



Memo

Date: June 10, 2026

To: Fayetteville City Council
Through: Michael Gibson, Interim Assistant City Manager
From: Brian McGill, PE, PTOE, Assistant Public Services Director – Traffic Services
Subject: Blanton Road Crash Review

Revision Note – 06/10/2026: The percentage of crashes that were concentrated near the signalized intersection at Pamalee Drive (US 401 Bypass) has been corrected from (46%) of crashes to (74%) of crashes.

This memo is in response to a request made on April 6, 2026 for Public Services to review Blanton Road for a possible speed limit reduction. As part of that review, a crash review was completed.

Historical crash trends and roadway conditions were evaluated for Blanton Road between south of Galleria Drive to Johnson Street. This review analyzed five years of vehicle crash data and ten years of pedestrian crash data. Blanton Road has a posted speed limit of 35 mph. Based on the most recent traffic count conducted by City staff in March 2026, it is estimated that the Annual Daily Traffic is 1,800 vehicles per day. For the purposes of this review, we assumed 1,800 vehicles per day for the entirety of the road.

The analysis identified a total of 65 crashes within the study limits. The dataset includes crashes within the influence areas of the intersections at Pamalee Drive (US 401 Bypass) and Johnson Street, which covers 150 feet of both the approach and departure of their respective intersections. This means the dataset includes crashes involving only vehicles traveling on Pamalee Drive or Johnson Street and not traveling or interacting with Blanton Road.

A summary of the crash rates is provided in the table below, alongside different types of roads with similar profiles from NCDOT, and overall information for Cumberland County.

<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

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Blanton Road Crash Review

The analysis found that Blanton Road's overall crash rate is lower than countywide average crash rates, as well as statewide average crash rates for similar roadways. Please note that Blanton Road's severity index is higher than the countywide average, and is above 8.4, meaning crashes experienced within the study area are expected to result more often in serious injury.

The crash review did not reveal patterns at any location along the corridor. The majority (74%) of crashes, majority of nighttime crashes (71%), and the majority of wet-weather crashes (73%) for the study area, were concentrated near the signalized intersection at Pamalee Drive (US 401 Bypass).

The crash review determined that driver behavior was the primary contributing factor in nearly all (97%) crashes reviewed. Common contributing circumstances included failure to yield (42%), failure to reduce speed (34%), and failure to maintain lane control (22%). Only two (2) crashes were attributed to non-driver factors involving deer entering the roadway.

A review of adopted City plans, including the 2020 Bicycle Plan, the 2024 Comprehensive Transportation Plan, and the 2025 Pedestrian and Supplemental Pedestrian Plans, identified no previously recommended improvements for the corridor. The ongoing Safe Streets for All initiative may identify future recommendations upon completion.

Based on the crash review, no identifiable roadway deficiency or recurring crash pattern was found within the study corridor. As a result, no improvements or countermeasures are recommended at this time. Overall, the findings indicate that the majority of crashes on Blanton Road are attributable to driver behavior rather than roadway conditions.

Sincerely,



Brian McGill, PE, PTOE
Assistant Public Services Director – Traffic Services