



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

May 4, 2026 Minutes

Location: Ulster County Legislative Chambers

Approved June 1, 2026

<u>Members In Attendance:</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Eric Kight, NYCDEP, Chair	Brendan Masterson, UC DPW
Nick Mercurio, Town of Rosendale	Lou Klepner, Chair, Town of Saugerties Transportation Advisory Committee
Marc Cassidy, Town of Rosendale	David Corrigan NYSDOT, Vice Chair
Giovanna Russo, MHV School Transp. Supervisors Assoc	Sgt. Robert Vedder, Ulster County Sherriff's Dept
Egido Tinti, City of Kingston Chief of Police	
Brian Slack, Coordinator of Traffic Safety (Board Member Ex Officio) Ulster County Transportation Council	
Neal Bettez, Town of New Paltz resident	
Rosemary Quinn, Upstate Regional Rep, Families for Safe Streets/NYS Safe Streets Coalition/City of Kingston resident	
James Andrew Seyfarth, Town of Ulster Police Department	
<u>Nonvoting Members</u>	
Adam Dietz, Ulster County DPW	
<u>Guests</u>	
Betsy Blair, Town of Hurley Safety Committee	

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Approval of the April 13, 2026 Draft Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Cassidy; Second by Mr. Bettez; motion carried.

III. Public Comments

Ms. Betsy Blair of Hurley spoke regarding excessive speed and dangerous/illegal maneuvers in and around Hurley Avenue and compelled TSB members to assist the town in seeking viable solutions. General discussion ensued with TSB members considered possible measures that could occur that could address the issue. Radar signs as well as enhanced enforcement were among the chief recommendations made; Mr. Slack will reach out to the Sheriff to request enhanced enforcement in the affected area. Other traffic calming engineering solution should be considered for long-term implementation by Ulster County DPW, such as lane narrowing, audible rumble strips, and other devices. Traffic counts should also be checked to see if there has been a recent speed count.

IV. Member Updates

Ms. Russo noted that the Ulster County Legislature has approved a law that allows school districts to install traffic cameras on school buses with the intent to reduce illegal schoolbus passing. The videos of violations will

be reviewed by the camera company, as well as a technician at Ulster County Emergency Services before a fine is issued for a violation.

Mr. Cassidy thanked Ulster County DPW for fixing the sidewalk on the Keator Ave bridge in Rosendale. He also inquired about the deployment of radar signs; Mr. Slack indicated that towns were provide signs upon request and are solely responsibly for their deployment. He indicated that few have been deployed according to the Traffic Cloud dashboard (the manufacturer). Sidewalks constructed by NYSDOT still require inspection and the town continues to await delivery of the final traffic study from NYSDOT for Rte 32.

Mr. Slack indicated that two safety related contracts are moving forward. A Technical Advisory Committee for the Albany Ave corridor management plan should be executed in May. The other study, a safety action plan, is going through procurement. Rose Quinn has agreed to represent the TSB on the advisory committee for that study. Mr. Slack also indicated that UCTC assisted Ulster DPW with the development of a Roadway Departure Action Plan capital improvement grant for Mountain Rest and Mohunk Roads due to the high rate of roadway departure crashes. The application is presently under review by NYSDOT. The grant would pay for improved signage, high friction pavement, and audible rumble strips on the road segments. Finally Mr. Slack noted that he reviewed, rated and ranked 5 applications for the Transportation Alternatives Program from Ulster County communities. City of Kingston and Towns of Saugerties, Woodstock, Marbletown, Plattekill each submitted proposals.

Mr. Mercurio noted his interest and effort to make Cottekill Road a safe connection between the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail and the O&W Rail Trail. It had at one time been listed on the Ulster County "Rec-Connect" mapping tool but has since been removed. He's exploring options for improved signage and possibly other options as well.

Chief Tinti noted that a number of Kingston officers recently attended the Empire State Law Enforcement conference; ebikes were a popular topic.

Mr. Dietz indicated that Ulster County DPW would have 12 bridges under full or partial replacement in the near future. He also indicated that DPW will be creating a bridge maintenance crew which will be focused on minor bridged on Ulster County's 154 bridges.

Ms. Quinn reminded everyone that City of Kingston has kicked off its new pilot speed camera enforcement program within selected school zones. She also noted that NYS Bicycle Coalition continues to work aggressively toward passing a 3 foot passing law.

Mr. Bettez reminded everyone that the Village of New Paltz lowered its speed limit to 25mph; the move excludes state touring routes under NYSDOT jurisdiction within the village. He also reminded the board about details in the Traffic Safety and Mobility Instruction 17-05 on how NYSDOT sets speed limits, including use of urbanized areas as a consideration. That guidance is outlined on the Ulster County TSB Resources page.

Lte. Seyfarth indicated that crashes in Town of Ulster are up 30% as compared to this time last year; very many are within parking lots but intersections along the commercial strips are also very high.

Mr. Kight had no significant updates for NYC reservoir roads.

V. Old Business (Open Items)

a. Ulster County Road Safety Plan

Slack indicated that RFP responses will be reviewed next week

b. Education and Outreach Activities

No updates; Slack will submit an inquiry to the County Executive's Office to see if they are planning another "Safe Start to Summer" campaign this year.

c. 2026 Awards re: 2026 Charlie Schaller and School Bus Driver of the Year Awards

Slack summarized applications received for the two awards; 2 applications were received for the Charles Schaller Award [correction: three were actually received]. Two applications have been received for the School Bus Driver of the Year award. Slack discussed the possibility of forming a small subcommittee for the School Bus award; Ms. Russo noted that it will need to be determined by June 1 so that the nominee can attend a June award event. TSB members recommended that all members be mailed the applications and make a final determination at the June 1 meeting. All agreed.

For the Charles Schaller Award, Chairman Kight recommended that the Executive Committee conduct the review and provide their recommendation to the full board in June.

VI. New Business

a. GTSC Grant Submissions

The Chair should receive applications from GTSC for review and approval

b. E-Bike Training Seminar – R. Quinn

Rose is organizing an ebike training for law enforcement and the general public. The location will be the Kingston Center SUNY Ulster campus on Mary's Ave. NY Bicycle Coalition has offered to provide the training, which is tailored for law enforcement but can be flexible and offered to the public at large as well. More information to follow shortly. Mr. Slack offered assistance with coordination. A date and agenda will follow.

c. NYS Thruway Wrong Way Detection – L. Klepner

Mr. Klepner was absent; item postponed.

d. Hurley Ave – A. Dietz

Mr. Dietz indicated that he and other staff at DPW have observed from their office on Hurley Avenue on a regular basis traffic using the Hurley Ave bicycle lane as a passing lane. He inquired as to whether stanchions might be appropriate for bicycle lane delineation in the City. Mr. Slack noted that the Kingston Complete Streets Advisory Committee had submitted a strong recommendation for removable stanchions on the Broadway Bicycle Lane; Kingston DPW was strongly opposed due to maintenance difficulties; the project manager also recommended them but the city determined they would not be used. Mr. Slack recommended that the TSB coordinate with the Kingston CSAC and consider re-submitting a request to the city for reconsideration. Slack will reach out to the chair of CSAC for discussion.

VII. Other Business

VIII. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Slack; second by Ms. Quinn. Meeting adjourned at 7:38pm.