

SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

MINUTES of the September 5, 2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Voting Members

David Bottar, Vice Chair
David Roth
Marty Voss
Chris Tuff
Troy Waffner
John Kivlehan

Organization

CNY Regional Planning & Development Board
NYS Department of Transportation
Onondaga County Department of Transportation
CNY Regional Transportation Authority
Onondaga County Department of Planning
City of Syracuse

Also Attending

Katrina Bergan
Betsy Parmley
Rich Sawczak
Tara Spraker
Bren Daiss
Megan Costa
Chris Rauber

NYS Department of Transportation
NYS Department of Transportation
NYS Department of Transportation
CNY Regional Transportation Authority
CNY Regional Transportation Authority
Onondaga County Department of Planning
Onondaga County Department of Transportation

SMTC Staff

James D'Agostino, Mario Colone, and Lori Irvine

BUSINESS MEETING

Vice Chairperson Bottar called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. in the SMTC Lower-Level Conference Room.

1. ADDITIONS AND CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chairperson Bottar asked if there were any changes to the August 1, 2024, minutes.

Hearing none, Vice Chairperson Bottar called for a motion.

Mr. Tuff moved, and Mr. Voss seconded the Approval of the Minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

3. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

A. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Mr. D'Agostino indicated that the financial statements presented were for the month of July. Mr. D'Agostino mentioned that the SMTC was on budget month-to-date with no abnormalities and <1% difference YTD in the black.

Mr. D'Agostino indicated that he recently received a call from the New York State Department of Transportation Main Office indicating that due to an estimate/assumption error the allocation this year would be reduced \$58,000.00. To end the year in the black, Mr. D'Agostino indicated that he would implement some cost-saving measures such as placing a 90-day pause on a consultant contract.

Discussion occurred.

Vice Chairperson Bottar asked if there were any other questions. There were none.

This was an information item only and no action was required by the Committee.

B. UPWP STATUS REPORT

Mr. D'Agostino highlighted the following from the August 2024 UPWP Status Report:

A SMTC Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for October 1st and SMTC Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for October 29th.

SMTC lost a recently hired staff member that was employed for six weeks. That payroll will go back into the cost savings for the year. A web site update was completed with an added section for sub-web sites for current and past studies for selected projects.

SMTC Staff has been working to process the downtown pedestrian counts that were completed and will record and analyze the data in a summary spreadsheet to provide to the Downtown Committee. Staff have also provided information for some internal traffic count data inquiries to assist in projects. Analyst staff worked with Miovision to obtain data for a full year (2023) of turning movement count data for all the intersections in the MPA. The data is being analyzed to identify the average and peak periods of daily entering vehicles across various combinations of months, days, and 15-minute periods. The results of this analysis will be documented and used when identifying appropriate times to conduct manual turning movement counts. The Bridge & Pavement Condition Management System report has been completed and will be presented at the upcoming Planning and Policy Committee meetings. The 2024 pavement rating for the city has been completed and staff are currently working on the county.

Public engagement continued for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan with SMTC staff tabling at the Downtown Farmers Market and the Syracuse Mets game. Staff are continuing to progress the Transportation Atlas with an October 2nd SAC meeting scheduled. So far, the survey has reached over 300 respondents. Updates continue on the draft Freight Profile as part of the Rail, Truck & Transit Planning task; summary information will also be included in the SMTC's MTP freight section. SMTC is helping to publicize the Vision Zero interactive map and participated in a conference call with the City and the Thriving Communities Technical Assistance program staff on August 12th.

Consultant coordination is underway for the Route 31/Micron Transit Study. Up to 20 visuals will be created for the three transit options: Enhanced Transit, Bus Rapid Transit, and Light Rail Transit. Visuals will depict on-corridor infrastructure needs along with representative housing and employment building densities that would be essential in supporting the transit options. Additionally, the consultant team provided a draft memorandum for review that describes the transit service options and current land-use

and zoning conditions along the Route 31 corridor. The next SAC meeting and possible Focus Group discussions are likely to occur in October.

SMTC announced last month that they had completed the Syracuse Sidewalk Planning Study and were transitioning it to the city for maintenance. The person the SMTC was dealing with has resigned and SMTC is waiting on next steps from the city regarding the data. SMTC staff are developing a white paper documenting the data collection process to be presented at the upcoming SMTC Planning and Policy Committee meetings. The completed Brewerton Trail Network Technical Analysis will also be presented at the next Planning and Policy Committee meetings. The final day of planned activity at the Hopeprint Community Streets project location was held on August 8th. The Ed Smith PTO project remains on hold as National Grid continues with utility work within the Eastside neighborhood pushing the project out until May 2025. A white paper for this project will be presented at the next Planning and Policy Committee meetings.

The final public open house was held on August 8th for the Greater Fayetteville Area Bicycle & Pedestrian Connections study. It was very well attended. This project will be ready to be presented at the next set of Planning and Policy Committee meetings after the October 2024 meetings.

Draft lists of the top congested road segments based on various performance measures have been compiled. Staff are currently reviewing the lists and are vetting the locations for reasonableness and any discrepancies that may be contributing to inaccurate performance measure calculations for each segment for the Congestion Management Process 2024 update. The Downtown Parking Signage and Wayfinding kick-off SAC meeting was held on August 14th. SAC members reviewed initial data collection efforts by SMTC staff, identified some of the key concerns related to adding signage within the public right-of-way, and discussed next steps.

The first Study Advisory Committee meeting was held at the Liverpool Village Hall for the Village of Liverpool Modeling Update and Analysis project. The scope was reviewed, a study area was established, and draft preliminary model runs were discussed. Staff is currently reviewing meeting notes and drafting a list of transportation and land use scenarios to be reviewed and approved by the SAC. This project is on target. Staff have analyzed traffic count data available from Miovision cameras throughout the region, and have compiled data for intersections within the Greater Liverpool study area. Staff have also started to create a Synchro model for the study area. The kickoff SAC meeting was held for the Onondaga County Safe Routes to School project with all SAC member agencies represented. SMTC staff are beginning initial outreach to potential case study schools. Staff are awaiting publication of the city's RFP for the Reconnecting Communities Grant Coordination & Management Assistance project.

The CPC met at the end of the month to discuss FFY 23/24 obligations and any remaining schedule modifications before the fiscal year closeout. Several TIP amendments were prepared for Executive and Planning/Policy Committee action.

Vice Chairperson Bottar asked if there were any questions. There were none.

This was an information item only and no action was required by the Committee.

4. **OLD BUSINESS**

None

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **TIP Amendments**

Mr. D'Agostino indicated that there are eight TIP Amendments for consideration related to change in cost and/or schedule modifications as outlined in the Public Notice. The TIP Amendments are for the City, County, CNYRTA, NYSDOT, and Village of Solvay.

o PIN 380797 (I-81 PARDEE RD INTERCHANGE TO US 11, TN OF CICERO, ONONDAGA CO). □ Sponsor New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT). NYSDOT is proposing to remove the Scoping, Preliminary Design, Detailed Design and Right of Way phases. Additionally, the project name changes to Onondaga County Transportation Improvements DBB Project, Phase 1.

o PIN 307625 (MBC, RT 20, CAYUGA CO LINE TO RT 175, TN & VIL OF SKANEATELES, ONONDAGA CO). □ Sponsor NYSDOT. NYSDOT is proposing to add Right-of-Way Incidentals (\$40,000 NHPP Federal) and Right-of-Way Acquisition (\$120,000 NHPP Federal) in FFY 24/25. Compensating offset provided by available planning targets.

o PIN 350197 (BUSINESS LOOP 81, SOUTHERN SECTION, PH 2, SYRACUSE, ONONDAGA CO). □ Sponsor NYSDOT. NYSDOT is proposing to increase the Construction phase in FFY 25/26 by \$150,000,000 using funds awarded from the USDOT's Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods program.

o PIN 375673 (BRIDGE REPAIR, LAKESHORE RD, OVER MAPLE CRK, CICERO, ONONDAGA CO). □ Sponsor Onondaga County Department of Transportation (County). The County is proposing to delay the additional funds in the Detailed Design phase from FFY 23/24 to FFY 24/25. No offset is needed as current funds will carryover.

o PIN 395072 (LODI ST CONNECTOR, SYRACUSE, ONONDAGA CO). □ Sponsor City of Syracuse (City). The City is proposing to delay the Construction and Inspection phases from FFY 23/24 to FFY 24/25. No offset needed.

o PIN 375686 (PAVING, MILTON AVE PH 1, DARROW AVE TO COGSWELL AVE, SOLVAY, ONONDAGA CO). □ Sponsor Solvay. Solvay is proposing to delay the Construction and Inspection phases from FFY 23/24 to FFY 24/25. No offset is needed as current funds will carryover.

o PIN 375743 (PAVING, MILTON AVE PH 2, TOWN LINE TO DARROW AVE, SOLVAY, ONONDAGA CO). □ Sponsor Solvay. Solvay is proposing to delay the Detailed Design phase from FFY 23/24 to FFY 24/25. Offset provided by funds from outside the area.

o PIN 382946 (ACQUISITION FOR THE CENTRO BRT NETWORK, ONONDAGA CO). □ Sponsor Central New York Regional Transportation Authority (Centro). Centro is proposing to increase funding in FFY 24/25 by \$1,500,000 NHPP federal. Compensating offset provided by available planning targets.

Mr. Roth indicated that the current "Urban" funds will carryover, not "Flex" as mentioned.

Vice Chairperson Bottar asked if there were any questions.

Discussion occurred.

Vice Chairperson Bottar called for a motion.

Mr. Roth moved, and Mr. Tuff seconded the Approval of the TIP Amendments.

The motion carried unanimously.

6. **Public Comment**

None

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to be addressed, Vice Chairperson Bottar adjourned the meeting at 12:19 p.m.