



# ULSTER COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD

PO Box 1800  
Kingston, New York 12402-1800  
(845) 340-3340

<https://ulstercountyny.gov/traffic-safety-board>



**Jen Metzger**  
County Executive

**Eric Kight**  
Chairperson

## Ulster County Traffic Safety Board

**June 3, 2024 Minutes**

Location: Ulster County Legislative Chambers

Approved September 9, 2024

<b>Members In Attendance:</b>	<b>Absent</b>
David Corrigan NYSDOT, Vice Chair	Eric Kight, NYCDEP, Chair
Giovanna Russo, MHV School Transp. Supervisors Assoc	Egido Tinti, City of Kingston Chief of Police
Brian Slack, Coordinator of Traffic Safety (Board Member Ex Officio)	Brendan Masterson, Ulster County DPW Commissioner
Joseph Sinagra, NYS Assoc. of Chiefs of Police Traffic Safety Board	Sgt. Robert Vedder, Ulster County Sherriff's Dept.
Rosemary Quinn, Upstate Regional Rep, Families for Safe Streets/NYS Safe Streets Coalition/City of Kingston resident	
Steven Rice, Trails Adv. Committee	
Tom Polk, Bicycle Program Dir, Kingston/Ulster YMCA	
Lou Klepner, Chair, Town of Saugerties Transportation Advisory Committee	
<b>Advisory Members</b>	
Eric Paulding, Ulster County District Attorney's Office Accident Investigation Team	
Paul Puccino, Governor's Traffic Safety Committee (GTSC)	
<b>Guests</b>	
Kevin Smith, Ulster County Trails Advisory Committee, Woodstock Land Conservancy	

### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

### **II. Approval of the May 06, 2024 Draft Meeting Minutes**

Two minor corrections noted; Motion to approve with corrections made by Mr. Rice; Second by Mr. Sinagra. All in favor.

### **III. Public Comments**

*Kevin Smith recognized the fatal car crash that took the life of pedestrian Linh Hong Nguyen on May 25, 2024 in the Village of Red Hook while she was walking on the sidewalk adjacent to State Rte 9 (Main Street).*

### **IV. Member Updates**

*Mr. Corrigan reported that NYSDOT has a 'special markings' contract underway updating pavement markings throughout the county. Repaving of Rte 44/55 in Gardiner will proceed in June/July. Complaints regarding signage in Rte 9W in Saugerties regarding signage; the area was examined and all necessary signage was found to be in place.*

*Mr. Rice had no updates.*

*Ms. Russo reminded everyone that distracted driving tends to increase during the end of the school year and reminded drivers to be vigilant.*

*Ms. Quinn provided the updates on legislative packages in NYS, including the 'Complete Streets Package' and two additional new pieces of legislation, including the "Safe Travels for All" sponsored by NYers for Transportation Equity addressing mode shift away from single occupancy travel. Another bill introduced by local state legislative members would clarify and improve the 25mph speed limit law passed last year.*

*Mr. Puccino introduced himself to the Board and indicated that he is new to the GTSC and will serve as the Ulster County representative. He encouraged Ulster municipalities to reach out to learn about grant opportunities.*

*Mr. Sinagra had updates on NYS Senate Bill 3135 and Assembly Bill 174; "deadly driving bill" addressing field sobriety checks for new driver impairments and increasing flexibility to make arrests and prosecutions. The bills have not moved forward at this time but there is bipartisan support behind it. In addition, he indicated that motorcycles are out and watch out for risky driver behavior. He also inquired if the GTSC had any updates on digitization of driver's licenses; no updates were available. The UCTC will issue a call for project proposals for its suballocation of federal Carbon Reduction Funds, which can be used on transportation alternative and safety projects.*

*Eric Paulding of the Ulster County District Attorney's Office had no updates but offered his time and support if there were any questions or required assistance.*

*Mr. Slack of the UCTC indicated that both the draft Route 9W Mobility Plan and the Kingston RR Safety Study have been delivered to UCTC and are undergoing internal review before release to the public. He announced upcoming public information meetings for the UCAT Route Optimization Study. Ulster County Executive Metzger announced a new traffic safety initiative titled "Safe Start to Summer;" email was forwarded to the TSB members. The UCTC will make a suballocation of federal Carbon Reduction Program funds available to eligible sponsors; CRP funds can be used for transportation enhancements and safety projects.*

*Mr. Klepner reported that the Saugerties Transportation Advisory Committee requested him to request the TSB to ask the County Executive to provide DSS emergency housing clients with reflective gear. Mr. Kelpner made a motion that personal reflective devices and flashlights be distributed to individuals placed in temporary facilities. Rosemary Quinn made a second. General discussion ensued – Mr. Polk emphasized the need to provide a message on why, where, and when it's important to use the reflective materials. A vote was called at the conclusion of discussion. All were in favor; none opposed; Mr. Slack indicated that as a county employee it would be best for him to abstain.*

*Action: Mr. Slack to submit request to the County Executive to make reflective materials available to individuals housed in temporary facilities.*

## **V. Old Business (Open Items)**

- a. 2025 GTSC Grants Submitted
  - i. Mr. Slack submitted a list of the 11 grant applications that were submitted by Ulster County municipalities and law enforcement agencies.
- b. Ulster County Bicycle and Pedestrian Policy
  - i. Mr. Slack indicated that there will be intern assistance working for the Ulster County Climate Corps program; he will direct those students to work on both the Long Range Transportation Plan as well as the update to the 2009 Complete Street Policy; he will direct them to look at various policy review tools to provide direction and recommendations for new policies.
- c. Public Education Campaign– Slack
  - i. Mr. Slack provided the draft scope of work to members for review; the UCTC RFP for a traffic safety education campaign has a June 14 deadline.
- d. Public Safety Messages – Kight
  - i. Chairman Kight is working with Radio Kingston to develop a summer safety message for the radio

**VI.**

**VII. New Business**

- a. 2024 Capitol Hill Roadway Safety Advocacy Days– R. Quinn
  - i. Ms. Quinn provided a presentation of findings from her visit to Washington D.C.; For information purposes only; no action; (refer to TSB website for copy of the presentation).

**VIII. Other Business**

No Other Business

**IX. Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Rice; second by Polk. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:43pm; next meeting tentatively scheduled for 7/1/24.