

SCHOOL-RELATED CRASH-INFRASTRUCTURE REVIEW

Location: Eternity Road at Hopkins Road

Crash Date: October 7, 2024

Crash Time: 7:50 AM

Local Case No.: 240047797

Review Date: July 10, 2025

Description of Incident

On Thursday, October 7, 2024, at approximately 7:50 AM, two pedestrians were traveling across Eternity Road at an unmarked crosswalk at Hopkins Road. A motorist traveling southbound on Eternity Road failed to stop at the stop sign at Hopkins Road and struck the pedestrians. The crash report indicated that the pedestrians suffered no apparent injuries. The motorist was found to be at fault. Daytime weather conditions were clear, and the roadway surface was dry.

Figure 2 illustrates the crash location and direction of pedestrian and vehicle travel.

Location and Site Description

The subject location is at the unsignalized intersection of Eternity Road with Hopkins Road, approximately 150 feet to the east of the Ronald McNair Elementary School (ES) driveway located at 13881 Hopkins Road. Ronald McNair ES has a current enrollment of 706 students in grades Pre-K through 5th. The subject location is also approximately 0.3 miles west of Kingsview Road, which serves direct access to Kingsview Middle School (MS) located at 18909 Kingsview Road. Kingsview MS has a current enrollment of 922 students in grades 6th through 8th.

Ronald McNair Elementary School (ES)

The majority of students arrive between 8:55 AM and 9:25 AM and the dismissal occurs between 3:50 PM and 4:10 PM

Kingsview Middle School (MS)

The majority of students arrive between 7:45 AM and 8:15 AM and dismissal occurs between 3:00 PM and 3:20 PM

Eternity Road

Eternity Road is a neighborhood street, approximately 25 feet wide, and is oriented in the northwest-southeast direction. Eternity Road is approximately 0.35 miles long, beginning at an intersection with MD 117 (Clopper Road) to the northwest and terminating at Hopkins Road to the southeast. At the crash location, Eternity Road has buffered sidewalks. On-street parking appears to be prohibited, and motorists are prohibited from stopping along south/eastbound Eternity Road near Hopkins Road on school days from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM and from 3:20 PM to 4:20 PM.

A school sign and plaque exists along Eternity Road departing Hopkins Road, noting the start of the school zone. There is a school crossing at Eternity Court/entrance to the school. A posted speed limit of 25 mph exists with "FINES DOUBLED" signage during school hours/days along the north/west

direction. Along Eternity Road approaching Hopkins Road, a school ahead assembly exists, noting the school crossing (mentioned above) at Eternity Court/entrance to the school.

A painted stop line does not exist over Eternity Road at the intersection with Hopkins Road.

Hopkins Road

Hopkins Road is boulevard with varying widths and varying number of lanes, including a center turn lane for a portion of the roadway and turn lanes at several intersections. Hopkins Road spans approximately 0.6 miles, beginning at MD 117 (Clopper Road) to the west and terminates at Warrior Brook Drive to the east. At the crash location, Hopkins Road has buffered sidewalks and shoulders to the east that taper at each intersection.

The posted speed limit along Hopkins Road is 30 mph with a PHOTO ENFORCED sign. Hopkins Road is outside of a speed corridor and may sometimes be a portable speed camera location. The school zone begins and ends at the intersection with MD 117 (Clopper Road) with a school zone assembly and END SCHOOL ZONE signing. In the eastbound direction, a school ahead assembly is posted on a light pole approaching Steeple Road, and in the westbound direction, a school assembly is posted with a FINES DOUBLED sign approximately 125 feet west of Steeple Road. School crossing assemblies are installed on light poles on the right side of the roadway over the marked crosswalk on the east leg of Steeple Road, and in-road STATE LAW signs are posted within the crossing island. School-related signs continue easterly with in-road signing at Kingsview Road.

Eternity Road at Hopkins Road/Amarillo Drive

The intersection of Eternity Road at Hopkins Road is a unsignalized, four-legged intersection, with Hopkins Road extending east/west from Eternity Road.

Pedestrian ramps are present but there are no marked crosswalks.

The Eternity Road at Hopkins Road intersection was evaluated to identify potential infrastructure, maintenance activities, and road user behaviors that contribute to increased safety risk at and in the vicinity of the school-related crash location. Please refer to **Figure 1** for additional information.

Crash History

Crash data obtained from dataMontgomery indicates that four (4) incidents occurred within the vicinity of the crash site between January 2020 and December 2024, including the subject crash. These 4 crashes include two (2) injury crashes and two (2) property damage crashes, consisting of two (2) angle collisions, one (1) sideswipe collisions, and one (1) pedestrian-related crash at this intersection. Of these collisions, one (1) occurred at night, one (1) took place during foggy weather, and all occurred along a dry surface.

The incidents are illustrated on **Figure 3**.

Field Observations

Field observations were performed on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, at approximately 12 PM. Weather conditions were clear, and the roadway surface was dry. Vehicular activity was light during the observation period, and very few pedestrians/bicyclists were observed at the intersection. One school ahead assembly appears damaged in the eastbound direction approaching Steeple Road. Otherwise, pavement markings, signing, and lighting at the intersection appear adequate. Although a horizontal curve exists in the westbound direction, sight distance for motorists and pedestrians appears adequate. There is school signage for all approaches, alerting motorists to slow down. A marked crosswalk with pedestrian

refuge exists approximately 450 feet to the east across Hopkins Road with posted signs in the shoulder and in-road signing in the median.

Findings

Site observations did not find any infrastructural deficiencies that could have contributed to this crash.

Maintenance Recommendations

While not related to the crash incident, the following were identified as maintenance recommendations to enhance the safety of the location:

1. Install stop lines for the Eternity Road and Amarillo Drive approaches.
2. Install continental crosswalk markings crossing Eternity Road at Hopkins Road.
3. Realign ramps at the subject intersection to guide pedestrians perpendicular to the roadway and away from the center of the intersection.
4. Replace the faded and damaged school ahead assembly in the eastbound direction approaching Steeple Road

Site Photograph



Photo 1. Taken from Eternity Road, looking south at Hopkins Road. Bicyclist traveling along unmarked crosswalk with no conflicting traffic.



Photo 2. Taken from Amarillo Drive, looking north at Hopkins Road and Eternity Road. Ronald McNair Elementary School in northeast quadrant.



Photo 3. West/northbound Hopkins Road at Steeple Road.



Photo 4. Taken along Eternity Road traveling north/westbound, looking at Eternity Court/driveway to Ronald McNair Elementary School.



Northbound Eternity Road at Eternity Ct/ driveway to Ronald McNair ES



Westbound lane of Hopkins Rd opens to two lanes before the intersection, roadway could be narrowed to slow traffic from Hopkins Rd



Looking southbound at the intersection of Eternity Rd and Hopkins Rd there is no stop line and an unmarked crosswalk



Figure 1 – Eternity Rd Corridor Observations

★ Crash Location



Figure 2 – Crash Diagram



Figure 3 – Crash History (2020-2024)