NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C.

ISSUED: September 24, 1981

Forwarded to:

Mr. Frederick G. Beardsley
Town Superintendent of Highways
363 Underhill Avenue
Yorktown, New York 10598

SAFETY RECOMMENDATION(S)

H-81-70

On November 8, 1979, a schoolbus, under contract to School District No. 8 and operated by Vanguard Bus Company, rolled onto its left side as the driver tried to negotiate a right turn at the intersection of Aqueduct Street and Old Croton Dam Road at too high a rate of speed . The bus was being driven by a recently hired driver who was being guided by a more experienced driver. They were transporting 30 high school students to Yorktown Heights from Ossining, New York; 23 of the occupants were injured.
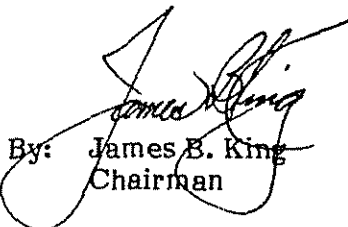
Although the bus route had been jointly selected by the school district and the bus company, segments of the route are hazardous, with narrow roadways, limited sight distances, and inadequate signing. The accident location did not have any signing on the date of the accident to advise of the safe speed or other signing to safely control the traffic. A visit to the site on June 22, 1981, by a Safety Board investigator revealed that intersection is still not signed.

The intersection should be signed and marked according to the basic principles set forth in the Federal Highway Administration's Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. The Manual presents traffic control devices for all streets and highways open to the public regardless of type or class or the governmental agency having jurisdiction.

The Safety Board, therefore, recommends that the Yorktown Highway Department:

> Conduct a traffic engineering study of the intersection of Aqueduct Street and Old Croton Dam Road to determine what traffic control devices are warranted to improve safe operation at this intersection and make appropriate changes. (Class II, Priority Action) (H-81-70)

KING, Chairman, DRIVER, Vice Chairman, McADAMS, GOLDMAN, and BURSLEY, Members, concurred in this recommendation.

By: James B. King
       Chairman

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