



Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SMTC TO HOLD KICKOFF PUBLIC MEETING FOR BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN

SYRACUSE, N.Y. -- The Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council (SMTC) will be holding the kickoff public meeting for its **Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan** – a 2-year project being conducted by the SMTC that will ultimately lead to the development of a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for Onondaga County and the City of Syracuse. 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 and adjuncts to the transportation system in the Greater Syracuse Metropolitan Area.

Mark your calendars and make plans to attend the following public meeting:

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2002 @ 6:30 p.m.
LeMoyne Manor, 629 Old Liverpool Road, Liverpool, N.Y.

At the meeting, **open to the public**, the SMTC will formally present the project to the public. The meeting will include an explanation on the study's Scope of Work, as well as the presentation of the

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goals, objectives and purpose of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Following the formal portion of the meeting, the public will be encouraged to ask questions, and comment on existing conditions, issues and concerns.

The SMTC has taken the lead role in the sponsorship of this project. The project will be completed utilizing the SMTC professional staff, with support, input and participation from SMTC's member agencies, as well as citizens who will be represented through the Study Advisory Committee (SAC), and a separate stakeholders group. The study area will encompass all of Onondaga County, including the City of Syracuse. The project, commencing during the 2001-2002 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) year, is to be completed over the course of two years, and will include the following tasks: (1) evaluating and summarizing existing bicycle and pedestrian plans; (2) data compilation and summary; (3) gathering of existing conditions/creation of a suitability map; (4) identifying known and perceived bicycle and pedestrian issues; and (5) developing recommendations and action items that seek to improve the community's bicycle and pedestrian environment. All tasks will ultimately be compiled and organized into a formal **Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan** document, expected to be presented in September 2003.

For more information about the 2/7/02 public meeting, or to learn more about the **Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan**, contact SMTC Transportation Planner Danielle Zebley at (315) 422-5716, or dzebley@smtcmpo.org



LeMoyne Manor is handicapped accessible. Please advise the SMTC of specific accommodations required to facilitate your participation in this public meeting.

What is the 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. Its committees are comprised of elected and appointed officials, representing local, state and federal governments or agencies having interest in or responsibility for transportation planning and programming.

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