

# SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

## MINUTES of the April 3, 2025 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

### **Voting Members**

Mary Robison - Chair  
David Roth  
Tim Coley  
Tara Spraker  
Troy Waffner  
David Bottar

### **Organization**

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

### **Also Attending**

Katrina Bergan  
Chris Rauber

NYS Department of Transportation  
Onondaga County Department of Transportation

### **SMTC Staff**

James D'Agostino, Mario Colone, and Lori Irvine

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

Chairperson Robison called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m. in the SMTC Lower-Level Conference Room.

#### **1. ADDITIONS AND CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

Chairperson Robison indicated that there were no additions or changes to the agenda. Additional items relating to the agenda were distributed to attendees.

#### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairperson Robison asked if there were any changes to the March 6, 2024, minutes .

Hearing none, Chairperson Robison called for a motion for the Approval of the Minutes.

Mr. Roth moved, and Mr. Coley seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

#### **3. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS**

##### **A. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Mr. D'Agostino indicated that the financial statements presented were from February. The SMTC needed to make the proper adjustments and trim down the budget from the direction given by the NYSDOT Main Office. The SMTC current budget is at 8% in the black with one month left in the program year. Mr. D'Agostino indicated that he expects the program year to also end at 8% in the black. There were no unusual expenses to report and indicated the consultant study that was paused due to budgetary restraints is set to restart in April.

Chairperson Robison asked if there were any questions. There were none.

This was an informational item only.

**B. UPWP STATUS REPORT**

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

The Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council (SMTC) wrapped up the 2024-2025 program year and began its new Fiscal Year on April 1. Each meeting attendee received a copy of the new UPWP report. A new Directions Newsletter is currently at the printer and will be delivered later this month. Public outreach for the TIP and LRTP is currently being planned.

A draft program was handed out to each meeting attendee for the upcoming 2025 NYSAMPO Conference at the Syracuse Marriott. Mr. D'Agostino encourages meeting attendees and their staff to attend as there are some good sessions planned.

A new 5-year dataset (2017-2021) from the CTPP (Census Transportation Planning Products) program was released this month. The CTPP data on demographic characteristics, home and work locations, and journey to work travel flows are key inputs to the SMTC studies and work. Staff will be incorporating this data into future planning efforts. SMTC staff completed a data inquiry asking for count/intersection information available along the corridors of interest having to do with the Reconnecting Communities' efforts.

SMTC staff delivered the updated Onondaga County Highway map to Onondaga County Department of Transportation. Work continues on the Centro system map update. Mr. D'Agostino indicated that the map should be at the printers within the next month or so.

Work is underway on this year's Bridge and Pavement Condition Management system report and is on target. SMTC staff participated in the Onondaga County Planning Symposium as presenters and participants. A Study Advisory Committee meeting was held on March 13th for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Agenda items for that meeting included revisions to the financial plan and a discussion of the results of the SMTC staff's analysis of transit-supportive corridors. Staff are continuing to draft chapters of the final document. The Atlas is nearing completion, and a full draft Atlas document is anticipated for the next MTP SAC meeting, which is scheduled for May 22nd.

Mr. D'Agostino indicated that efforts continued updating several graphics and text for the Freight Profile and should be completed in the next 1-2 months. SMTC received a request from the Town of Skaneateles to summarize observations for Old Seneca Turnpike at Townline Road for Traffic Safety. SMTC summarized observations, including crash statistics for a 10-year period and shared results with the Town Supervisor and Engineer. The Town Engineer requested SMTC to help set up a meeting with Onondaga County Department of Transportation to discuss options to make changes to Town roads.

SMTC staff has reached out to INRIX to purchase data for Travel Demand Modeling for some roadways, most notably Old Liverpool Road, which was missing from the dataset. SMTC staff participated in an Advisory Group meeting for the Vision Zero study on March 27th for the City of Syracuse On-Call Planning Support. SMTC staff presented a session

titled “Regional Transportation Goals & Strategies: From Planning to Local Implementation” at the Onondaga County Annual Planning Symposium on March 26th.

A consultant-free Study Advisory Committee meeting with town officials for the Micron Development Area Transportation System Assessment was held on March 21st, which was very successful. SMTC staff coordinated a meeting between the Syracuse Urbanism Collective and the Downtown Committee to discuss the proposed project design and purpose for the Community Streets Program. The Downtown Committee will assist the Urbanism Collective in their outreach to nearby building owners, as requested by City staff. SMTC staff are coordinating with City DPW to better identify potential installation windows for the Ed Smith PTO project on the City’s east side, to avoid conflicts with upcoming paving projects.

SMTC staff prepared a draft report for the Congestion Management Process 2024 Update that was reviewed and edited in-house which should be done imminently. SMTC staff coordinated with member agencies to verify various assumptions being made for the future year analysis for the Village of Liverpool Modeling Update. The list of transportation and land use alternatives was compiled and reviewed and approved by the Village. All alternatives have been run in the regional model and a summary has been prepared. SMTC staff are finalizing the document then will present it at the final SAC meeting.

SMTC staff met with Onondaga County Department of Transportation on March 18th to review the final draft technical memorandum for the Greater Liverpool Traffic Study. SMTC staff will present this work at the next Planning and Policy Committee meetings (date TBD). SMTC staff finalized draft graphics and two technical memos for the North Syracuse Van Mara and Grove Street Traffic Calming and Safety Analysis. SMTC staff prepared public meeting materials for its public outreach session on March 27th. The Village Board hosted SMTC at their monthly meeting. There was very good attendance and collected a lot of comments.

SMTC staff responded to some data requests from the consultant team and continues to participate in the biweekly coordination calls for the Reconnecting Communities Grant Coordination & Management Assistance. SMTC staff are drafting the report for the Safe Routes to School – Onondaga Count Suburban School Districts Support and are working with the school admin. to distribute the survey to families and students.

The contract amendment was authorized for the Route 57 Complete Streets Study to extend the current southern terminus of John Glenn Boulevard to the Village of Liverpool line. The contract was extended to September 30, 2025. The SMTC quality checked new turning movement counts for the West Monroe Route 49 Corridor Study. SMTC balanced counts from different years for four signalized intersections and for five unsignalized intersections. SMTC is using the balanced counts in a detailed Synchro model to assess existing conditions. SMTC is also in the process of assessing future build out projections to determine future traffic growth and will model future traffic growth projections.

Mr. D’Agostino indicated that the current 2023-2027 TIP is being maintained as appropriate. All member agencies, municipalities, and the Onondaga Nation were informed of a statewide roadway departure funding solicitation. Applications from within the SMTC planning area will be submitted to the SMTC for evaluation and selection, in collaboration with NYSDOT. Staff continue development towards a fiscally constrained

draft 2026-2030 TIP program of projects. A CPC meeting is scheduled directly after today's Executive Committee meeting.

Mr. D'Agostino asked if there were any questions.

Discussion occurred.

This was an informational item only.

4. **OLD BUSINESS**

None

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **TIP Amendments**

Mr. D'Agostino indicated that here is one TIP Amendment for consideration for the City of Syracuse. The amendment is primarily for a change in schedule.

o PIN 375709 (Improvements, Erie Blvd W, Franklin St to W Genesee St, Syracuse, Onondaga Co).

☐ Sponsor City of Syracuse (City). The City is proposing to advance the Scoping and Preliminary Design phases from Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 25/26 to FFY 24/25 and fund both phases with \$151,000 of NHPP federal funds and advance the Detailed Design phase from FFY 26/27 to FFY 24/25 and fund with \$308,000 NHPP federal funds.

Chairperson Robison asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Chairperson Robison called for a motion that the Executive Committee approve the TIP amendment.

Mr. Coley moved, and Mr. Roth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. **Public Comment**

None

7. **Adjourn**

With no further business to be addressed, Chairperson Robison adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m.