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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## SMTC Reviews Transportation Development – *Past, Present & Future* -- in Long-Range Transportation Plan 2001 Update

SYRACUSE, N.Y. -- The Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council (SMTC) has officially adopted the Syracuse Metropolitan Area's *Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) – 2001 Update*. The document was officially endorsed by the SMTC Policy Committee on May 14, 2001.

The LRTP is a blueprint to guide the Syracuse Metropolitan Area's transportation development over a 25-year period. Updated every three years to reflect changing conditions and new planning principles, the **LRTP 2001 Update** looks at major urban transportation planning issues such as environmental/air quality; complete access to transportation; alternative transportation modes (i.e., bicycle and pedestrian); the impact of land development on the transportation system; highway traffic congestion; and maintenance of the existing infrastructure. Also included is the **Conformity Analysis**, which successfully determines that the SMTC is in conformity with the applicable New York State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality in its adoption of a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Long-Range Transportation Plan, and any pertinent amendments or updates.

The production of the **LRTP 2001 Update** also allowed for public input. Citizens and other interested agencies/organizations were encouraged to review the draft Update and submit comments during the publicized 30-day public comment period (April 13, 2001 through May 13, 2001).

Those interested in receiving a copy of the **L RTP 2001 Update** should contact SMTC Communications/Public Information Specialist Wayne Westervelt at (315) 422-5716. **The L RTP 2001 Update can also be requested on CD-rom; and is available for viewing at the Onondaga County Main Branch Library on S. Salina Street (Galleries) in Downtown Syracuse, N.Y.**

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 (e.g., CNY Regional Transportation Authority, CNY Regional Planning and Development Board, City of Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York State Department of Transportation, etc.) having interest in or responsibility for transportation planning and programming.

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