

The NC DOT announced Friday that no road or lane closures will take place in the U.S. 321 widening project work zone through Blowing Rock from July 3-7 due to the Independence Day holiday. The DOT said that crews will be in the work zone during this period, but no closures will be required. The regular work schedule will resume on Monday, July 8. Crews will continue to work on the rock fills south of the Green Park Inn, water line and pipe installations, as well as wall construction on July 1-2. Required lane and/or road closures will take place, as needed, during those days, weather permitting. Work will continue on July 3-4, but it will not require any road or lane closures. There will not be any work on U.S. 321 on July 5, and normal working operations will begin again on July 8. When necessary, motorists will see sections of U.S. 321 closed only on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for blasting and clean-up. Local and through vehicle traffic will be able to get around the blasting area through downtown Blowing Rock on U.S. 221/U.S. 321 Business, and will have access to businesses along U.S. 321 up to the work zone. However, trucks three axles or more will not have access to downtown as an alternate route. Northbound trucks will be routed to N.C. 18 in Lenoir to U.S. 421 in Wilkesboro west to Boone, while southbound traffic will reverse directions.