



# MEMORANDUM

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**To:** Mayor and Members of the City Council

**From:** Montré D. Freeman, City Manager  
James E. Avens, Jr., Interim Chief of Police

**Date:** October 11, 2024

**Ref:** Update / Presentation - Traffic Study in 100 Block of Griffin Street

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***BACKGROUND:***

Residents in the 100 Block section of South Griffin Street recently approached the City regarding traffic concerns. As a result, a traffic study on South Griffin Street was conducted by the Elizabeth City Police Department in mid-September of 2024.

***ANALYSIS:***

The portion of South Griffin Street in question lies in the 100 Block.

The Police Department conducted a traffic study on this section of South Griffin Street from 9:00 a.m. on Monday, September 16, 2024, through 1:48 p.m. on Monday, September 23, 2024.

The counter was positioned in the 100 Block section of South Griffin Street. The counter was facing north toward southbound traffic.

The data revealed the following information (Incoming):

1. Speed Limit= 25 mph
2. Average Speed= 22.7 mph
3. 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile for speed= 27.0 mph
4. 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile vehicle count= 1,254

5. Total vehicle count= 1,475 (Incoming)

Average Daily Peak Time= 7:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.

Vehicle Size= Small	12	0.8%
Medium	1431	97.0%
Large	32	2.2%

The data revealed the following information (Outgoing):

1. Speed Limit= 25 mph
2. Average Speed= 24.26 mph
3. 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile for speed= 28 mph
4. 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile vehicle count= 1,818
5. Total vehicle count= 2,139 (Outgoing )

Average Daily Peak Time= 11:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.

Vehicle Size= Small	20	0.9%
Medium	2014	94.2%
Large	105	4.9%

What is the 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile for speed?

The 85th Percentile is the maximum speed that 85% of drivers will not exceed on a given road if there were no stop signs, speed limits, or traffic signals. It is seen as the safest speed on the roadway because 85% of the vehicles are naturally at that speed or below it. The majority of drivers drive safely because it is in their own self-interest to remain safe.

After reviewing the data, we can conclude the following regarding the 100 Block of South Griffin Street:

1. The data supports that most vehicle operators (85%) feel comfortable driving on South Griffin Street at four (4) mph over the posted speed limit or below.

2. The second observation is one of volume. The study revealed that the 3,614 vehicles (1,475 incoming and 2,139 outgoing) traversed the 100 Block of South Griffin Street during the study period.
3. Based on the 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile for speed (28 mph) and average speed (24.26) there is no actionable speeding concern.

***STAFF RECOMMENDATION:***

For information only. No action required or requested. This presentation is to furnish the Mayor and Council with accurate data on the portion of the 100 Block of South Griffin Street. A follow up traffic study will be conducted in six months as indicated in the Traffic Calming Policy.