



## **Ulster County Traffic Safety Board**

November 7, 2022 Meeting Summary

Approved January 9, 2023

### **Members In Attendance:**

Tom Polk, Bicycle Program Dir, Kingston/Ulster YMCA  
Lou Klepner, Town of Saugerties/Woodstock Complete Streets Adv. Committee/Saugerties Transp. Adv. Cmte  
Eric Kight, NYCDEP/Chair  
Joseph Sinagra, Saugerties Chief of Police  
Sgt. Brandon Schiller, Ulster County Sheriff's Dept  
Giovanna Russo, MHV School Transp, Supervisors Assoc.  
Brendan Masterson, Ulster County DPW Commissioner  
Rosemary Quinn, advocate  
David Corrigan, NYSDOT Ulster CO. Resident Engineer  
Chief Lucchesi, Town of New Paltz

### **Advisory Members**

David Staas, UCTC

### **Ulster County Legislature**

Abe Uchitelle, District No. 5 City of Kingston

### **Guests**

John Grosbohl, City of Kingston resident  
Tanya Garment, City of Kingston resident  
Barbara Budik, Town of Saugerties resident  
Brenda Royce, Town of Saugerties resident  
Emily Flynn, Wellness Coordinator, City of Kingston

### **Absent**

Steven Rice (excused)  
Egidio Tinti, City of Kingston Chief of Police

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## **Meeting Summary**

[Agenda items were taken out of order; Introductions, Approval of Minutes, Public Comment and Member Updates were done in in round-robin fashion; summary below lists items in the order in which they transpired]

### **I. Approval of Minutes – October 3, 2022**

Motion to approve made by J. Sinagra; Second by Brandon Schiller. Motion carried.

### **II. Welcome and Introductions**

Chairman Kight opened the meeting and requested an adjustment to the agenda; member updates will be moved from the end of the meeting to the beginning to ensure that important updates and announcements are made before meeting time expires.

### **III. Introductions, Member Updates and Public Comments**

E. Kight began with NYCDEP updates: road closures for bank stabilization and culvert repairs on 28A and CR50; detours established on Basin and Dike Roads. Culverts in the areas of Shokan 28A, 55A are being cleared in preparation for autumn storms and likely flooding; snow removal preparations are also being made.



L. Klepner offered appreciation to Ulster Co. DPW for uncovering an overgrown sidewalk on Tannery Brook during routine maintenance. A crash analysis with crash diagram and crash frequency was provided by UCTC for the intersection of Glasgow Turnpike and NYS 212; Klepner visited the site with NYSDOT to identify potential maintenance improvements to improve safety.

T. Polk offered “Expect a Bike” yard signs for members to put out if interested; more are available upon request.

D. Staas of UCTC announced several forthcoming planning studies to be conducted by UCTC incl a railway safety study in Kingston and the Town of Ulster Route 9W Corridor Management Plan.

Sgt. B. Schiller indicated that he will be retiring in December and a replacement will be recommended by the Ulster County Sheriff’s Dept. in due time.

Legislator Uchitelle, Chair of Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee, indicated that major actions of the TSB typically come through that committee; he’s looking forward to attending when he can as he indicated that everything that the County is doing regarding housing and infrastructure requires consideration of sound transportation policies and practices.

Chief J. Sinagra of Saugerties PD had no updates.

B. Masterson, UC DPW Commissioner – construction season is winding down; xwalks at all rail trail crossings are being touched up; road closure at 28A with detour on Basin Rd to Dike Rd; otherwise preparations for winter are being made; staffing is good.

David Corrigan, NYSDOT Ulster CO. Resident Engineer. Recapped visit with L. Klepner to Glasgow Turnpike; partial obstructed view caused by vegetation addressed; signage has been upgraded and speed zone re-delineated; NYSDOT does not have a lot of ROW in the area but has strived to ‘clean-up’ the location; will continue to monitor for improvements in crash trends; winter preparations being made; staffing is good.

G. Russo, MHV School Transp, Supervisors Assoc. indicated that she is interested in obtaining MV104 summaries on any crashes involving school buses in the county to the extent that it is available; these data are important for the Association and particularly for the training of new drivers.

R. Quinn announced on November 20<sup>th</sup> is the day of world-wide remembrance of victims of traffic violence and she is organizing a ride from Town of Ulster in the Ulster Ave commercial area into Kingston but is concerned about bicycle rider safety and proper notification of local authorities. Members provided recommendations to ensure that proper permits are obtained, and rider safety can be assured. Tentative time is 3:00pm 11/20.

Emily Flynn introduced herself as the Director of Health and Wellness for City of Kingston and the various committees that she staffs. John Grossbohlhlin introduced himself as the 2023 Chair of the Kingston Complete Streets Advisory Council. Barbara Budik, resident of Town of Saugerties raised her traffic safety concerns for Rt 212, Glasgow Turnpike and Kings Highway, particular truck and rail road traffic on the later; those concerns have been submitted to the UCTC for consideration for future study as well as to the UC Public Works Committee. Discussion ensued; issue will be followed-up by UCTC and DPW staff with the Town and Miss Budik. L. Klepner indicated a need to be able to track such public



concerns and requests and track what actions, if any, were taken and how to measure the effectiveness of such actions. A. Uchitelle concurred and indicated that concerns brought forth by the public can go to multiple departments and can be difficult to track; he would like to think systemically how this can be approved.

Chief Lucchesi, Town of New Paltz PD had no updates.

T. Garment Kingston resident indicated her concerns regarding the upcoming UCTC Town of Ulster Rte 9W Corridor Management Plan; D. Staas did stress that the project is only in the data acquisition phase at this time and that an extensive public outreach process will be design and implemented; no public engagement has occurred at this time as UCTC, its consultant and the Technical Advisory Committee are not yet prepared to engage with the public.

#### **IV. New Business**

##### **a. NYS Institute of Traffic Safety Management and Research Data – Rosemary Quinn**

R. Quinn again tabled the item until the next meeting so that proper technology can be made available to present the info to the board in December.

##### **b. Availability of MV104 Crash Data for TSB Review – Lou Klepner**

Klepner pointed out that TSB statute within NYSVTL clearly indicates that review of crash data is a purpose of traffic safety boards explicitly. Given that, he requested discussion of the extent to which the Ulster TSB has reviewed such data in the past and how it could potentially review in the future. E. Kight indicated that the former Coordinator of Traffic Safety (D. Beitzl) was responsible for reviewing MV104s that were forwarded to her by local police departments and summarizing them for serious crashes and any discernable trends; prior to that, MV104s were also summarized for any crash involving a school bus. D. Beitzl has indicated that she will begin forwarding MV104s to B. Slack in his role as Coordinator. D. Staas indicated that while Brian and/or UCTC may not have the resources to review each MV104, the UCTC does have access to the NYSDMV CLEAR system; the only drawback is an approximate 6 month lag in reports being uploaded to the system. This system and data was used to complete the [Ulster County Road Safety Plan](#) in 2021. R. Quinn indicated that she would use MV104 information to supplement grant applications as well as coarse crash statistics from NYS ITSMR. D. Staas also stressed that maintenance of confidentiality of individuals whose names and personal information are included in the MV104s is critical and a core responsibility of those organizations that have access to them; redaction of personal information must occur before the reports are distributed to entities – who should identify a specific interest in the information – which creates further administrative complications.

B. Schiller inquired as to what specific data would need to be accessed; L. Klepner indicated a specific interest in understanding the extent to which vulnerable road users are being harmed on area roadways and if there are specific locations where fatalities/serious injuries are occurring. Schiller indicated that his experience has found that the most crash prone roads in Ulster County are Routes 28, 209, and 9W. It may not be an administrative burden for the Sheriff's Department to summarize their monthly crash response occurrences; most are car-deer accidents. Klepner indicated that he understands the sources of the data; he's suggesting that the board should have mechanism to routinely review them in detail, such as a monthly report to the TSB. R. Quinn stressed that the data can help the public step in before the crashes happen. D. Staas again stressed that UCTC's Road Safety Plan does accomplish county-wide crash monitoring and trend analysis for the entire county over a greater than 10 year period of time and



he'll present the findings at a future TSB meeting. Klepner indicated that this study did not normalize volumes for nonmotorized users; Staas indicated that such data is rare or does not exist; Klepner indicated that this might underscore the need to view bike or pedestrian reports more frequently or to conduct bike and pedestrian counts on public rights of way.

Klepner indicated that the TSB as could potentially request an allocation of funds from the Ulster County Legislature to undertake more ambitious studies if the MPO is unable to do so, particularly studies that address nonmotorized safety.

**Action Items:** B. Slack will provide a report regarding whether MV104s are received; L. Klepner will submit a formal request to the TSB for future crash information review; R. Quinn will reach out to GTSC to see if there are statewide models of TSBs that provide more detailed planning and research regarding traffic crash data.

**c. Ulster County Resolution 229 of 2009 - Establishing a Bicycle and Pedestrian Policy – Lou Klepner**

L. Klepner summarized the policy and asked if the TSB would be interested in learning about how effective the policy has been since implementation. It was suggested that the TSB ask the Legislature to request the appropriate departments to provide an update.

Motion to submit letter of request to the Legislature made by T. Polk; second by L. Klepner. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Action Item:** . T. Polk & L. Klepner will draft a request and submit to the Ulster County Legislature and Chair of the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee by the TSB requesting that an evaluation of the Bike Ped Policy established in 2009 be conducted.

**V. Membership and Appointments and Other Business**

Appointments for Rosemary Quinn and Steven Rice will be taken up by the Ulster County Legislature during the November meeting; Chief Lucchesi's appointment will be taken up in December.

New appointments to the TSB follow the terms of the individual they're replacing on the board; this means that the roster maintains a staggered schedule.

The TSB still requires a Vice Chair and Secretary to be appointed. David Corrigan has volunteered to serve as Vice Chair if the TSB supports this (no motion has been brought to the floor during his absence); the position of Secretary remains open.

At the request of TSB at the Oct 3 meeting Slack submitted a request to the Ulster County Legislature Charter Review Commission requesting consideration of increasing TSB membership roster from 12 individuals to 15 individuals. The request was submitted on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

**VI. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned 7:45pm.

**Next meeting scheduled for December 5, 2022.**

bcs