

A Legal Analysis of the Responsibility of the Transportation Department of Sukoharjo Regency in Ensuring the Health and Safety of Road Users

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze juridically the responsibility of the Transportation Agency of Sukoharjo Regency in ensuring the health and safety of road users. The research focuses on two main issues: the legal framework governing the agency's responsibility and the implementation of such responsibility in the administration of traffic and road transportation. This research employs a normative legal method using statutory and conceptual approaches. The legal materials consist of primary, secondary, and tertiary sources, which are analyzed qualitatively. The primary legal basis of this study refers to Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Road Traffic and Transportation. The results indicate that, from a juridical perspective, the Transportation Agency of Sukoharjo Regency holds administrative and technical responsibilities in traffic management, including regulation, supervision, control, and the provision of infrastructure that meets safety and health standards. These responsibilities reflect the principles of legality and good governance. However, in practice, several obstacles remain, such as limited budget, inadequate infrastructure, and suboptimal inter-agency coordination. Therefore, strengthening regulations, enhancing supervision, and optimizing the role of local government are necessary to ensure the fulfillment of the public's right to health and safety in road usage.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Road user safety and health constitute fundamental indicators in assessing the effectiveness of the national transportation system. Roads, as public infrastructure, play a vital role in supporting community mobility and economic development. However, in practice, road usage is inseparable from various risks, particularly traffic accidents that may result in

fatalities, injuries, and material losses. The persistently high rate of traffic [1].

accidents in Indonesia indicates that efforts to protect road users still require significant improvement, both in terms of regulatory frameworks and their practical implementation [2].

From a legal perspective, the state has an obligation to ensure the safety and well-being of its citizens as part of the protection of human rights. This obligation is manifested

through the provision of quality public services, including in the transportation sector. Both central and local governments hold strategic roles in establishing a traffic and road transportation system that is safe, orderly, efficient, and sustainable. In this regard, technical agencies such as the Transportation Agency play a crucial role in carrying out regulatory, supervisory, and control functions within the transportation sector [3].

Normatively, the responsibility of the government in administering traffic and road transportation has been regulated in various laws and regulations, particularly Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Road Traffic and Transportation. This law stipulates that local governments possess the authority to manage traffic and road transportation within their respective jurisdictions. Such authority includes policy formulation, provision of infrastructure, supervision of regulatory compliance, and efforts to enhance road user safety and health. Therefore, the Transportation Agency, as a regional apparatus, bears legal responsibilities that are not only administrative in nature but also technical and operational [4].

Nevertheless, the implementation of these responsibilities often encounters several challenges. Budget constraints remain a primary factor affecting the quality and availability of transportation infrastructure, such as traffic signs, road markings, and other safety facilities. In addition, the lack of public awareness regarding traffic discipline and the weak enforcement of regulations contribute to the high incidence of traffic violations and accidents. Furthermore, suboptimal coordination among relevant institutions frequently hampers the effectiveness of policy implementation. These conditions reflect a gap between normative legal provisions and their realization in practice

Sukoharjo Regency, as an area with relatively high community mobility, is not exempt from these issues. As the authority responsible for transportation management, the Transportation Agency of Sukoharjo Regency plays a significant role in ensuring the safety and health of road users. However,

the extent to which this responsibility has been effectively implemented remains to be critically examined, particularly from a juridical perspective [5].

Based on the foregoing background, this study aims to analyze juridically the responsibility of the Transportation Agency of Sukoharjo Regency in ensuring road user safety and health, as well as to examine the implementation of such responsibilities in the administration of traffic and road transportation. This research is expected to contribute theoretically to the development of legal science, particularly in the field of administrative law, and to provide practical recommendations for local governments in improving the quality of public services in the transportation sector.

2. METHODS

This study employs a normative legal research method, which focuses on examining legal principles, doctrines, and regulations related to the responsibility of the Transportation Agency in ensuring road user health and safety. The normative approach is used to analyze legal norms governing public administration, particularly in the field of traffic and road transportation [6].

2.1 Research Approach

The research applies two main approaches:

1. Statutory Approach – examining relevant laws and regulations, particularly those governing traffic, transportation, and regional government authority.
2. Conceptual Approach – analyzing legal doctrines and theoretical frameworks such as authority theory, legal responsibility, and law enforcement.

2.2 Type of Research

This research is prescriptive in nature, aiming to provide legal arguments and recommendations regarding how the responsibility of the Sukoharjo Regency Transportation Agency should be implemented in accordance with legal norms.

2.3 Sources of Legal Materials

This study relies on secondary data, consisting of:

- a. Primary Legal Materials: Laws and regulations, including:
 - 1) Law Number 22 of 2009 on Road Traffic and Transportation
 - 2) Law Number 23 of 2014 on Regional Government
 - 3) Government Regulation Number 79 of 2013
 - 4) Minister of Transportation Regulation Number 111 of 2015
- b. Secondary Legal Materials: Legal textbooks, journal articles, and previous research related to transportation law, administrative law, and road safety.
- c. Tertiary Legal Materials: Legal dictionaries, encyclopedias, and supporting references that provide clarification of legal terms.

2.4 Data Collection Technique

Data were collected through library research, involving systematic review and analysis of legal documents, academic literature, and relevant regulations.

2.5 Data Analysis Technique

The data were analyzed using a qualitative juridical analysis method, which involves:

- a. Interpreting legal norms,
- b. Systematically organizing legal materials,
- c. Drawing conclusions based on legal reasoning.

This analysis aims to assess the conformity between legal norms and their implementation, as well as to identify gaps in the responsibility of the Transportation Agency in ensuring road user safety and health.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Legal Framework of Transportation Agency Responsibility

The findings indicate that, normatively, the responsibility of the

Sukoharjo Regency Transportation Agency in ensuring the health and safety of road users has a clear legal basis. Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Road Traffic and Transportation, along with Law Number 23 of 2014 on Regional Government, grants authority to local governments to organize a safe, orderly, and sustainable transportation system [3].

From the perspective of authority theory, this responsibility arises as a direct consequence of attributed authority provided by legislation. Therefore, the Transportation Agency not only has the power to regulate traffic but also bears a legal obligation to ensure road user safety and health through the provision of infrastructure, supervision, and traffic management.

3.2 Implementation of Responsibility in Practice

In practice, the implementation of the Transportation Agency's responsibility includes several key aspects:

- a. Traffic planning and engineering, through traffic flow regulation and management of accident-prone areas;
- b. Provision of infrastructure, such as traffic signs, road markings, and traffic signal systems;
- c. Supervision and control, including monitoring public transportation operations and vehicle roadworthiness;
- d. Public education and socialization, aimed at improving awareness of traffic safety.

However, the analysis reveals that implementation remains suboptimal. Several constraints persist, including budget limitations, inadequate infrastructure, and weak inter-agency coordination. These challenges affect the effectiveness of ensuring road user safety and health.

3.3 Factors Affecting Effectiveness

The effectiveness of the Transportation Agency's responsibility is influenced by several factors:

Juridical factors, including suboptimal implementation of legal norms and weak law enforcement;

Institutional factors, such as limited human resources and insufficient coordination among agencies;

Technical and operational factors, including inadequate road infrastructure and safety facilities.

In addition, public behavior plays a significant role, as the level of compliance with traffic regulations remains relatively low.

3.4 *Juridical Analysis of Government Responsibility*

Based on the theory of legal liability, the Transportation Agency, as part of the local government, holds administrative responsibility in organizing road traffic safety. Any negligence in providing safety infrastructure or conducting supervision may lead to legal consequences.

This responsibility may extend beyond administrative liability to civil liability if losses are suffered by the public due to such negligence. This is consistent with the principles of good governance, which require accountability, transparency, and effectiveness in public administration.

3.5 *Strengthening Strategies for Road Safety and Health*

To improve the effectiveness of the Transportation Agency's responsibility, several strategies are necessary:

Strengthening regulations and supervision to ensure proper implementation of legal norms;

Improving infrastructure and safety facilities, particularly in high-risk areas;

Enhancing inter-sectoral coordination among the Transportation Agency, Police, and other relevant institutions;

Increasing public education and awareness to promote a culture of traffic discipline.

These efforts are expected to create a transportation system that is not only technically safe but also capable of ensuring the health and safety of road users in a sustainable manner.

4. CONCLUSION

This study concludes that the responsibility of the Sukoharjo Regency Transportation Agency in ensuring the health and safety of road users is normatively well-established within the Indonesian legal framework, particularly under Law Number 22 of 2009 on Road Traffic and Transportation and Law Number 23 of 2014 on Regional Government. The authority granted to the agency inherently carries legal obligations to regulate, supervise, and provide adequate infrastructure to support road safety and public health.

However, in practice, the implementation of these responsibilities has not yet been fully effective. Several challenges persist, including limited budget allocation, inadequate infrastructure, suboptimal inter-agency coordination, and low levels of public compliance with traffic regulations. These factors collectively hinder the realization of a comprehensive and effective road safety system.

From a juridical perspective, the Transportation Agency holds administrative responsibility that may lead to legal consequences if negligence occurs in fulfilling its duties. Such responsibility reflects the principles of legality and good governance, which require accountability, transparency, and effectiveness in public service delivery.

Therefore, strengthening regulatory enforcement, improving infrastructure, enhancing institutional coordination, and increasing public awareness are essential steps to optimize the agency's role. Ultimately, a more integrated and accountable approach is necessary to ensure the fulfillment of the public's right to health and safety in road usage and to achieve a sustainable and safe transportation system.

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