

June 12, 2001

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Wayne A. Westervelt
(315) 422-5716

**SMTC to Present RECOMMENDATIONS of the
SENECA TURNPIKE CORRIDOR TRAFFIC STUDY**

SYRACUSE, N.Y. -- The Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council (SMTC) will be holding a public involvement meeting for its **Seneca Turnpike Corridor Traffic Study** – a study aimed at identifying transportation needs and recommending improvements to mitigate traffic congestion along the Seneca Turnpike Corridor (between Hopper Rd. and Brighton Ave.).

The meeting, open to the public, will allow the SMTC to present the recommendations of the Seneca Turnpike Corridor Traffic Study. It will include an overview of the transportation issues that were previously identified and an explanation of the draft recommendations that have been developed to address these issues. **This meeting will provide an opportunity for the public to comment on the draft recommendations prior to the Study's Draft Report being finalized.** Citizens, business representatives, and community leaders with an interest in the Seneca Turnpike Corridor are encouraged to attend this important meeting scheduled for:

**THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 2001
@ 6:30 PM**

**Bob Cecile Center
176 W. Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse, New York 13205**

The SMTC has been conducting the traffic study of the Seneca Turnpike (Rt. 173) corridor since June 2000. Seneca Turnpike (Rt. 173) runs in an east-west direction and provides a major connection between residential and community service land uses to the west, and Interstates 81 and 481 to the east. The section of Seneca Turnpike between Hopper Road and Monticello Drive (original study area) is congested during peak hour traffic, and the study has sought to determine what improvements can be made to mitigate the congestion effectively. In November 2000, the study area boundaries were extended further east from Monticello Drive to Brighton Ave., to make sure the recommendations made for mitigating congestion took this area into consideration.

For more information about the June 28th public meeting, or to learn more about the **Seneca Turnpike Corridor Traffic Study**, contact SMTC Communications/Public Information Specialist Wayne Westervelt at (315) 422-5716.



Note: The Bob Cecile Center is handicapped accessible. Please advise the SMTC of any specific accommodations required to facilitate your participation in this public meeting.

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.

#