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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Draft Document is Available at the SMTC

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) recently announced the issuance of the **draft Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)** for the next three Federal fiscal years.

The **STIP** is a list of the federally funded State or local highway and transit projects in both urban and rural areas that are part of Governor Pataki's capital program for transportation, and that are scheduled to begin between 10/1/02 and 9/30/04.

The **STIP** begins as a compilation of the regional Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) that are adopted every two years by the 12 Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in New York State (i.e. the SMTC approved its 2001-2006 TIP on May 14, 2001). It grows into a comprehensive list of all highway and transit projects in urban and rural areas for which federal funds are proposed to be used.

To provide for the greatest opportunity for early and continuous public involvement, paper copies of the draft **STIP**, specifically pertaining to NYSDOT Region 3 (which includes Cayuga, Cortland, Onondaga, Oswego, Seneca, and Tompkins Counties), are available for review during normal business hours at the Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council (SMTC), 100 Clinton Square, Suite 100, 126 N. Salina Street, Syracuse, N.Y. Phone: (315) 422-5716.

An electronic version of the summary report of the draft **STIP**, and the project listings are also available on NYSDOT's web site (<http://www.dot.state.ny.us>). The public may review and comment on the draft **STIP** between August 3, 2001 and September 4, 2001.

Written comments pertaining to the draft **STIP** are to be sent by September 4, 2001, to the:

New York State Department of Transportation
Program Management Division
Building 5, Room 515
State Office Campus
1220 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12232-0515

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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