



**Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council
Unified Planning Work Program Status Report
2024-2025 Program Year – 2nd Half
October 2024**

General Administration (Project Manager: James D’Agostino)

October: A Unified Planning Work Program Amendment was processed for the agency operating budget at approximately \$60,000 to offset a differential in the programmed amount versus actual amount of funding available. This information as draft at time of adoption and estimates were overly optimistic.

Public Participation & Website Update (Project Manager: James D’Agostino)

October: A hardcopy multipage newsletter was printed and mailed out highlighting many recent accomplishments of the agency. A copy of it is here: <https://smtcmpo.org/all-publications/newsletter/>

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

October: No significant activity to report.

UPWP Previous Year Closeouts (Project Manager: James D’Agostino)

June: All carryover projects not itemized separately have been completed. At this time, *further updates will not be made.*

UPWP Maintenance & Development (Project Manager: James D’Agostino)

October: Initial planning for the next year’s program are being made including brainstorming appropriate new studies given the current growth climate of the region.

2025 NYSAMPO Conference (SCI Billing) – (Project Manager: James D’Agostino)

October: A conference planning group has been created and initial planning has begun on this effort.

Census Data Compilation and/or Analysis (Project Manager: Andrew Frasier & Joey DiStefano)

October: Staff continue to monitor Census news for additional information regarding data releases. Census data is used extensively in staff projects.

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

October: Finished up the Downtown Pedestrian Movement Count project and provided the data gathered to the Downtown Committee. Working on further iterations of the online city/county count program map for eventual beta testing.

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

October: Staff continues to maintain and update various GIS datasets that are being used for several ongoing projects. Additionally, several staff attended a webinar hosted by NYSDOT that introduced a new Mobility Viewer web mapping application. The Mobility Viewer features spatial and quantitative analysis capabilities, allowing users to delve into mobility demand data and model traveler needs.

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

October: Staff are continuing to work with the City of Syracuse on a number of data requests, and to promote the City’s Open Data Day. Staff have begun meeting with Centro to discuss an update to their System Map.

Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning (Project Manager: Danielle Krol)

October: No significant activity to report.

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

October: Staff presented the draft final BPCMS report to the SMTC’s Planning and Policy Committees. Pavement rating continues for next year’s report.

I-81 Project Development (Project Manager: James D’Agostino, Meghan Vitale, & Mario Colone)

October: No significant activity to report.

MPO Area and Regional Planning Assistance (Project Manager: James D’Agostino)

October: No significant activity to report.

Metropolitan Transportation Plan (Project Manager: Meghan Vitale)

October: A Study Advisory Committee meeting was held on October 2. In addition to reviewing the next set of layouts, the meeting included a work session to review a variety of datasets relevant to the Needs Assessment, including the results of the public survey which closed in mid-September. The SAC identified some needs by travel mode and by geography, specifically the need for more localized sidewalk and bicycle networks to connect to existing regional systems and the need for more transit service for longer and commuting trips. Staff are now reviewing future project lists from the 2020 LRTP and the current TIP and will be reaching out to individual member agencies to review that information and draft the financial plan for this MTP update. The next SAC meeting is scheduled for January 14.

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

October: Main Office NYSDOT provided an online freight interface to staff for review. The online tool was developed by a consultant to more easily access Transearch commodity flow data. Staff will soon query the tonnage and value information for inclusion in our work-in-progress Freight Profile

Traffic Safety (Project Manager: Michael Alexander)

October: SMTC staff have been attending walk/bike safety webinars. SMTC will help prepare for the next SWG call on November 20.

Travel Demand Modeling (Project Manager: Jason Deshaies)

October: RSG delivered the final version of the updated base models for 2020 and 2050, as well as several scenario models for the Micron and Great Northern Mall redevelopment projects. The package also included an updated version of the full model documentation that documents how the model was created and details about each component of the 4-step model. Future model improvements include adding new transportation projects that will be included in the MTP as well as enhanced transit and truck model components.

County Planning Assistance (Project Manager: James D’Agostino, Meghan Vitale & Mario Colone)

October: No significant activity to report.

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

October: SMTC staff traveled to Washington, D.C., along with staff from the City and CenterState CEO to participate in a “convening” of communities that are participating in the Thriving Communities Technical Assistance grant program. Staff continue to work with the other Thriving Communities partners to finalize the Work Plan for this multi-year program.

Micron Development Area Transportation System Assessment (Project Manager: Mario Colone & Meghan Vitale)

October: The October 8th SAC meeting was cancelled. The third SAC meeting is now scheduled for November 15th as a virtual meeting. The meeting will focus on housing typologies, draft site plans, concepts, and example station area renderings depicting representative densities application to various transit options at and along the Route 31 corridor.

Syracuse Sidewalk Planning Study (Project Manager: Andrew Frasier)

October: Staff presented a technical memorandum to the Planning and Policy Committee in October. Staff will coordinate with the City of Syracuse staff to determine the future of the data collected. This project is considered complete at this time and no further updates will be provided.

Community Streets Program (Project Manager: Tom Bardenett)

October: SMTC staff continue to coordinate with City staff and Adapt CNY volunteers on adjustments to the program in preparation for a second program year. Project sponsors from the pilot year presented their experiences with the program at the October Forum on Active Transportation (FOAT).

Brewerton Trail Network Technical Analysis (Project Manager: Mike Alexander)

October: SMTC presented the draft technical memos to the Planning Committee on October 1st and to the Policy Committee on October 29th. The technical memos will be available for review on SMTC’s website.

Greater Fayetteville Area Bicycle & Pedestrian Connections (Project Manager: Danielle Krol)

October: Consultant provided a draft document for in-house review. Once SMTC comments/edits are accounted for, the draft will be sent to the Study Advisory Committee for their review and comment. The expectation is to have a draft final report available for SMTC committee acknowledgment by December.

Congestion Management Process 2024 Update (Project Manager: Kevin Kosakowski & Jason Deshaies)

October: Analyst staff has been working to process and analyze the NPMRDS data for the identified CMP network for further discussion in the eventual document. The road segments with the top 10 highest values for each of the congestion performance measures have been reviewed and finalized. This CMP will include separate lists for access highways and other non-limited access roadways since these facilities function very differently. Staff is currently formatting each of the lists to include various identifying attributes and maps are being created to show the locations of the most congested areas.

Downtown Parking Signage and Wayfinding (Project Manager: Tom Bardenett)

October: Based on conversations with the City Zoning Administration, staff have drafted potential signage designs near focus facilities. Staff continue to identify preferred locations for signage that does not create visual clutter and is easily identifiable for drivers. Staff have begun evaluating potential sites to expand bicycle parking within Downtown Syracuse.

Village of Liverpool Modeling Update and Analysis (Project Manager: Jason Deshaies)

October: Miovision turning movement data has been downloaded for intersections in and around the Village of Liverpool. This information as well as information from the Synchro model being created for the Greater Liverpool Traffic Study will be included in the existing conditions report for this study. The regional model version that will be used for this study has been finalized, scenario modeling will begin next month.

North Syracuse Van Mara and Grove Street Traffic Calming and Safety Analysis (Project Manager: Mike Alexander)

October: SMTC continues to document existing conditions and draft preliminary concept plans for internal review. SMTC spoke with the CHA Companies, the consultant team for the Village of North Syracuse, to discuss status updates on SMTC's planning efforts and CHA's design work for the Village TAP grant. SMTC will provide CHA with preliminary concepts to guide their design plans. SMTC will also set up the first SAC meeting soon to review the existing conditions and concept plans with the Village, County, CHA, and NYSDOT.

Greater Liverpool Traffic Study – Technical Analysis (Project Manager – Meghan Vitale)

October: SMTC and OCDOT staff met in early October to review the historical data analysis, which generally shows a decrease in traffic volumes in the study area over time. OCDOT staff shared previous Synchro models, and SMTC staff are compiling all of this data into one complete new model. Staff will focus on creating coordination plans for two corridors in the study area, and will also add some additional historical data for truck traffic in the study area.

Onondaga County Safe Streets for All Action Plan – Project Coordination (Project Manager – Mario Colone)

October: No activity to report.

Safe Routes to School – Onondaga County Suburban School Districts Support (Project Manager – Danielle Krol & Joey DiStefano)

October: SMTC staff has begun conversations with potential case study schools to further assess feasibility. Best methods of public engagement are being identified. Report is being drafted as project progresses.

Reconnecting Communities Grant Coordination & Management Assistance (Project Manager: Meghan Vitale)

October: SMTC staff helped craft responses to some of the questions received by the City on their RFP. Responses to the City's RFP were due October 16. SMTC staff expect to assist with review of those proposals.

West Monroe Route 49 Corridor Study (Project Manager: Mike Alexander)

October: SMTC is working with Oswego County to reach out to local town and village officials to inform them about the study and seek their engagement on the study advisory committee. SMTC continues to draft existing conditions summaries. SMTC is working to set up a study advisory committee meeting soon.

Complete Streets Planning Set-Aside – no staff billing* (Project Manager: Danielle Krol)

October: Staff, in collaboration with the consultant team, have scheduled the first public meeting for November 19th. The consultant is currently preparing materials (presentation and boards) for the public meeting. Additionally, a project website, which includes an interactive map and public survey was launched in late October. The survey will remain open through November.

TIP Development and Maintenance (Project Manager: Mario Colone)

October: Numerous amendments were approved this month through the SMTC Planning and Policy Committee meetings. At the end of the prior Federal Fiscal Year (2023-2024), all funding programmed on the TIP was obligated. SMTC staff and the Capital Projects Committee initiated the next TIP update at the end of the month. Project sponsors were asked to submit cost and schedule updates for numerous projects that will carry over to the new TIP. Staff will review these carryover projects to ascertain what funding may be available to solicit new projects. A call for projects should be released in the November/December timeframe, as funding allows.

Miscellaneous Activities and Special Technical Assistance (Project Manager: James D'Agostino)

October: No significant activity to report.