



**Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council**  
**Unified Planning Work Program Status Report**  
**2023-2024 Program Year – 2nd Half**  
**March 2024**

**General Administration (Project Manager: James D’Agostino)**

**March:** The 2024-2025 UPWP has been adopted, distributed to state and federal partners, and sent to the printers. Distributions of the hardcopy will occur shortly. A meeting with NYSDOT on coordinated activities was held in Binghamton as part of NYSAMPO.

**February:** A Draft 2024-2025 UPWP is ready for committee action. Various capital solicitations have been progressed for a variety of state and federal initiatives. Planning and Policy Committee meetings are being held.

**January:** Efforts continue preparations for the next program year. Preparations are ongoing for the February Planning, Policy, and Capital Projects Committees.

**December:** Next UPWP cycle solicitation underway. Efforts on capital solicitations for TAP/CMAQ, Bridge NY, and 5310 are in progress. Next Planning and Policy meetings are scheduled for February.

**November:** Public Meeting scheduled and held. Efforts underway for planning for next UPWP cycle and call letter creation. Beginning process of annual staff reviews. Mailings and planning for Bridge NY cycle.

**October:** Public meetings were scheduled/held. SMTC Planning and Policy Committee meetings were scheduled and held. A freight outreach mailing in assistance of NYSDOT was completed. The beginning of planning for the next program year has begun.

**Public Participation & Outreach (and Website) (Project Manager: James D’Agostino)**

**March:** Forum on Active Transportation (FOAT) was held on March 21, with the main presentation from Sara Bollinger, Deputy Supervisor Town of Manlius, about the new Manlius Comprehensive Plan. Forty-five people registered and 27 attended.

**February:** Staff is in the process of scheduling a March FOAT meeting.

**January:** Website was updated, and outreach continued on the numerous capital project opportunities. The draft UPWP was put out for public comment on the agency website.

**December:** Community Streets virtual public meeting/ office hours were held to do a Q and A of possible projects. Website updated. Several SAC meetings were held.

**November:** The November FOAT meeting will be held via Zoom on November 30 at 3:30 p.m.

**October:** Staff is in the process of scheduling a November FOAT meeting.

**Federal Transportation Legislation Examination & Evaluation (Project Manager: Mario Colone)**

**March:** Municipalities were informed of a current Active Transportation federal funding solicitation.

**February:** No significant activity to report.

**January:** Discussions were held with members regarding current federal transportation planning grant awards and forthcoming funding opportunities.

**December:** No significant activity to report.

**November:** FHWA recently released a new Final Rule to establish a greenhouse gas emissions performance measure, related target setting and reporting requirements. States have until February 2024 to establish targets. Once State targets are set, MPOs must then set targets within 180 days.

**October:** Staff continued collaborating with member agencies on various Federal transportation funded planning awards.

### **UPWP Previous Year Closeouts (Project Manager: James D'Agostino)**

**May:** All carryover project efforts have been completed. *No further updates will be given or needed on this item.*

### **UPWP Maintenance & Development (Project Manager: James D'Agostino)**

**March:** The 2024-2025 UPWP has been adopted, distributed to state and federal partners, and sent to the printers. Notice was received from our federal partners approving the program.

**February:** A full draft of the 2024-2025 UPWP was created and presented to the SMTC Committees. NYSDOT comments were received, and their minimal edits incorporated into the version sent to the SMTC Policy Committee.

**January:** A full draft of the 2024-2025 UPWP was created and put out for public comment. All project requests will be accommodated in some substantive way.

**December:** Work is underway to solicit, evaluate and plan for projects for the new program year. Several new projects are planned for including providing management assistance to the County and City for their respective grants (Reconnecting Communities and Safe Streets for All).

**November:** A call letter was sent out for the next cycle and budget planning has begun. A UPWP amendment was created to include the Complete Streets set aside and the City's Reconnecting Communities grant.

**October:** SMTC awaits the NYSDOT call letter for the next cycle. While waiting, we are planning for which projects will roll over and to what degree so that preliminary budgets can begin to be formed and an expectation of work activities for the next year take hold.

### **2023 NYSAMPO Conference Hosting (Project Manager: James D'Agostino)**

**June:** This event is complete. Final bills have been processed and paid. *No further updates will be given.*

### **Census Data Compilation and/or Analysis (Project Manager: Andrew Frasier)**

**March:** Staff continue to download and analyze data and create maps and graphics for the agency's Metropolitan Transportation Plan and Transportation Atlas.

**February:** Staff are building a repository of Census and other related data for use in both the Metropolitan Transportation Plan update and the Transportation Atlas.

**January:** Staff continue to analyze and document key tables for use in the agency's upcoming Transportation Atlas.

**December:** New American Community Survey data products were released in early December. Staff have been analyzing and reviewing key tables for use in the agency's Transportation Atlas. Staff conducted a review of the Limited English Proficient (LEP) population for use in the agency's Public Involvement Plans (PIP).

**November:** Staff continue to review existing Census data for the upcoming Transportation Atlas. New American Community Survey data is anticipated for an early December 2023 release.

**October:** Staff presented the proposed Urban Area modifications to the SMTC's Planning and Policy Committees and notified NYSDOT Main Office of their concurrence. Staff continue to review Census data for the upcoming Transportation Atlas.

### **Data Collection, Compilation &/or Analysis (Project Manager: Kevin Kosakowski)**

**March:** RFP for traffic count assistance was due back on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Review of the proposals is underway. Staff has fulfilled a couple traffic count inquiries, has been researching and analyzing counts in the Brewerton Study area and is also internally processing a batch of manual counts recently provided by the Region.

**February:** Current traffic count assistance contract expires on June 30<sup>th</sup>. A new traffic count assistance RFP was released on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Submissions due back on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Staff continues internal organization/recording of count information (i.e. specials) made available from the Region. Working with analyst on mapping of count information.

**January:** Staff has received a number of 2023 tube count pdfs from the region and have processed/filed them appropriately internally. Staff is at the beginning stages of the numerous steps needed to send out/review the next RFP for count assistance. (i.e. drafting RFP). The current contract expires at the end of June. Staff has recently looked to become more familiar with programming that reads the raw tube count files if ever further knowledge of such program is needed.

**December:** No significant activity to report. Since the last report, staff's comments on the Main Office's traffic data viewer have been shared with the NYSDOT Main Office.

**November:** No significant activity. Staff incorporated another staff member's comments into the review of the new traffic data viewer and will look to now share the combined comments/review with Main Office.

**October:** Staff will look to work with our GIS analyst to continue to explore options for an SMTC online count map. Staff has filed away and included in its catalogue the 2022 count pdfs recently shared by the Region. Staff have reviewed and commented on the new traffic data viewer in the works from Main Office and will share with them in the near future.

### **Geographic Information Systems - SMTC (Project Manager: Jason Deshaies)**

**March:** A summary of the latest release of the Data Axle employment data was presented to the NYSAMPO Travel Demand Modeling Working/Data Group. The employment data is available to the MPOs via a NYSDOT contract. Additionally, several MPOs were granted access to the newly acquired Geotab data including SMTC. Staff has begun reviewing the online tools and available data. Lastly, staff is coordinating with the local transportation agencies to acquire the latest list of traffic cameras to update the Agency's ArcGIS Online interactive map of the region's ITS devices.

**February:** Staff has been working closely with NYSDOT staff in regard to reviewing various new datasets that have been acquired. Data Axle employment data is being reviewed for any discrepancies in the MPA, staff is currently documenting these and will report them to NYSDOT and Data Axle to be corrected. Staff also identified the key attribute fields in the data and documented the findings to provide to other MPOs and NYSDOT. Additionally, staff were invited to participate in an introductory training about Geotab data (a truck telematics dataset) that the NYSDOT has access to and may be able to provide to MPOs in the future.

**January:** The latest NPMRDS data (2022) was downloaded to be used for the Freight Profile update. Various attributes such as level of travel time reliability, truck travel time reliability, and average speeds for all available time periods (AM, PM, Off-Peak, Overnight, Weekend) were included in the download. Staff began reviewing the data to determine which data and maps would be included in the update. Additionally, staff began querying the DataAxle employment data for freight related places of employment. Various attributes including the number of employees and sales volumes are being analyzed.

**December:** The NYSAMPO GIS Working Group was invited to attend a Replica presentation being hosted by the Modeling Working Group. The presentation covered some of their new products such as transit demand and equity scores as well as their new Scanrio tool which can be used to analyze land use changes and how they impact the transportation system. Staff is currently coordinating with Replica for more information on this tool. Additionally, they discussed their model and data validation methodology.

**November:** Staff has begun collecting and compiling various GIS data for a Freight Profile update. The latest speed, travel time, and reliability data will be collected from the NPMRDS data and freight related business data will be collected from the latest ESRI DataAxle data. Additionally, staff attended the quarterly PSLA at Fowler Geospatial Advisory Council meeting to get updates about the program and provide assistance and feedback when needed.

**October:** Staff prepared for and attended a NYSAMPO GIS Working Group meeting. The presenters showed various examples of online mapping applications and story maps. Additionally, there were brief discussions about pavement data from NYSDOT and the status of the adjusted urban area process.

## **Geographic Information Systems – Member Agency Assistance (Project Manager: Andrew Frasier)**

**March:** Staff continues working with the City of Syracuse on providing datasets for the Open Data Portal. Staff respond to other data requests as needed.

**February:** Staff have been working with the City of Syracuse to provide some GIS files for their Open Data Portal. These files are being reviewed and updated by request. Staff continue to provide data to member agencies as needed.

**January:** Staff met with City of Syracuse staff to discuss GIS data sharing opportunities. Staff continue to provide data to member agencies upon request.

**December:** Staff continue to provide data to member agencies upon request.

**November:** Staff have completed GIS data requests on behalf of member agencies. Staff discussed transportation data at the City of Syracuse's Open Data Day.

**October:** Staff have been working closely with the City of Syracuse to promote their Open Data Challenge and Open Data Day. This year's theme is transportation.

## **Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning (Project Manager: Danielle Krol)**

**March:** A virtual FOAT meeting was held on Thursday, March 21 with Sara Bollinger, Deputy Supervisor for the Town of Manlius as the guest speaker. She discussed how the Town included Active Mobility in their Comprehensive Plan process.

Staff and member agencies met on March 18 to discuss the consultant proposals submitted for the Route 57 Complete Streets Study (scope of work approved in early February 2024). The planning level study will evaluate and potentially improve upon the overall transportation network and connections to/from Route 57 between John Glenn Boulevard and New York State Route 31 in the Town of Clay. A recommendation for a consultant award was identified and will be brought forward to the Executive Committee in April for discussion and potential approval.

**February:** Staff reached out to NYSDOT Main Office for clarification on estimated cost of RRFB's included in the NYSDOT Quick Cost Estimator Reference Tool available on their website for TAP, TEP, etc. applications, and received the needed guidance. Staff are also in the process of scheduling the next virtual Forum on Active Transportation (FOAT) meeting for late March.

**January:** The NYSMPO/DOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Working Group has been working on our Work Program for the coming year. Broadly, the group will continue to work on improving pedestrian and bicycle safety and accessibility; support complete streets implementation; coordination with other working groups, state agencies, and partners; track federal and state legislative and regulatory initiatives; and continue to provide a forum for sharing issues and ideas statewide. The group meets next in March via Zoom. SMTC staff is working on topics for the next virtual FOAT meeting, anticipated for March.

**December:** Approximately 24 people attended the virtual FOAT meeting held by SMTC at the end of November, where we talked about on-going and upcoming planning activities. Participants were quite interested in the Community Streets program. Staff also participated in the December 14 NYSMPO/DOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Working Group meeting, along with NYSDOT CLEAR training on December 13.

**November:** The next NYSMPO/DOT Bike/Ped Working Group Zoom meeting will be held on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Some of the staff that participate in the statewide Bike/Ped Working Group will participate in virtual CLEAR training on December 13<sup>th</sup>. The FOAT will meet on November 30 at 3:30 p.m. via Zoom. SMTC staff will highlight on-going and upcoming planning activities aimed at improving active mobility including the SMTC's City of Syracuse sidewalk data collection effort, the launch of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan process, and the new City of Syracuse Community Streets program. Registration is required to participate in the meeting (register through the SMTC website).

**October:** Staff will participate in a virtual Safe Routes to School Summit on the afternoons of October 24-26. There will be sessions on everything from e-Bikes to equity, funding, and community engagement. The next meeting of the MPO/NYSDOT Bike/Ped Working Group is scheduled for mid-December via Zoom. This may be a joint Working Group meeting with the MPO/NYSDOT Safety Working Group.

### **Bridge & Pavement Condition Management System (BPCMS) (Project Manager: Andrew Frasier)**

**March:** Staff continue work on the 2023-2024 Bridge and Pavement Condition Management System report. 2023 pavement ratings are now available on the SMTC's pavement web app, at [smtcmpo.org/syracuse-pavement-ratings](http://smtcmpo.org/syracuse-pavement-ratings).

**February:** Staff presented an overview of the City of Syracuse's Pavement Prioritization Program to the Planning and Policy Committees. Work continues on the 2023-2024 Bridge and Pavement Condition Management System report.

**January:** Staff completed the technical memorandum for the City of Syracuse's Pavement Prioritization Program, and this document will be presented to the Planning and Policy Committees. Work on the full 2023-2024 Bridge and Pavement Report is underway.

**December:** Work on Pavement Prioritization Program memo for the City of Syracuse is underway. Recommendations from this memo will help inform the City's pavement maintenance program for 2024.

**November:** Staff completed pavement rating for the 2023 season and is now processing that data for delivery to member agencies. Staff have begun work on the City of Syracuse's Pavement Prioritization Program.

**October:** Staff presented the 2022-2023 Bridge and Pavement report to the SMTC's Planning and Policy Committees. The Policy Committee acknowledged the report as complete. Pavement rating continues throughout the SMTC MPA.

### **I-81 Project Involvement (Project Manager: James D'Agostino, Meghan Vitale, & Mario Colone)**

**March:** No significant activity to report.

**February:** No significant activity to report.

**January:** No significant activity to report.

**December:** SMTC is working on several modeling efforts that are using the new conflated model that includes all of the future I-81 Community Grid details. Additionally, staff is processing TIP Amendments related to the project.

**November:** Staff met with NYSDOT and Micron on modeling for the I-81 project for both the Micron and Onondaga lake Parkway needs.

**October:** Staff have conflated our model with the I81 Grid model and stand ready to assist NYSDOT in any/all efforts related to this project.

### **MPO Area and Regional Planning Assistance (Project Manager: James D'Agostino)**

**March:** No significant activity to report.

**February:** Staff is working with Onondaga County and Micron's consultant team on various EIS items relating to traffic and transportation. Staff participated in the FOCUS Citizens Academy in February as a speaker/presenter.

**January:** Staff is providing assistance to the Micron EIS and other regional project initiatives in the community.

**December:** Staff is providing assistance to the City of Syracuse with their Reconnecting Communities grant process. Staff is also actively working to assist various aspects for the Micron EIS process.

**November:** Staff assisted the City of Syracuse with their Reconnecting Communities grant process.

**October:** No significant activity to report.

### **Long-Range Transportation Plan/Performance Based Planning (Project Manager: Meghan Vitale)**

**March:** SAC meeting #3 was held on March 5. Revised goals and objectives, priority funding initiatives, and other major regional projects were reviewed. The MTP public engagement survey is open and active, and the introductory video has been published on the website at [www.smtcmpo.org/mtp2050](http://www.smtcmpo.org/mtp2050). Staff are in the process of scheduling some public outreach opportunities for April through June.

**February:** Staff are working on an updated set of goals and objectives, priority funding initiatives, and other major regional projects based on feedback from the January SAC meeting. Staff have also produced a video introducing the MTP and have a

draft public survey ready, which we anticipate launching on the study webpage in early March. The next SAC meeting is scheduled for March 5.

**January:** The second SAC meeting was held on January 9. SMTC staff reviewed proposed draft themes, 'regional priority projects,' and goals and objectives, plus the draft Public Involvement Plan. SAC members provided feedback on these items. Staff will make modifications based on the discussion, and share in advance of the next SAC meeting, which is scheduled for March 5 at 1:00 p.m.

**December:** SAC meeting #2 has been scheduled for January 9 at 1:00 p.m. in the SMTC lower-level conference room. Agenda includes goals and objectives, regional priority projects, and the draft public involvement plan. Staff are preparing materials for this meeting.

**November:** Staff have reviewed a number of local and regional plans and are drafting goals and objectives. A draft PIP was completed, to be presented to the SAC at the next meeting (date TBD, likely in January). Staff are also progressing updates to the Atlas and beginning to draft the "context setting" (i.e., existing conditions) section of the plan along with the current System Performance Report. The website has been updated to reflect the current Metropolitan Transportation Plan update process: <https://smtcmpo.org/about-us/planning-process/lrtp/>.

**October:** A Study Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting was held on September 23. The primary discussion item was the Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) boundary. The next SAC meeting is anticipated for January 2024, and the focus will be on the plan goals and objectives.

### **Rail, Truck & Transit Planning (Project Manager: Mario Colone)**

**March:** A local Section 5310 application review group met on March 25<sup>th</sup> and provided a prioritized list of applications to NYSDOT Main Office. Also, the quarterly NYSAMPO Transit Working Group conference call was held March 12<sup>th</sup>. Staff are reviewing the latest TranSearch freight data provided by NYSDOT, which includes expanded truck and freight metrics. Staff remain involved in the NYSDOT Freight Plan update meetings. Lastly, the NYSAMPO Freight Working Group continues creating a truck route whitepaper with assistance from the NYSAMPO staff consultant.

**February:** Staff participated in several freight and transit related activities throughout the month. For the current FTA Section 5310 solicitation, applications were due to NYSDOT Main Office on February 5<sup>th</sup> and should be shared with staff by February 26<sup>th</sup>. Staff is finalizing a local evaluation team and will have a few weeks to evaluate applications and send evaluations back to the Main Office by the end of March.

**January:** Staff continued mapping and analysis of various freight-related information for the agency's Freight Profile. Also, meetings and discussions were held in preparation of the NYSAMPO Freight and Transit Working Groups' annual work plans. Staff participated in various transit related activities including Centro's quarterly ATAC meeting, Centro's Board meeting, and a BRT meeting regarding roles and responsibilities.

**December:** Staff attended/participated in a number of meetings throughout the month such as the quarterly NYSAMPO Transit Working Group meeting, the State's freight plan, and a virtual meeting on truck parking. Additionally, staff responded to a New York State truck parking survey and worked with the NYSAMPO staff consultant to kick-off a truck route best practice document. Lastly, numerous non-profits and other providers of transportation were informed of the latest FTA Section 5310 statewide funding solicitation which New York State announced in mid-December.

**November:** Staff continued freight related data assembly and analysis and participated in a number of freight and truck related meetings and discussions such as the State's Freight Plan and truck route designations. State developed bridge strike info videos were cross posted on the SMTC's Facebook page. Additionally, staff are developing an agenda for next month's NYSAMPO Transit Working Group quarterly meeting.

**October:** Staff facilitated the quarterly NYSAMPO Freight Working Group meeting and coordinated with others on the State Freight Plan under development. Also, discussions were held with NYSDOT Main Office and NYSAMPO staff consultants regarding truck routes and restrictions. Staff were asked by NYSDOT Main Office, through a statewide Bridge Strike Task Force that SMTC is involved with, to distribute to municipalities public informational materials related to bridge strikes.

### **Traffic Safety (Project Manager: Michael Alexander)**

**March:** On March 7, SMTC staff developed an agenda for the upcoming NYSAMPO Safety Working Group call. Staff facilitated the SWG call on March 27 from 1:30 to 3:00. Staff continue to coordinate with the NYSDOT and other agencies on various road safety initiatives.

**February:** The draft work program for the Safety Working Group was edited and finalized. Staff attended a data-driven safety training during a three-day period. Staff continue to coordinate with the SWG consultant team on various safety items.

**January:** Staff met with the NYSAMPO consultant team to update a draft annual work program for the Safety Working Group. The draft work program was disseminated to NYSDOT-MO and SWG members for review and comment. The draft plan was submitted to the NYSAMPO directors for review on January 22. SMTC facilitated the year's first SWG meeting on January 24.

**December:** Staff met with the consultant team to review the upcoming annual work program and suggest edits for review by SWG members. Staff also hosted a CLEAR training conducted by the NYSDOT-MO on December 13. Members from the SWG, Bike/Ped Working Group, GIS Working Group, and Modeling Working Group attended.

**November:** Staff chaired the bi-monthly NYSAMPO Safety Working Group Meeting on Wednesday, November 27. Staff have a date for a CLEAR training (conducted by NYSDOT-MO) for December 13. The SWG, Bike/Ped Working Group, GIS Working Group, and Modeling Working Group are all invited to attend. Staff also helped draft/review a draft data use agreement guideline which is under review by NYSAMPO members.

**October:** Staff coordinated with other NYSAMPO working groups to identify topics of interest pertaining to the new CLEAR system. Staff shared these interests with the New York State Department of Transportation to develop a CLEAR training session to be held on December 13. Staff continue to work on several SWG-related tasks on two safety subcommittees.

### **City & OCDOT Traffic Count Programs (Project Manager: Kevin Kosakowski)**

**March:** A map has been drafted. Staff to discuss possible revisions/updates.

**February:** Maintaining internal database. Staff and analyst continue work toward the goal of providing a visual representation via a map of the progress to date.

**January:** Staff has continued to improve upon its internal database in ways that allow it to be more useful to users that don't use it. Items such as search functions and filtering directions have been added to help guide users to find the plethora of information that is available via the database. The release externally of this database as a reference to the city and/or county staff contacts to this project are a possible future next step as is an online map that pulls information from the database. Exact next steps TBD. In the meantime, continued updating/maintenance of the database and future program counts will continue for the foreseeable future.

**December:** Both city and county representatives were provided with their batch of 2022 program count information for their use and reference. Staff have been unloading/updating/maintaining information in the internal database and working with the latest incoming data to update the master table of count information for reference and use toward future analysis, modeling and/or mapping purposes.

**November:** Staff will continue to update and maintain internally its files and database with the latest 2022 count information received. Staff has developed and shared with Main Office its 2024 count request list.

**October:** Staff has received and has been processing the 2022 count information just received from Main Office which includes but is not limited to updating the internal database to account for these counts and the status of the 2023 counts, also just received by Main Office. Staff will look to continue to update its internal database and files and prepare next year's list for submittal.

### **City of Syracuse On-Call Planning Support (Project Manager: Meghan Vitale)**

**March:** No significant activity to report.

**February:** No significant activity to report.

**January:** No significant activity to report.

**December:** No significant activity to report.

**November:** SMTC staff participated in proposal reviews for the City's Vision Zero Action Plan.

**October:** No significant activity to report.

### **County Planning Assistance – Includes Micron Assistance (Project Manager: James D'Agostino, Meghan Vitale & Mario Colone)**

**March:** Various modeling efforts related to Micron and affiliated developments occurred. The redevelopment of the Great Northern mall is being viewed as something required in the EIS and thus required in the modeling. This was completed.

**February:** Efforts relating to EIS activities continue.

**January:** Staff is coordinating with many parties on the draft EIS traffic components and using the improved model to assist in this process.

**December:** Staff has been approached about assisting to manage and coordinate the Safe Streets for All grant project for the county.

**November:** Staff is ready to assist the County Planning Office when requested for any related activities.

**October:** Staff continues to coordinate with County Planning on all of their efforts towards planning for the Micron Development.

### **Dome Traffic Management & Events Strategic Plan (Project Manager: Meghan Vitale)**

**March:** Final draft of the Operations Plan was shared with the SAC in early March. Minimal comments were received. The consultant is making some final modifications and will deliver the final product by the end of March.

**February:** Staff reviewed an initial draft of the Operations Plan and provided comments to the consultant. Anticipate a final draft for SAC review by end of February.

**January:** Consultant is finalizing the Operations Plan for staff/SAC review.

**December:** Staff and the consultant team held a conference call with SU/Dome and SPD staff to discuss signage recommendations. Final Operations Plan is expected in late January or early February.

**November:** Staff continue to coordinate with the consultant team to wrap up the Operations Plan.

**October:** A final SAC meeting was held on October 30 to review the Operations Plan. Consultant is working to finalize all documents for anticipated completion by the end of the calendar year.

### **Syracuse Sidewalk Planning Study (Project Manager: Andrew Frasier)**

**March:** Staff have retained four interns for the summer data collection effort. Staff are coordinating with the City of Syracuse on needs for the project and the summer.

**February:** Staff will soon begin searching for interns to continue the data collection effort this summer. Staff continue to coordinate with the City of Syracuse DPW on data collection efforts.

**January:** Staff continue to coordinate with the City of Syracuse DPW on data collection efforts.



**December:** Staff continue to coordinate with City of Syracuse DPW on data collection efforts.

**November:** Staff continue to coordinate with City of Syracuse DPW on data collection efforts.

**October:** Staff provided updates on the project to the SMTC Planning and Policy Committees. Staff continue to coordinate with City of Syracuse DPW on Fall data collection efforts.

### **Syracuse Safe Routes to School Procedural Manual Phase 2 (Project Manager: Danielle Krol)**

**March:** The Grant Middle School example for the SRTS guidebook is being written up to go along with the general procedures for the community/school groups/schools to follow when looking to assess and create SRTS for their building. A draft final document will be sent to the SAC in the coming weeks for their review and comment.

**February:** Staff continues to work on recommendations that can be used along Grant Boulevard and other streets in close proximity to Grant Middle School to improve the pedestrian experience for students. The overall guidebook is in the process of being developed.

**January:** Staff continues to work on the development of intervention that can be used near Grant Middle School to improve the student walking experience in that area. Staff is also beginning to fold the survey and walk audit processes into the overall guidebook.

**December:** Staff is in the process of summarizing the survey process, as well as the walk audit process that was used to obtain student feedback on the walking environment they experience on their journey to school. Staff will also develop some interventions that can be used near Grant Middle School to improve the walking experience/environment for students attending school there.

**November:** Staff held a walk audit with students, a parent, and staff at Grant Middle School on November 14<sup>th</sup>. The group walked along Grant Boulevard outside of the school to the intersection with Court Street to evaluate the walking environment. This provided staff with the opportunity to let the students know what we heard from them through the survey process, obtain additional feedback, and teach them about the types of interventions that could improve their walk to school.

**October:** Staff is working to schedule a walk audit with the project SAC and students/parents from Grant Middle School to review some focus routes within a ½ mile to mile of the school.

### **CNYRTA Public Outreach (Project Manager: Meghan Vitale)**

**March:** This project is complete. *No further updates will be given.*

**February:** Final report was presented to Planning and Policy Committees.

**January:** Final report will be presented to the Planning and Policy committees in February.

**December:** The final draft report is ready for review at the Planning and Policy Committee meetings in February, after which it will be published to the SMTC website. SMTC and Centro staff attended the December meeting of the Moving People Transportation Coalition to discuss the findings from the overall ETT process.

**November:** A draft final report, including the additional feedback received through the Community Discussions, was shared with Centro for their review and comment.

**October:** Staff are working on a summary of the feedback received at the September community discussion meetings and will then include this information in a final report to Centro.

### **Westvale Plaza Revitalization (Project Manager: Tom Bardenett)**

**March:** The draft report was posted on the SMTC website for public review and comment at the end of February. Comments were received and responded to through March 15<sup>th</sup>. All comments have been

included in an updated draft report that will be presented at the next set of committee meetings later this spring.

**February:** A final SAC meeting was held on February 14<sup>th</sup> to review the draft report. Staff added minor notes to the report based on feedback. A draft of the final report will be posted for public review and comment by the end of February.

**January:** SMTC staff have completed a draft of the final report. SAC members will review the draft prior to the final SAC meeting, which will be scheduled in early to mid-February.

**December:** SMTC staff have adjusted concepts presented at the November public workshop based on feedback from the community. Staff continue to work on draft report chapters, including recommendations. A full draft of the report is expected in January for SAC review.

**November:** SMTC staff held a second public workshop on November 16, 2023, discussing improving mobility and accessibility in the area around Westvale Plaza. Roughly 20 people attended the workshop, which was held in a drop-in style and focused on one-on-one and small group discussions. Overall, the draft concepts received positive comments with additional constructive conversation. SMTC staff are reviewing the feedback received in order to update the draft concepts. A meeting summary was sent to all SAC members for their review.

**October:** A public workshop is planned for November 16, 2023, discussing ideas aimed at improving mobility and access to the Westvale Plaza area. Staff continue to prepare needed materials for the workshop, including online resources for individuals unable to attend. Draft report chapters have been provided to SAC members for their review.

### **Coldbrook Creek Trail - City of Syracuse (Project Manager: Tom Bardenett)**

**July:** This study has been completed. *No further updates will be given.*

### **Westside Trail - City of Syracuse (Project Manager: Danielle Krol)**

**March:** Staff is working on the draft final document for the Westside Trail Study, currently writing the text to accompany the draft recommendations. The draft final document will be sent to the SAC for their review and comment within the next couple of weeks. The draft final document will also be available on the SMTC website for public review next month.

**February:** Staff continues to develop photo simulations and plan views for the on-street bike network as well as for the use of the S Geddes St and W Fayette Street railroad bridges as pedestrian/bicycle overpasses. The draft recommendations are in the process of being added to the overall Westside Trail document. This project will be complete in April.

**January:** Staff continues to work on draft recommendations and photo simulations for the on-road street bike network and is making some minor modifications to the off-road simulations as needed. Staff is also working on pulling the entire document together for SAC review. A February/March SAC meeting is anticipated.

**December:** SAC meeting #3 was held on December 18<sup>th</sup> where staff reviewed modeled Replica data, photo simulations for off-road portions of trails in the Westside area and discussed initial ideas for a road bike network that will connect to existing and planned trails/bike facilities. Staff will work on specific recommendations for the suggested on-road street bike network. These will be shared with the group at a February/March 2024 SAC meeting.

**November:** The third SAC meeting for this project has been scheduled for December 18<sup>th</sup>. Staff will review the issues and opportunities mapping for the study area as well as the prioritized streets for a bike network with their potential options/recommendations. A written and mapped summary of the Replica modeled data has also been created.

**October:** Staff is in the process of getting the issues/opportunities into digital format for each of the neighborhoods examined in this study. The mapping/illustrations will visually display the summary of the bike network matrix evaluation. Staff is also working on a map of the model data obtained through Replica that supports the need for bike facilities, and improved pedestrian facilities.

## **Community Streets Program (Project Manager: Tom Bardenett)**

**March:** Adapt CNY volunteers have selected three projects from the submitted applications for installation later this year. SMTC staff have reviewed the applications to identify needed changes in order to better adhere to requirements and simplify the installation process. SMTC staff are beginning to organize meetings with selected project sponsors to review design changes and discuss the next steps in the process.

**February:** Five applications were received by the submission deadline of February 1<sup>st</sup>. SMTC staff reviewed submissions for feasibility and provided some initial feedback and questions to project sponsors. City of Syracuse and SMTC staff met with Adapt CNY volunteers to discuss initial comments and questions. Adapt CNY volunteers will evaluate projects, including referencing feedback from the City and SMTC staff to select up to three projects for installation later this year.

**January:** SMTC staff have responded to questions and comments from interested organizations about potential project ideas. Staff continue to promote the program via social media and direct outreach to community groups recognized by the City of Syracuse. Project applications are due February 1, 2024.

**December:** The project application window opened on December 1, 2023. An email advertising the program was sent out to the SMTC email list along with more direct communications with community groups recognized by the City of Syracuse. A virtual Q&A session was held on December 19, 2023. Eight community members participated in the Q&A session. A recording of the session has been posted to the SMTC YouTube channel with a link on the Community Streets page for community members who were unable to attend.

**November:** The Syracuse Common Council approved the movement of funds for the Community Streets project on October 30<sup>th</sup>. SMTC staff is coordinating with City staff on the next steps for the funding process. The Community Streets Program was highlighted in the November e-newsletter and discussed at the November 30<sup>th</sup> Forum on Active Transportation (FOAT). Applications will be accepted beginning December 1<sup>st</sup>. SMTC staff will be announcing the date and time for virtual office hours for potential applicants to ask questions and receive more information on the program.

**October:** An online information page has been developed, aimed at providing easy access to required documents and reference materials for interested groups. Staff met with Adapt CNY to discuss the status of project materials and an update to the timeline. City staff will be presenting the effort to the Common Council on October 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **Nedrow Route 11 Corridor Study (Project Manager: Michael Alexander)**

**March:** SMTC completed a draft report and sent it to the Study Advisory Committee (SAC) on March 5 for review and comment. Several SAC members said they had no comment or changes. SMTC posted the draft report online for public review on March 19. The public may provide comments via email by Friday, April 5. SMTC also posted notices on its social media pages to inform the public that the draft report is available for review. Staff shared the media postings with the SAC and asked them to repost this information on their social media accounts. SMTC also emailed 27 stakeholders (who signed in at past public meetings) to notify them that the study was available online for review.

**February:** Staff are editing the draft report in InDesign. Once the edits are incorporated, staff will email the draft to the study advisory committee. Any additional comments will be solicited, and edits will be made as needed before posting the document online for public review.

**January:** Staff completed a draft report to be reviewed by the SAC. SMTC will incorporate SAC comments and will post the draft report on SMTC's website for public review and comment. SMTC will incorporate public comments and prepare a draft report to present at a future Planning Committee meeting and Policy Committee meetings.

**December:** Staff continue to draft chapters for assembly into the draft report.

**November:** Staff continue to draft chapters for assembly into the draft report. Staff also held coordination meetings with NYSDOT about the state’s HSIP (safety) project and I-81 Bridge replacement project on the Onondaga Nation.

**October:** Staff held the second public meeting on Tuesday, October 24. The meeting was held at the Nedrow Fire Department on South Salina Street. Staff prepared materials for the meeting and distributed notices throughout the study area (paper fliers) and online. Staff also held several coordination meetings with NYSDOT to prepare for the next phase of the study – which is to include the portion of the corridor within the Onondaga Nation.

### **Micron Development Area Transportation System Assessment (Project Manager: Jason Deshaies & Meghan Vitale)**

**March:** The Route 31 Transit Corridor Assessment Study Advisory Committee met on March 12<sup>th</sup>. The consultant team presented draft vision and project purpose statements and goals and objectives. Additionally, existing corridor level activity and other measures were reviewed, along with a preliminary discussion on several transit options. Staff reviewed the draft goals and objectives memorandum and provided comments to the consultant.

**February:** SMTC staff met with the Town of Clay Supervisor to discuss the Route 31 corridor and the Town’s interest in VerPlank Road as part of the SMTC’s Route 31 enhanced transit planning project. Project discussions also occurred with the consultant team. The next SAC meeting has been scheduled for March 12. Staff is developing a draft Public Involvement Plan and will share with the consultant and the SAC in the coming weeks.

**January:** The first Study Advisory Committee meeting for the Route 31 Transit Corridor Assessment took place on January 18. Representatives from various SMTC member agencies, the towns of Clay, Cicero, and Lysander, and the Village of Baldwinsville were in attendance.

**December:** A copy of the fully executed contract was provided to Stantec. Invitations to potential Study Advisory Committee members were sent out, along with possible dates for the project’s kick-off meeting in January 2024.

**November:** The SMTC Executive Committee, at their November meeting, approved the recommendation that Stantec would be awarded the contract for the Route 31 Transit Corridor Assessment. A draft contract has been provided to Stantec for signature. Staff anticipates the assessment beginning in January 2024.

**October:** The Route 31 transit corridor consultant selection process continued throughout the month. Interviews were held with 2 firms on October 12<sup>th</sup> with follow-up discussion taking place as necessary. A recommendation for a consultant award was identified and will be brought forward to the Executive Committee in November for discussion and potential approval.

### **Empire State Trail Economics Opportunities Plan – Phase 2 (Project Manager – Andrew Frasier)**

**June:** This project was deemed by SOCPA as not required at this time and the efforts are being redirected into other SOCPA-sponsored projects in the UPWP. *No further updates will be provided.*

### **Engagement & Outreach – Financing Local Mobility (Project Manager – Michael Alexander)**

**March:** Staff met with OCDOP to further identify missing elements and improvements to the presentation. Staff researched new case studies, added new elements to the presentation, and consolidated existing elements. A project website was created to publicly share the presentation and research materials. Presentation was recorded, uploaded to SMTC YouTube page, and embedded in project website.

**February:** Staff received all comments from SAC members on draft presentation. Some comments required extensive review, so staff are preparing a second draft of the presentation. Planning elements are being added to the presentation and some slides are being consolidated. Additional documents and resources are being collected for the reference website.

**January:** Staff outlined research notes and prepared a draft PowerPoint presentation that summarizes GEIS planning processes that allowed communities to establish and administer mitigation fees. The mitigation fees are for use in developing or enhancing local transportation infrastructure. Staff also prepared additional handout and support materials. A draft of the presentation was sent to the Onondaga County Department of Planning for review. SMTC held a study advisory committee meeting on January 22. Staff are incorporating comments into the draft presentation and meeting materials.

**December:** Staff conducted a review of existing documents to summarize GEIS and other planning processes that allowed communities to establish and administer mitigation fees. The mitigation fees are for use in developing or enhancing transportation infrastructure. Staff summarized approximately 30 pages of notes based on available sources. SMTC staff will meet with CRTC staff during the first week of January to discuss CRTC's involvement in reviewing town applications (Malta and Colonie) to assess and assign mitigation fees. All of this summary information is being pulled together into a PowerPoint presentation.

**November:** Staff developed a draft summary table for FHWA value capture strategies. Staff also identified strategies applicable within NYS and documented applicable case studies. Staff are also reviewing information from CRTC about their Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) traffic impact mitigation fee review process.

**October:** Staff are in the process of summarizing FHWA value capture strategies to see which, in any, are applicable within NYS. Staff also collected additional information from CRTC to learn more about their Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) traffic impact assessment review process.

### **Brewerton Trail Network – Cicero (Project Manager – Michael Alexander)**

**March:** On March 7, SMTC staff held a call with the Town of Cicero's Engineer to get updates on several ongoing initiatives. These include plans, studies, and projects that involve Brewerton. SMTC received updated documents for the replacement of the Route 11 Bridge over the Oneida River as well as updated streetscape plans for Route 11 through the Brewerton Business District. Cicero's engineer also provided updates about the LWRP and the recent award of the (\$4.5M) NY Forward Grant issued by the state to the Town of Hastings & Town of Cicero. The grant will pay for capital improvements along Brewerton's waterfront on both sides of the Oneida River. SMTC is also documenting existing conditions within Technical Memorandum #1.

**February:** Staff will look into the waterfront grant award and what that will include for Brewerton within the Town of Cicero and Town of Hastings. SMTC's technical assessment will complement the goals of that program.

**January:** Staff spoke with the Town's engineer to determine status updates for town planning processes. The Town's engineer indicated that Cicero officials are very busy with many other meetings and projects. SMTC intends to circle back with the town on project updates in late February or early March.

**December:** Staff continue to outline scope tasks to review with Town of Cicero in the New Year.

**November:** Staff met with town representatives and representatives from Micron to discuss ideas put forth in the Town's new LWRP. Staff also provided policies from National Grid (NG) that outline how communities can request that a trail be developed on NG property.

**October:** Staff met with a representative from National Grid (NG) to determine if trails can be developed on NG property. NG is willing to hold further discussions about potential trail development and will send SMTC information that documents the process an applicant must take to request that a trail be considered on NG property.

### **Greater Fayetteville Area Bicycle & Pedestrian Connection (Project Manager – Danielle Krol)**

**March:** A SAC meeting was held on March 7 where the consultant team shared the survey results. The SAC also discussed study area issues identification, a hierarchy of improvement ideas, and the upcoming

public meeting. The first public meeting will be held on Thursday, April 11 at the Village of Manlius Auditorium from 6 PM to 8 PM in an open house format with a brief presentation at 6:15 PM.

**February:** The survey for this project was open through February 12. The consultant team is in the process of summarizing the survey, the results of which will be shared with the SAC at our March SAC meeting. Survey results and initial identification of issues will be shared with the public at a late March/early April public meeting.

**January:** Staff and the consulting team updated the survey (to obtain public feedback on roadways between the villages) to reflect SAC comments/discussion. The survey went live on January 12<sup>th</sup> and municipalities are beginning to get the word out about it via their websites and social media channels. The next SAC meeting will be held in late February, with a public meeting anticipated for mid-March.

**December:** SAC meeting #2 was held on December 19 at the Village of Fayetteville office for this project. The SAC reviewed the draft online survey (using Survey123) that is anticipated to go live in early January 2024 to obtain feedback from the public on roadways connecting the Fayetteville/Manlius/Minoa areas. The SMTC and consultant will work on adjusting the survey based on SAC comments. The consultant team also shared initial existing conditions at this meeting.

**November:** The SAC kick-off meeting was held on October 31 for this project to review the project overall (goals, schedule, data collection plan and draft PIP). Staff are in the process of scheduling a mid-December SAC meeting to review a draft of the survey123 questions and discuss existing conditions data.

**October:** The SAC kick-off meeting for this project will be held on October 31 at the SMTC. The plan for this meeting is to review project goals, schedule, and data collection, as well as the draft Public Involvement Plan (PIP). At this point, we anticipate four to five SAC meetings for the project, along with two public meetings throughout the course of the study.

### **Travel Demand Modeling (Project Manager: Jason Deshaies)**

**March:** Staff completed the Onondaga Lake Parkway scenario analysis using the regional travel demand model and delivered the outputs to the NYSDOT. In addition to comparing the change between 2020 existing conditions and the 2050 future base scenario, the SMTC ran the regional model for a total of 8 scenarios looking at various lane configurations, and other transportation network changes. NYSDOT was provided with a summary memo and a package of maps displaying various model outputs. Additionally, staff was asked by NYSDOT to assist with modeling the trip distribution from a proposed redevelopment of the Great Northern Mall.

**February:** A third round of Micron regional transportation mitigation scenario modeling was completed, and results were delivered to the Micron EIS team. Analyst staff prepared a set of maps showing various metrics for the scenarios. Work has also begun on analyzing various Onondaga Lake Parkway transportation alternatives as requested by the NYSDOT. The work consists of modeling approximately 10 different variations of roadway configurations for the Parkway.

**January:** Modeling assistance for the Micron Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) continued this month. The second round of transportation scenarios have been modeled and the results were provided to the Micron EIS team. Analyst staff created dozens of maps to display the model results to the team, which includes NYSDOT. A third round of scenarios is currently being coded and run in the model; results will be provided to the team as soon as possible. Additionally, staff have begun compiling information to begin modeling the various transportation alternatives for Onondaga Lake Parkway as requested by the NYSDOT. This work will continue into February.

**December:** As requested by OCIDA, staff is assisting with a transportation analysis for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Micron development in the Town of Clay. SMTC has been asked to use the regional model to analyze several different transportation scenarios for possible traffic mitigation. Staff has been working closely with the on-call modeling consultants, RSG, on working out all the details and assumptions for the model runs. The first scenario has been run and the results provided to the EIS consultant team for review and comment. Several packages of data files, memos, and supporting maps have been created and provided to the team. Additionally, staff compiled and provided a summary of the model's socioeconomic data assumptions and a package of GIS files to the team.

**November:** Staff continues to work closely with RSG to fine tune the regional model to meet the needs of various model requests made by member agencies. Details for several regionally significant network project scenarios are currently being

coded into the future network and will be analyzed for impacts to the transportation system. The model documentation is being updated as well and should be complete in early December.

**October:** Significant effort has been made to complete the model update and I-81 network conflation tasks in October. Staff have worked closely with RSG to fine tune the model update and review the future network that now includes the I-81 project changes. Staff are currently reviewing revised model documentation and have begun coordinating with various agencies on modeling efforts that will begin in November.

### **TIP Development (Project Manager: Mario Colone)**

**March:** Various adjustments to the TIP occurred throughout the month. The Executive Committee approved an I-81 Viaduct Project amendment at their March meeting. MPO comments, via the Director, were provided for the various TAP/CMAQ/CRP projects before NYSDOT Region 3 submitted a final review list to Main Office. In other statewide funding solicitations, the Bridge NY listing, which the Policy Committee prioritized in February, was submitted by the Region to Main Office as well. At the end of the month, staff provided Section 5310 reviews to the NYSDOT Public Transit Bureau. The next Capital Projects Committee meeting will be held in April, as schedules allow.

**February:** On February 6<sup>th</sup>, a Bridge NY evaluators group met to discuss and prioritize the eight funding applications received within the SMTC planning area. Four of the eight applications were prioritized for funding consideration and shared with the SMTC's Planning and Policy Committee for recommendation and concurrence. The prioritizations will be provided to NYSDOT Main Office in early March. Additionally, staff evaluated thirteen funding applications submitted through the latest TAP/CMAQ/CRP solicitation. NYSDOT Region 3 will send a prioritized list to NYSDOT Main Office in early March.

**January:** The TIP was maintained throughout the month. SMTC staff are preparing to evaluate applications (including attending reviewer workshops) received through two recent statewide solicitations, TAP/CMAQ/CRP, and Bridge NY. Bridge NY funding recommendations will be brought forward to the Planning and Policy Committees in February. Lastly, a Capital Projects Committee meeting was held January 30.

**December:** Various amendments were approved by the Executive Committee in early December, and a few administrative modifications took place. Refinements and updates occurred to the internal TIP tracking database. Staff anticipates reviewing TAP and CMAQ applications in early January received through the current statewide solicitation.

**November:** Several TIP amendments were approved by the Executive Committee. The latest TIP "annual report" was finalized and discussed at the November Executive Committee meeting. Continuing statewide capital project solicitations, the latest Bridge NY round was announced at the end of November. All member agencies, municipalities in the SMTC planning area and the Onondaga Nation were informed of the funding opportunity. Applications are due to the SMTC by January 26, 2024.

**October:** The TIP was maintained as appropriate throughout the month. This included approval of 3 Executive Committee amendments, one relating to an Interstate 81 Viaduct Project effort (i.e., PIN 350193), on October 5<sup>th</sup>, and 8 Policy Committee amendments approved October 19<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, all member agencies and municipalities in our planning area were informed of the latest TAP, CMAQ, and CPR statewide solicitation. Applications are due January 9, 2024.

### **Miscellaneous Activities & Special Technical Assistance (Project Manager: James D'Agostino)**

**March:** No significant activity to report.

**February:** No significant activity to report.

**January:** No significant activity to report.

**December:** Staff is coordinating with various members and entities in planning for the variations of economic growth that may occur in the future that could impact the transportation and land use systems.

**November:** No significant activity to report.

**October:** No significant activity to report.