

SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

MINUTES of the August 7, 2025 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Voting Members

Mary Robison - Chairperson
David Roth
Marty Voss
Chris Tuff
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
Bren Daiss
Tara Spraker

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

SMTC Staff

James D'Agostino, Mario Colone, and Lori Irvine

BUSINESS MEETING

Chairperson Robison called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m. in the SMTC Lower-Level Conference Room.

1. ADDITIONS AND CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Chairperson Robison indicated that there was one addition (SMTC Regional Modeling Task Summary) that will be discussed under the Communications portion of the agenda.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairperson Robison asked if there were any changes to the July 10, 2025, minutes.

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

Mr. Roth moved, and Mr. Tuff 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 June 2025.

Financial Statements were provided to committee members as they were not ready at the time of the mailing.

Mr. D'Agostino indicated that at this point in the SMTC fiscal year, approximately 25% of

the fiscal resources should have been used with 75% in reserve. Mr. D'Agostino indicated that the SMTC is in good shape at approximately 2% in the black, mostly due to slow consultant invoicing.

Mr. D'Agostino also indicated that all projects are on target for completion.

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 July UPWP Status Report:

SMTC Planning and Policy Committee Meetings have been scheduled for September 11th and 23rd respectively. The main agenda items will be the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)/Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and a few completed studies. An in-person public meeting for MTP/LRTP was held at the Salt City Market along with two virtual meetings. Mr. D'Agostino indicated that the in-person meeting was very well attended.

Scopes of Work were created and approved by the SMTC Planning Committee for the following projects: Bear Trap Creek Connector, Bicycle Commuter Corridor Implementation, Intersecting Community Needs – Food Access & Transportation, Midler Ave. & New Court Ave. Multimodal Study, Nottingham Rd. Multimodal Improvements, and the Onondaga County Department of Transportation (OCDOT) Operations and Safety Analysis. The following three scopes were sent out today for review/approval to the SMTC Planning Committee: Cicero Active Transportation Plan, Empire State Trail Economic Opportunities – Phase 2, and the Fayetteville – Route 5 Transportation and Smart Growth Opportunities Plan.

SMTC staff recently provided the City of Syracuse and Onondaga County access with a beta version of the online data collection online count program map to review and comment on. Mr. D'Agostino encourages input as if it works well, it may be opened up for public use.

NYSAMPO is arranging training for MPO staff that work with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to transition to the latest version of ArcGIS Pro due to ESRI retiring ArcMap. Advanced training for those very fluent with the program will be available as well. The training will be paid for through the NYSAMPO training budget. SMTC staff are working with the City of Syracuse to provide data for their Bike Plan update and assisted member agencies with GIS data requests.

SMTC staff received NYSDOT's pavement ratings and are finalizing the report for last year. Pavement ratings continue with SMTC staff currently working on this year's ratings. A public meeting was held for the draft MTP and a short interview with SMTC Principal Transportation Planner, Meghan Vitale, was held on Channel 9 News. Comments on the draft plan will be accepted through August 29th, after which, staff will finalize the plan for review and adoption by the SMTC Planning and Policy committees in September. Mr. D'Agostino mentioned that he expects an amendment for NYSDOT to be made almost immediately after the plan has been approved for their transportation EIS that may not

make it in prior to adoption.

SMTC staff participated in the NYSDOT Bridge Strike Task Force in a statewide PSA campaign. SMTC Staff attended meetings with NYSDOT and the consultant regarding transportation and land use alternatives being analyzed for the Onondaga County Transportation Improvements Project EIS. Mr. D'Agostino indicated this will be discussed in detail later in the agenda. SMTC staff fulfilled additional data requests from the Thriving Communities technical assistance team and have reviewed some initial maps from the team. Relative to the Route 31 Transit Corridor Assessment, the consultant continues drafting the remaining station area graphics for SMTC staff and SAC input. An in-person meeting will be held in August, if schedules allow.

Demonstration project #1 was installed in July for the City of Syracuse Reconnecting Communities Grant Coordination and Management project. SMTC staff provided feedback on initial cross-section concepts for Adams and Harrison. One effort for the Community Streets Program has been completed with the second installation due later this summer or early fall. SMTC staff recently received the first four chapters of the Route 57 Complete Streets Study and are in the process of reviewing them. A SAC meeting will be held soon to review and discuss the chapters as well as to discuss considerations for improvement in the corridor. The Safe Routes to School project is complete and will be presented at the next SMTC Planning and Policy Committee meeting in September. SMTC staff are waiting for the release of the RFP for the Onondaga County Safe Streets for All Action Plan and can provide assistance as requested. SMTC staff finalized the SYNCHRO analysis for the West Monroe Route 49 Corridor Study and concept plans are being developed.

The newly adopted Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) data/information was entered in eSTIP and ready for NYSDOT. Mr. D'Agostino indicated there is one TIP amendment for consideration on today's agenda that will bring the current federal fiscal year into compliance.

Chairperson Robison asked if there were any questions.

There were none.

This was an informational item only.

Addition to the Agenda – Onondaga County Transportation Improvement Projects for Northern Onondaga County Environmental Impact Statement (2nd EIS)

Mr. D'Agostino indicated that he was approached by NYSDOT Main Office to assist them with a transportation analysis for an Environmental Impact Statement for the Onondaga County Transportation Improvements Project (OCTI) utilizing the SMTC Regional Travel Demand Model (TDM). Mr. D'Agostino gave each committee member a detailed list of what the SMTC intends to provide. The project will take approximately 2 months to complete and SMTC staff is ready to begin.

Chairperson Robison asked if there were any questions.

Discussion occurred.

This was an informational item only.

4. **OLD BUSINESS**

None

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **TIP Amendment**

Mr. D'Agostino indicated that there is one TIP Amendment for consideration.

Change in cost and/or schedule:

o PIN 375576 (TUTTLE RD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, TN OF CICERO, ONON CO).

□ Sponsor Onondaga County Department of Transportation (County). The County is proposing to move the Construction and Inspection phases from Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 24/25 to FFY 25/26. No offset necessary.

Chairperson Robison asked if there were any questions.

Discussion occurred.

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

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

6. **Public Comment**

None

7. **Adjourn**

Mr. D'Agostino reminded committee members that there will be an Executive, Planning and Policy Committee meeting in September.

Mr. Roth and Ms. Bergan had a discussion with committee members regarding timely invoice submissions and obligation agreements between the state and sponsor so de-obligation does not occur.

With no further business to be addressed, Chairperson Robison adjourned the meeting at 12:26 p.m.