



ULSTER COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD

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



Jen Metzger
County Executive

Eric Kight
Chairperson

Ulster County Traffic Safety Board

June 5, 2023 Minutes

Location: Ulster County Legislative Chambers

Approved August 14, 2023

<u>Members In Attendance:</u>	<u>Absent</u>
David Corrigan NYSDOT, Vice Chair	Brendan Masterson, Ulster County DPW Commissioner
Lou Klepner, Town of Saugerties	Eric Kight, NYCDEP, Chair
Tom Polk, Bicycle Program Dir, Kingston/Ulster YMCA	Sgt. Robert Vedder, Ulster County Sheriff's Dept.
Rosemary Quinn, Upstate Regional Rep, Families for Safe Streets/City of Kingston resident	Egido Tinti, City of Kingston Chief of Police
Steven Rice, Trails Adv. Committee	
Giovanna Russo, MHV School Transp. Supervisors Assoc.	
Joseph Sinagra, Town/Village of Saugerties Chief of Police	
Robert Lucchesi, Town/Village of New Paltz Chief of Police	
<u>Advisory Members</u>	
Brian Slack, Coordinator of Traffic Safety	
<u>Guests</u>	
Jordan Sumliner	

I. Welcome and Introductions

David Corrigan serving as meeting Chair in Erik Kight's absence.

II. Approval of the May 1, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Steven Rice provided a minor revision to the May 5 meeting minutes, noted by Slack; Rice moved to accept the May 5 minutes with the noted revision. Second by Sinagra; all in favor.

III. Public Comments

Jordan Sumliner greeted the Board and offered his support for Rosemary Quinn's forthcoming presentation on the Safe Systems approach.

IV. Member Updates

NYSDOT Rte 28 repaving project from Hurley Mtn. Rd to 28A intersection will likely commence in August 2023. Rte 32 and Plattekill/Ardonia Rd intersection is being internally examined by the Department for potential crash frequency and geometry improvements or other controls that may benefit safety at the intersection. Corrigan also indicated [later under Old Business] that a temporary traffic signal has been erected at 44/55 in the hamlet of Highland during construction at the nearby Toc Avenue is completed.

Gianna Russo had no updates to report

Steven Rice provided updates regarding the O&W and Hurley Rail Trail projects;

Lou Klepner indicated that the Woodstock Complete Streets Adv. Committee received a grant to conduct a walking audit of the Tinker Street area

Rosemary Quinn announced that the Complete Streets Maintenance Expansion was added and signed into NYS law. This includes the ability of municipalities to enact area-wide 25 mph speed limits. Families for Safe Streets continues to meet with state and local representatives to discuss issues of state and local interest.

Slack announced the 9W Mobility Plan public outreach will commence in late June/July through a 'join at your own pace' online presentation with a survey tool. A railroad crossing safety study is also underway in Kingston. The UCTC annual traffic count program contract has been renewed; counters will go out in the fall. More information on these projects can be found online at <https://ulstercountyny.gov/transportation-council>. UCTC staff has also met with City of Kingston staff to assist in the preparation of a federal Safe Streets for All program.

Chief Lucchesi mentioned his appreciation for the walk-through that occurred last month in New Paltz with the cooperation of Ulster County Planning, UCTC and NYSDOT Region 8 staff. Brookside Road overpass over I87 has been closed due to a bridge strike; it is unknown if it will be reopened prior to replacement.

Chief Sinagra showed a video of a vehicle attempting to cross the West Shore RR at Rte. 32 in the village when gates were down; the vehicle was struck by the train; there were no injuries. Local requests are coming in requesting a traffic signal at 9W and Glasgow Turnpike; Chief referred them to the Saugerties Transportation Adv. Committee. A request has similarly been submitted to lower the speed limit on 9W particularly in light of a new housing development moving forward; Chief referred them to the proper authorities. NYSDOT has temporary lane configuration in place; a new design will be implemented prior to the completion of the project. Corrigan indicated that projected traffic volumes do not meet the minimum warrants for a traffic signal at the point of access of the development. Saugerties is also working on an eBike law that may be a model for other municipalities in Ulster County.

Tom Polk indicated that his replacement Justin Ledoux will be taking over as the new Kingston YMCA Bicycle Coordinator; Tom will remain as a member of the TSB.

V. Old Business (Open Items)

- a. Ulster County Bicycle and Pedestrian Policy – response from C.E.

Slack anticipated that a response will be submitted to members in July/August.

- b. Crash Data

- i. UCTC crash dashboard

<https://ulstercounty.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/6994b9dc780f4b249738cec4ffbd4c59>

No further updates at this time; UCTC will consider developing updates and extending the time range of data available through the tool as time permits.

- c. 2024 Governor's Traffic Safety Committee Grants

Slack submitted the preliminary list of 2024 grants submitted to the GTSC from Ulster County; Quinn and Polk clarified that no awards have been issued by the GTSC and won't be announced until September – the list is only what was submitted.

- d. Public Education Subcommittee

Slack will endeavor to convene a meeting of the subcommittee in July/August

- e. O&W Rail Trail & Washington Avenue

No updates

VI. New Business

- a. Draft Rules for Conduct – Slack

Draft “Rules for Conduct” were circulated for comment. Slack provided an overview of how this first draft was developed. The draft followed the Dutchess County TSB model closely. Slack noted that as written under section d. Meetings (f) Decision Making would be ‘by consensus’ as written; this implies that unless decisions are unanimous no actions can be taken. Klepner and Polk recommended that actions by the Board shall be by a majority vote of those present and voting, as written in the Dutchess Co. model. Klepner further recommended that the rules be referred to as “bylaws.”

Action. Slack agreed to make those changes as discussed and will provide a revised version at the next meeting.

- b. Overview of the Safe System Approach – Rosemary Quinn

Rosemary Quinn provided a presentation on the Safe System Approach as prepared by the Vision Zero Network at <https://visionzeronetwork.org/resources/demystifying-the-safe-system-approach/>. General discussion ensued with appreciation for Rosemary’s continued efforts to inform members and the public regarding SSA. No action.

VII. Other Business

Klepner, during discussion under Draft Rules for Conduct, requested that the Coordinator submit a request to the Ulster County Attorney’s Office for opinion regarding the Federal Driver Privacy Protection Act and how it pertains to TSB members reviewing unredacted MV104 reports.

Action: Slack will review the FDPPA and consider

Rice inquired as to whether the TSB has ever discussed the “Idaho Stop” law for bicyclists (allowing bicyclists to treat stop signs as yield when prudent).

VIII. Adjourn

Motion made by Rice; second by Polk. Meeting adjourned.~7:45pm.