

Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council
Unified Planning Work Program Status Report
2018-2019 Program Year - 2nd Half
Updated on November 27, 2018



Public Participation - General (Project Manager: James D'Agostino)

November: The Executive Committee approved the selection of Syracuse Design Group to redevelop the SMTC's website.

October: Eight firms submitted proposals to the SMTC's request for quotes for the redevelopment of the SMTC website. Staff has reviewed the proposals and will make a recommendation to the Executive Committee on November 1. Staff participated in a Pantone On-Demand Color for Graphic and Packaging Design webinar.

Federal Transportation Legislation Examination & Evaluation (Project Manager: Mario Colone)

November: A single draft resolution was created for the Fall 2018 SMTC Planning and Policy Committee meetings that consists of performance measure targets on the National Highway System for bridges, pavements, freight, and system performance.

October: No significant activity to report.

UPWP Previous Year Closeouts (Project Manager: James D'Agostino)

November: No significant activity to report.

October: No significant activity to report.

UPWP Maintenance & Development (Project Manager: James D'Agostino)

November: A new UPWP was created and was reviewed by the Planning Committee reflecting carryover projects and 3 new projects as well as required / mandate / recurring items.

October: A notice was sent out for the new program year requesting any small/medium projects in lieu of a full call letter due to the size of the carry over program. As of yet – none have been received.

Census Data Compilation &/or Analysis (Project Manager: Andrew Frasier)

November: Staff collected socioeconomic data for the ongoing update of the SMTC's regional travel demand model. Staff continues to prepare for the upcoming new American Community Survey data release.

October: Staff completed an analysis identifying areas in the MPA with a limited English proficiency population using newly available American Community Survey data.

Data Collection Compilation &/or Analysis (Project Manager: Kevin Kosakowski)

November: Staff oversaw the consultant's completion of tube counts in Liverpool to document the impact of Lights on the Lake traffic on nearby streets.

October: Staff fulfilled traffic count inquiries for outside entities. Managed the consultants undertaking of turning movement counts at a few complex CMP intersections.

Geographic Information Systems - SMTC (Project Manager: Jason Deshaies)

November: Road ownership maps have been created and will be added to the SMTC website.

October: The MPA road centerline geodatabase has been updated by staff over the last few months. The effort included removing or updating outdated fields, adding several new data fields, as well as improving spatial location. Staff attended a Community Data meeting facilitated by the Central New York Community Foundation. This is a meeting focused on data sharing in the CNY area.

Geographic Information Systems – Member Agency Assistance (Project Manager: Jason Deshaies)

November: The CNY Stormwater Features Map has been updated to include data that was collected over the summer. There are now over 14,000 stormwater features displayed on this interactive map. Each feature can be clicked on to view various information and photos. Staff is also assisting the CNY RPDB with the collection, analysis, and mapping of vehicular collision data.

October: Staff fulfilled several GIS data requests this month. Additionally, the CNY RPDB has finished review of the stormwater data collected over the summer. Analyst staff is working with the RPDB on updating the online interactive map.

Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning (Project Manager: Danielle Krol)

November: Staff presented the Florence Avenue Bicycle/Pedestrian Technical Analysis to the SMTC Planning Committee on November 27 as an informational item. Staff also presented the Skaneateles Sidewalk Assessment at the November 27 Planning Committee meeting. Final preparations are underway for presentations at the Policy Committee meeting on December 11.

Staff participated in a walking tour and workshop on October 30 with speaker Jeff Olson (Alta Planning + Design) to hear about trails in urban areas, with a focus on the Empire State Trail.

October: Staff is preparing for the Planning and Policy Committees presentation on the Skaneateles Sidewalk Assessment.

The working group for the Florence Avenue Bicycle/Pedestrian Access Study will meet in early November to review/discuss study recommendations. This technical analysis study will then be presented to the Planning Committee on November 27, and the Policy Committee on December 11.

The Cycle in the City planning group will meet next month to debrief on the 2018 Cycle in the City season and begin to make plans for 2019.

On October 30, staff will participate in a walking tour and workshop titled “Urban Trails at the Crossroads of NYS” with speaker Jeff Olson (Alta Planning + Design). The focus will be on the Empire State Trail as well as other local trails.

Bridge & Pavement Condition Management System (Project Manager: Andrew Frasier)

November: Staff has begun to analyze pavement data collected in 2018, and will continue to do so as it becomes available. Work will soon begin on analyzing new bridge information.

October: Staff have completed the Bridge Report and will present it at the upcoming Planning and Policy Committee meetings.

I-81 Participation (Project Manager: James D’Agostino)

November: No significant activity to report.

October: No significant activity to report.

I-81 Travel Demand Modeling Project - SMTC (Project Manager: James D’Agostino & Jason Deshaies)

November: No significant activity to report.

October: No significant activity to report.

MPO Area Regional Planning Initiatives (Project Manager: James D’Agostino)

November: Staff attended two F.O.C.U.S. Forums during the month. The November 2 presentation was the final Economic Development Speaker Series featuring mayors and supervisors. On November 13, County Executive Ryan McMahon participated in a Town Hall Forum at OCC.

The NYSAMPO Conference will be held July 15 – 18, 2019, at the Marriott Syracuse Downtown.

October: Staff received six venue proposals for the summer 2019 NYSAMPO Conference. Staff is entering negotiations with the Marriott Syracuse Downtown to host the event. Staff has been attending F.O.C.U.S. Greater Syracuse's Economic Development series. Staff completed a review of available traffic counts for select streets in downtown and conducted a "sensitivity analysis" for one of the alternatives from our 2014 Downtown Two-Way Feasibility Study in response to an inquiry from the City of Syracuse. Staff attended the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board's annual meeting.

Long Range Transportation Plan/Performance Based Measures (Project Manager: Meghan Vitale)

November: The System Performance Report and updated Financial Analysis were presented to the Planning Committee, and will be presented to Policy Committee in December. Staff continue to develop an approach for the full LRTP update.

October: Staff have updated the System Performance Report based on new guidance related to the transit asset management (TAM) measure. The System Performance Report and the updated financial plan will be reviewed at the upcoming SMTC committee meetings. Staff are also developing an approach and schedule to the full LRTP update, which is due in September 2020.

Rail, Truck & Transit Planning (Project Manager: Mario Colone)

November: A draft final "fixed-route" transit fact sheet was prepared by the NYSAMPO Transit Working Group. The draft will be shared with the NYSAMPO Executive Committee prior to finalization. The SMTC was informed of \$1.7M awarded to rail projects in the planning area from the Governor's Passenger and Freight Rail Assistance Program. \$600,000 to CNYRTA for platform rehabilitation at the Regional Transportation Center and \$1,100,000 to NYS&W Railway Corp. for installation of 2.6 miles of new continuous welded rail.

October: Staff continued its research relative to truck route designations and potential restrictions. Both the NYSDOT and FHWA provided pertinent information that will be useful in future discussions and associated outreach. Under the transit mode, staff reviewed Centro's draft Transit Asset Management Plan (TAM) that is scheduled for adoption by their Board at the end of the month. A draft 2019 TAM target resolution was created for the Fall 2018 SMTC Planning and Policy Committee meetings.

Traffic Safety (Project Manager: Mike Alexander)

November: Staff continue to coordinate with the Safety Working Group as needed. Staff participated in an online Safe Routes to School webinar training session.

October: The SMTC sent a representative to the Highway Safety Symposium conference on October 16 and 17. Session themes included addressing safety concerns of a growing bicyclist population – how to incorporate/interact with the media regarding safety planning issues – sound social media strategies – and autonomous vehicles.

ROW Data Collection (Project Manager: Mike Alexander)

November: The SMTC presented the findings of the right-of-way GIS database to the Planning Committee on November 27. The presentation will be made to the Policy Committee in December.

June: The SMTC completed a database file and GIS shapefile that identifies underutilized and abandoned right-of-way information within the Metropolitan Planning Area. The database identifies corridors (e.g., roadway, utility, railroad, etc.), bridges, tunnels, and other similar infrastructure that is abandoned or underutilized for planning-level reference purposes only. The GIS file is available upon request by any member agency. No further updates will be given.

Congestion Management Process 2018/2019 (Project Manager: Mario Colone)

November: No significant activity to report.

October: Minor updates to the draft report and performance measure analyses took place. Staff discussed the applicability of the SUNY Albany web-interface (i.e., NPMRDS tool) and determined that a few existing CMP performance measures would best be analyzed using the tool once it is more fully operational in the coming months.

Centro Rider / Non-Rider Survey (Project Manager: Meghan Vitale)

June: The Rider and Non-rider Survey reports were acknowledged as complete by the SMTC Policy Committee in June. The reports are now available on the SMTC's website. No further project updates will be given.

Fayetteville Route 5 Buildout Analysis Assistance (Project Manager: Meghan Vitale)

June: The final report was acknowledged as complete by the SMTC Policy Committee in June and is now available on the SMTC's website. No further project updates will be given.

City & OCDOT Traffic Count Program (Project Manager: Kevin Kosakowski)

November: Staff continues to oversee the consultant's completion of tube counts for both the City and County Traffic Count programs. A majority of the segments to be counted this round have already been completed over the past few months.

October: Staff has been managing the first couple of tube count batches completed by the traffic count consultant. This project is on target as scheduled.

Local Comprehensive Plan Assistance (Project Manager: Meghan Vitale)

November: The SMTC presented the findings from the draft technical memo to the Planning Committee on November 27. The presentation will be made to the Policy Committee in December.

October: The SMTC finalized a draft technical memo with attachments and incorporated comments received by the New York State Department of Transportation for the Church Street Municipal Lot Assessment. A draft presentation is being prepared for upcoming committee meetings to acknowledge the study as complete.

Environmental Justice (Project Manager: Kevin Kosakowski)

November: Staff recently completed the Draft Final report and which was presented to the Planning Committee on November 27 and will be presented to the Policy Committee in December.

October: Staff has been working toward the completion of a draft document.

US 11 Corridor Study (Project Manager: Meghan Vitale)

November: Staff have been coordinating with SOCPA staff to define a "future base" scenario based on known proposed developments in the study area. Staff have also been progressing demographic mapping for the corridor and summarizing existing conditions data.

October: A SAC meeting was held on October 25 to review existing conditions data (traffic counts, safety, existing level of service), the draft Public Involvement Plan, and the Future Base scenario currently in the SMTC's travel demand model. Staff will update the model based on SAC feedback, and analyze operating conditions and other impacts associated with future development.

Erie Boulevard Transit Mobility Enhancement (Project Manager: TBD)

November: A project scoping meeting was held November 15 with Centro, City of Syracuse, NYSDOT, Town of DeWitt, and SMTC. A draft scope of work will be created in the coming weeks.

October: No significant activity to report.

Safety Assessment & Analysis (OCDOT & City) (Project Manager: Mike Alexander)

November: The scope was acknowledged by ballot on November 8. The SMTC will identify systemic and site-specific "hot spot" safety issues and potential planning-level solutions for county and city-owned

roadways. The SMTC will start with the county first and complete the city assessment second. The goal is to improve HSIP fund competitiveness for projects that reduce fatalities and serious injuries. Currently, the SMTC is developing network screening methodology and support graphics.

October: The SMTC continues to coordinate with Onondaga County regarding the draft scope. Currently, the draft scope focuses on identifying systemic and site-specific “hot spot” safety issues and potential planning-level solutions. The goal is to improve HSIP fund competitiveness for projects that reduce fatalities and serious injuries.

RTC/Market Area Access Study (Project Manager: Mike Alexander)

November: The SMTC has started to outline scoping items in preparation for a scoping meeting with the City and other interested stakeholders.

April: This project is deferred until late fall/early winter.

Walton St./Armory Square Mobility Plan (Project Manager: Aaron McKeon)

November: Continued stakeholder outreach – attended meeting of the Armory Square Association, discussed the potential for a mural on the railroad viaduct wall with a local artist, and discussed streetscape ideas with several small business owners, including the Blue Tusk, Sweet on Chocolate, and Accents on Armory Square. Completed assessment of sidewalk café seating space and ADA ratings of sidewalks and intersections.

October: Conducted stakeholder meetings in cooperation with the Downtown Committee. Also met with City staff to discuss stakeholder meetings. Work continued on existing conditions portion of the project report.

W. Fayette St. & S. Geddes St. Complete Streets Evaluation (Project Manager: Danielle Krol)

November: Staff continues to work on filling in the gaps in field data, collecting parking regulations and will conduct parking counts as weather allows. Staff will continue to summarize the existing field work as well as demographics. In addition, staff will begin to work on future traffic analyses for this project.

October: The first SAC meeting for this study was held on October 17. Staff reviewed the project purpose, scope of work, schedule, and field work gathered to date. The group reviewed maps of existing conditions, including sidewalk compliance ratings and pedestrian/bicycle facilities. A discussion of issues along both corridors also took place. SMTC will finish drafting the PIP for the project and forward to the SAC by the end of the month along with meeting minutes. Staff will also map the existing parking regulations along both corridors and determine if parking counts are necessary. The next SAC meeting is anticipated for early 2019.

Hazard Mitigation Technical Assistance (Project Manager: Meghan Vitale)

November: Staff will continue to participate as requested by SOCPA.

October: SOCPA has indicated that the next meeting will likely occur in November.

Travel Demand Modeling (Project Manager: Jason Deshaies)

November: Staff has compiled various population, households, and jobs data to use as a reference for updating the travel demand model inputs from 2014 conditions to 2017 conditions. Since there won't be a complete Census until 2020, staff is using 5-year ACS data to review and update the model's base year inputs as necessary. Various jobs data from the NYS DOL, Census LEHD, InfoGroup, and local economic development agencies is being used to update any major jobs changes in the region over the last few years.

October: Staff continues to participate in the monthly Travel Demand Modeling Working Group meetings. This month the AVAIL team presented some of the new features they added to the NPMRDS analysis tool that will be useful for updating Congestion Management Plans (CMP). Additionally, staff continues to update the SMTC Regional Model. The model network has been updated to reflect current conditions for number of lanes, intersection type and functional classification. Staff is currently coding turn restrictions into the network.

TIP Development & Maintenance (Project Manager: Mario Colone)

November: On November 20, the Capital Projects Committee met to discuss the 2020-2024 TIP Update. Once all carryover projects costs are accounted for, staff anticipate that nearly \$72M will be available for new programming over the 5-year period. An additional meeting may be scheduled in December to discuss the evaluation process and available funding. Staff informed members that 100% of federal transportation funds were obligated in the prior 2017-2018 Federal Fiscal Year. Additionally, the second round of BRIDGE NY awards, which are used to repair and replace local bridges and culverts, were announced earlier in the month. Five projects (i.e., 2 bridges, City of Syracuse; 1 culvert, Onondaga County; 1 bridge, Madison County; 1 culvert, Town of Spafford) were selected in the SMTC planning area totaling \$7.3M.

October: Staff completed an internal review of sponsor cost and/or schedule updates as part of the forthcoming 2020-2024 TIP. The review was necessary to identify anticipated planning funds available for new programming and, to maintain fiscal constraint prior to the solicitation of new projects. The internal review will be discussed with the Capital Projects Committee in November followed by the 2020-2024 TIP “call for projects.”

Miscellaneous Activities & Special Technical Assistance (Project Manager: James D’Agostino)

November: No significant activity to report.

October: No significant activity to report.