



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 2, 2025 Minutes

Location: Ulster County Legislative Chambers

Approved September 8, 2025

<u>Members In Attendance:</u>	<u>Absent</u>
David Corrigan NYSDOT, Vice Chair	Brendan Masterson, UC DPW
Rosemary Quinn, Upstate Regional Rep, Families for Safe Streets/NYS Safe Streets Coalition/City of Kingston resident	Steven Rice, Trails Adv. Committee
Giovanna Russo, MHV School Transp. Supervisors Assoc	Eric Kight, NYCDEP, Chair
Brian Slack, Coordinator of Traffic Safety (Board Member Ex Officio) Ulster County Transportation Council	Sgt. Robert Vedder, Ulster County Sherriff's Dept
Egido Tinti, City of Kingston Chief of Police	James Andrew Seyfarth, Town of Ulster Police Department
Marc Cassidy, Town of Rosendale	Tom Polk, Bicycle Program Dir, Kingston/Ulster YMCA
	Lou Klepner, Chair, Town of Saugerties Transportation Advisory Committee
<u>Nonvoting Members</u>	
Adam Deitz, Ulster County DPW	
<u>Guests</u>	
Nick Mercurio, Town of Rosendale	Kevin Smith, Woodstock Land Conservancy, Ulster County Trails Advisory Committee

I. Welcome and Introductions

Quorum requires 7 appointed members present; no quorum achieved.

II. Approval of the May 5, 2025 Draft Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Cassidy; second by Ms. Quinn. All in favor.

III. Public Comments

Kevin Smith began by mentioning Resolution 275 regarding the undesignated section of the U&D corridor which could provide a safe alternative for cyclists and pedestrians to Rte 28 and thanked the Ulster TSB for its support of that resolution. Mr. Smith indicated that an individual was hit by a vehicle while riding their bicycle westbound near the Dollar General on May 20; the vehicle did not stop. The individual, Daniel O'Dea, was hospitalized with serious injuries including a broken femur and will require rehabilitation. Mr. Smith stressed that vulnerable road users need a viable alternative to Rte. 28. The crash victim also wondered if facilities such as rumble strips or crosswalks could be added to Rte 28 to improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety. Ms. Quinn indicated that it's problematic that the crash was not publicized. Slack volunteered to submit an inquiry to the NYS Police to see what their protocol is for reporting crashes to the public. Mr. Corrigan noted that he will look into the rumble strip standard for new paving projects.

Mr. Mercurio spoke on his experience as a cyclist and driver in Ulster County and the number of cyclist fatalities over the years; he looks forward to participating on the TSB to develop solutions.

Ulster County Website: www.ulstercountyny.gov

Mr. Corrigan made a motion to amend the agenda and move item a under New Business to before Member Updates. Second by Mr. Slack. No objections.

IV. New Business

a. Ulster County Legislature Draft Resolutions

- i. [Resolution No. 143](#) - Setting A Public Hearing On [Proposed Local Law No. 3 Of 2025](#), A Local Law To Ensure The Safety Of Vulnerable Road Users In Ulster County, To Be Held On Tuesday, June 17, 2025
At 7:05 PM – Legislator Aaron Levine, District 1, sponsor of 143, will be on hand to discuss

Ulster County Legislator Aaron Levine, District No. 1 – Town of Saugerties and Town of Woodstock –discussed a proposed 3 foot passing law that the Ulster County Legislature (links above). He indicated that the NYS Legislature has been unable to get a similar law out of the Transportation Committee for a vote of the full legislature. Suffolk County and Monroe County have passed their own 3 foot legislation; Albany County is also fully reviewing a law at this time. Leg. Levine therefore explained that the Ulster County Legislature will be considering similar legislation and requested feedback from the TSB. A public hearing on the law will be held before the July legislative session. He then requested comment and input from the TSB. General discussion ensued; members were generally in favor and supportive of the proposal. Statewide legislation has apparently been upheld due to conflicts with NYC legislators. Leg. Levine indicated that a public outreach effort should accompany the law if it should be enacted, including possible signage or mail notification. It is the intent of the law that enforcement would be on all roads in Ulster County, not just county routes.

No action at this time.

- ii. [Resolution No. 225](#) - [Updating The Ulster County Pedestrian And Bicycle Policy](#) – (Leg. Stewart, invited)
Discussion postponed.

V. Member Updates

Mr. Corrigan indicated that a maintenance resurfacing of Rte 28 from the Hickory Pitt BBQ restaurant to NYS Rte 375 will occur in 2026; the project will include inlaid stripping; Mr. Corrigan is investigating whether rumble strips could be included in that project. He indicated that state pavements are suffering from deterioration that the local residency is trying to address on a case by case basis focusing on the worst condition segments. .

Ms. Quinn provided an update on behalf of Families for Safe Streets and the ‘Safe Streets package’ of regulations in front of the NYS Legislature including the 3 foot passing law, complete streets funding, and speed limiter technologies for repeat offenders. Safe Pass Ulster will be sponsoring a viewing of “The Speed of Silence” documentary in Saugerties at the Orpheum. Safe Pass Ulster also has bicycle lights available for public distribution through a donation from O’Connor & Associates. Ms. Quinn spoke with people in Newburgh regarding a proposal for possible new bike share program; similar proposals are being planning in Kingston as well through a grant from NYSERDA.

Ulster County DPW had no updates

Ms. Russo and Mr. Kight attended the Highland School Board with a legacy plaque on behalf of this year’s School Bus Driver of the Year Awardee, Mary Dutka. The Board was very proud of the award and responded with a standing ovation.

Mr. Slack provided an update of the Ulster County Transportation Council. The new Transportation Improvement Program is currently being developed for the federal fiscal year period 2026-2030. A public meeting will be held later in June to present the draft TIP, which is open for public comment. The TIP includes all federal transportation aid to be programmed in Ulster County during that timespan. The majority of surface transportation aid provided to UCTC through a formula will be added to existing projects on the TIP that require more money for construction; therefore, there will be no new projects sponsored by local municipalities. NYSDOT has several new projects proposed in Ulster County, including a reconstruction of Washington Avenue in Kingston between Schwenk Ave and Sawkill Rd; geotechnical road stabilization in Woodstock and Shandaken; intersection safety work in Shawangunk at Rte. 208 and Wallkill Ave; bridge reconstruction in Woodstock on Rte 212 which will include some sidewalk work. Slack also indicated that UCTC will resubmit a planning grant application to the Safe Streets for All program to conduct a county-wide systemic crash analysis. Senior Transportation Planner position has been filled; Chris Seeger began working for the UCTC in May.

Chief Tinti from the City of Kingston noted the traffic safety unit is split among 2 shifts 8:00 – 4:00 and 4:00 – 12:00, has effectively doubled the number of violations written. To date since January 2025 through the end of May: 2,500 stops; 2,200 tickets issued incl. 335 speeding violations & 45 aggravated unlicensed operations. 76 crashes were also handled. Mr. Slack asked if there were any specific locations that the units were focusing on. Chief Tinti indicated that the city is monitoring traffic and speed conditions using a variety of tools including fixed radar devices and deploying forces where needed. Mr. Corrigan indicated that some of the speed limit warning signs may be ready to be updated, which may help with compliance. It also has taken some time for GPS notifications of speed limits.

Mr. Cassidy has contacted the Rosendale PD to request increased enforcement of large vehicle compliance in the town. He is also looking into the need or viability of Rosendale becoming a “complete streets” town [which would entail forming a standing Complete Street Committee and passing a local law advocating for complete street solutions]. He also is waiting for the results of the NYSDOT traffic study, which will be a report that follows the NYSDOT Safety Investigation Procedures Manual. Ms. Quinn noted that the traffic signals at the location of the fatality on Rte 32 is confusing for both motorists and especially bicyclists and pedestrians. There are no marked pedestrian facilities at the location. Mr. Cassidy concluded by asking about the speed radar devices that were purchased by Ulster County in 2024; Slack indicated that those signs are on permanent loan and there are not many presently deployed and in operation; he will speak with county staff to see if some sort of encouragement can be made to get those better-utilized.

VI. Old Business (Open Items)

a. Ulster County Bicycle and Pedestrian Policy

Slack will send a meeting invitation to volunteers in June in order to schedule a kickoff meeting.

b. Education and Outreach Activities

No updates

c. Reappointments

All reappointment letters have been written and signed; if the County Executive’s staff had addresses on file, those were sent out; membership of Quinn, Klepner, Bettez and Mercurio are subject to Legislative approval in June.

d. County and Local NYSDOT Traffic Safety Requests

Slack sent an inquiry to NYSDOT Region 8 Deputy Director and requested that UCTC and Planning be included in meeting arrangements.

e. Traffic Safety Board Reserve Fund – Slack

- i. A reserve fund in the amount of \$3,598.10 associated with the TSB has been discovered by the Ulster County Commissioner of Finance dating back prior to 2014; Finance has requested that the funds be directed to a specific use. Mr. Slack would like to solicit input therein.

Ms. Quinn presented a detailed proposal to develop a program to promote locally-derived traffic safety “tactical urbanism” demonstration projects. Mr. Slack was apprehensive to support a program that may require significant administrative capacity and requested that the TSB consider a more simplified approach, such as preparing a package of safety materials for wide distribution, such as reflective materials.

Discussion Tabled due to lack of quorum.

VII. Other Business

Slack indicated that he will be out of town during the first week of July; the TSB typically adjourns for the summer. Members agreed that taking July and August off would be acceptable but notification should be made to members and let the Chair decide. Unless a specific issue arises that warrants the TSB meeting in August, the next meeting will likely be held in September.

Motion to adjourn made by Slack; second by Quinn. Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.