



## Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council

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## NEWS RELEASE

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## **SMTC Produces Free Bike Map – Rates Suitability of County and City Roads for Bicycle Commuting**

**SYRACUSE, N.Y.** – In an effort to assist the general public (primarily bicycle commuters) in determining which roads are currently the most suitable for bicycle travel, the Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council (SMTC) is proud to announce the availability of the newly published *Bicycle Suitability Map*. In addition to rating streets (throughout Onondaga County, including the City of Syracuse) as being “Excellent, Good, Average, Fair, Poor” for commuter bicycling, the map includes various educational and safety related panels pertaining to bicycle and pedestrian travel, and the rules of the road.

The Greater Syracuse Metropolitan Area Bike Map is **FREE** to the public. The map was designed by the SMTC staff and study advisory committee representatives of the SMTC Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. In addition, many local citizens and organizations, including the Onondaga Cycling Club, and the Syracuse-Onondaga Cycling Coalition, participated in the development of the Bike Map by rating selected road segments based on their suitability for individuals traveling by bicycle.

This map was developed as part of the SMTC’s two-year **Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan** project. The primary goals of this Plan are to preserve and enhance the bicycling and pedestrian network, and to improve the safety, attractiveness, and overall viability of cycling and walking as legitimate transportation alternatives to the transportation system in the Syracuse Metropolitan Area. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of the *Bicycle Suitability Map*, contact the SMTC at (315) 422-5716, or via e-mail at [dzebley@smtcmpo.org](mailto:dzebley@smtcmpo.org).

## **What is the Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council (SMTC)?**

The Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council was formed in 1966 as a result of the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1962 and Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964. Serving as the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Syracuse Metropolitan area, the SMTC provides the forum for cooperative decision making in developing transportation plans and programs for Onondaga County and small portions of Madison and Oswego Counties. The SMTC is comprised of elected and appointed officials, representing local, state and federal governments or agencies having interest in or responsibility for transportation planning and programming.

**Log on to the SMTC web site for the latest in transportation planning in the Syracuse Metropolitan Area: [www.smtcmpo.org](http://www.smtcmpo.org)**

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