55	84.15	46.01	69.18	49.73	N/A	423
Urban NC Route 2 lanes undivided	276.62	1.30	74.05	37.48	64.53	41.69	N/A	766
Urban Primary Route 2 lanes undivided	292.98	1.39	77.64	40.52	66.19	44.55	N/A	1,189
Urban Secondary Route 2 lanes undivided	272.79	1.29	71.90	39.94	71.42	62.72	N/A	4,499
Cumberland County Average	323.29	1.74	68.63	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.06	N/A

a = per 100 million vehicle-miles traveled

Crash rates are substantially lower than comparable roads

- Crash Review did not identify a roadway deficiency or pattern of crashes.
- Crashes are due to drivers...
 - (42%) Failing to Maintain Lane
 - (34%) Failing to Reduce Speed
 - (22%) Failing to Yield
 - (03%) Deer impact

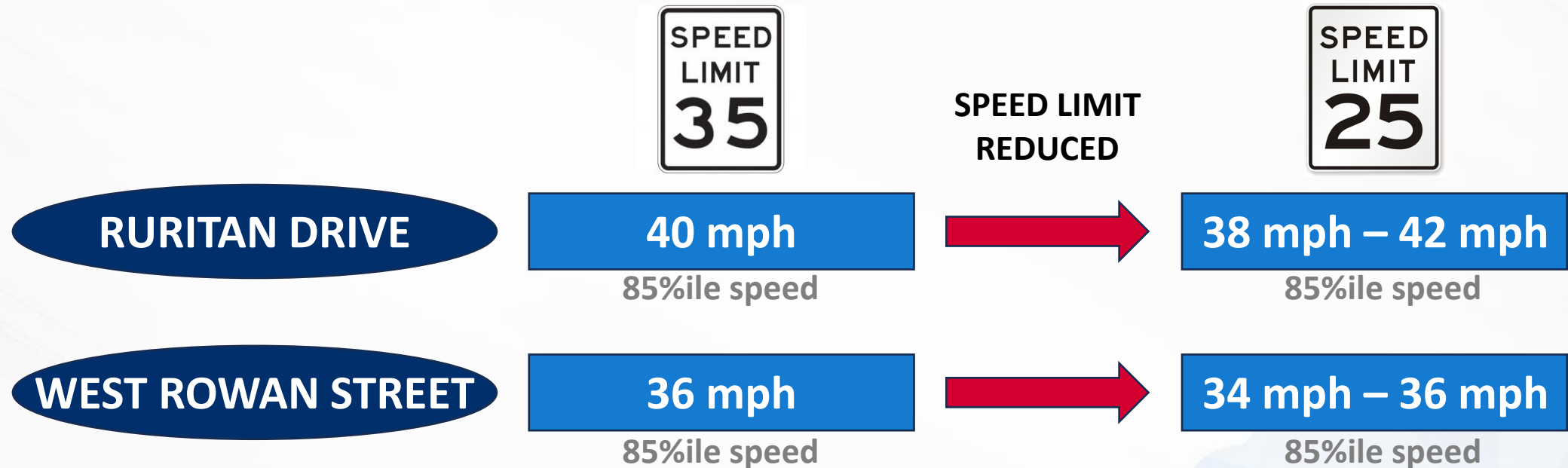


NCDOT S-40 states:

“...Engineering studies have shown that there are often no significant changes in vehicle speeds following the posting of an artificially reduced speed limit...Lowering the speed limit by itself cannot guarantee motorists will obey the new regulation.”



Recent Speed Limit reductions on other City streets have not significantly reduced speeds.



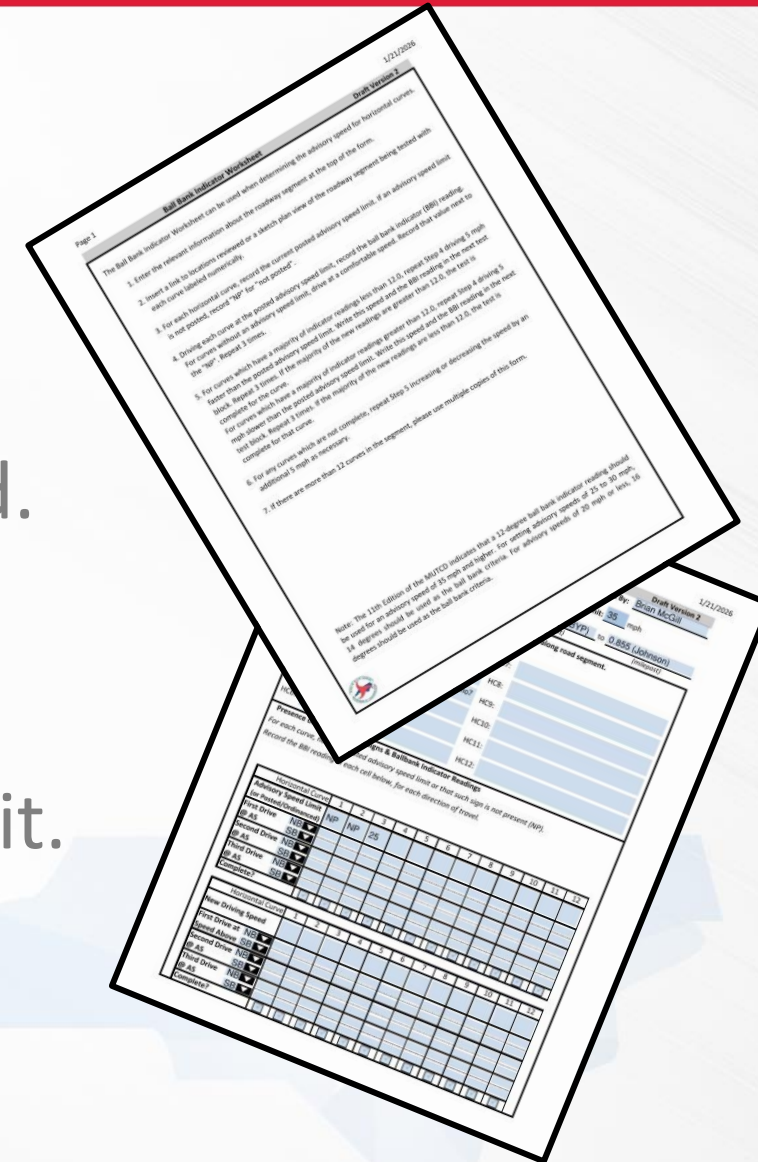
Ball Bank Indicator Test



Curves studied on May 14, 2026.

Curve near Goodyear Ave has an advisory speed of 25 mph posted.

Test indicates all curves can be navigated safely at the speed limit.



Ball Bank Indicator Worksheet
1/21/2026
Draft Version 1

The Ball Bank Indicator Worksheet can be used when determining the advisory speed for horizontal curves.

1. Enter the relevant information about the roadway segment at the top of the form.
2. Insert a link to location reviewer or a sketch plan view of the roadway segment being tested onto each curve listed numerically.
3. For each horizontal curve, record the current posted advisory speed limit. If an advisory speed limit is not posted, record "N/A" for "not posted".
4. Driving each curve at the posted advisory speed limit, record the Ball Bank Indicator (BBI) reading. For curves without an advisory speed limit, drive at a comfortable speed. Record that value next to the "N/A" listed in item 3.
5. For curves with a majority of indicator readings greater than 12.0, repeat Step 4 during a 3 mph faster than the posted advisory speed limit. For curves with a majority of indicator readings greater than 12.0, repeat Step 4 during a 3 mph slower than the posted advisory speed limit. For curves with a majority of indicator readings greater than 12.0, the test is complete for that curve.
6. For any curves which are not complete, repeat Step 5 increasing or decreasing the speed by an additional 3 mph as necessary.
7. If there are more than 12 curves in the segment, please use multiple copies of this form.

Note: The 13th Edition of the MUTCD indicates that a 15 degree ball bank indicator reading should be used for an advisory speed of 35 mph or higher. For setting advisory speeds of 25 to 30 mph, 14 degrees should be used as the ball bank criteria. For advisory speeds of 20 mph or less, 13 degrees should be used as the ball bank criteria.

Ball Bank Indicator Worksheet
1/21/2026
Draft Version 2

By: Brian McGill

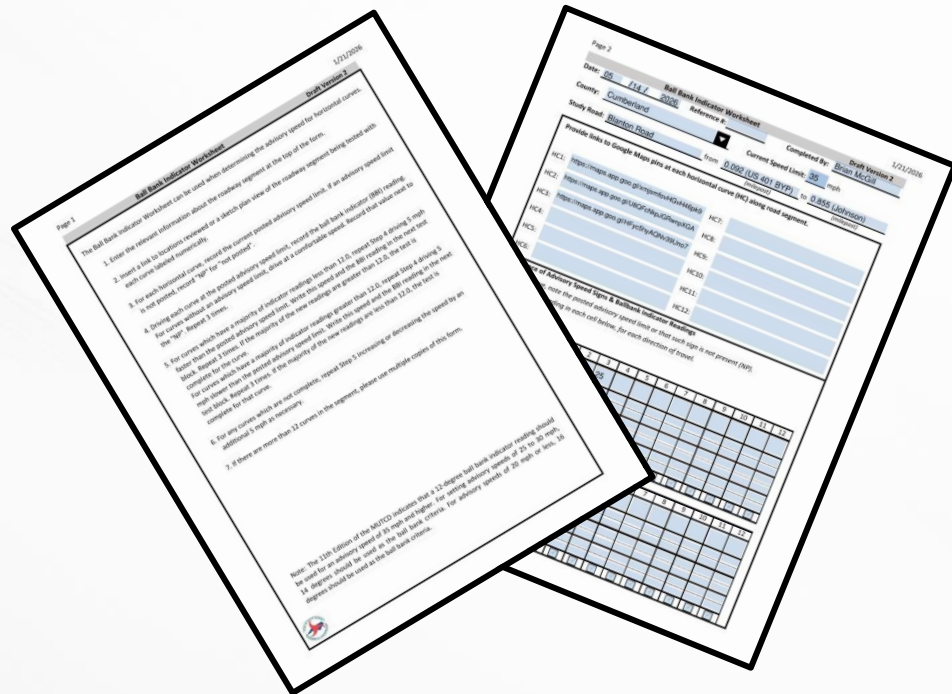
Advisory Speed Limit: 25 mph

Ball Bank Indicator Reading: 0.855 (Johnson)

Ball Bank Indicator Rating: 15

Horizontal Curve	Advisory Speed Limit	Ball Bank Indicator Reading	Ball Bank Indicator Rating	Notes
HC1	25	0.855	15	
HC2	25	0.855	15	
HC3	25	0.855	15	
HC4	25	0.855	15	

Above standard signage currently exists, and the ball-bank indicator test does not support the existing advisory speed sign of 25 MPH, or additional signage.



Data supports keeping the speed limit at 35 mph.

- Request does not meet the requirements established under Council Policy 160.3 for speed limit modifications
- Proposed speed limit reduction is not supported by FayPD
- Crash Review does not indicate a roadway deficiency or pattern of crashes
- City data and industry guidance shows lowering speed limits do not significantly reduce speeds
- Above standard signage is currently provided

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommend to keep the Blanton Road speed limit at 35 mph.





FayettevilleNC.gov