



2023 - 2024 Unified Planning Work Program Summary of New and Carry-Over Studies

On February 23, 2023, the Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council's (SMTC) Policy Committee adopted the 2023-2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). As the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) designated by the New York State Governor, the SMTC is responsible for carrying out the continuous, comprehensive, and cooperative transportation planning process for the Syracuse Metropolitan Area. The UPWP incorporates into one document all transportation planning activities, conducted from April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024, within the Syracuse Metropolitan Area.

The SMTC issued a call letter for project proposals in the fall of 2022. Five new projects were selected for inclusion in the 2023-2024 UPWP. Additionally, eight major projects from the previous program year will be carried over for completion. The UPWP also lists numerous recurring activities performed by SMTC staff such as data collection, travel demand modeling, and long-range planning. Summary details of each new and carry-over study are below:

New Studies



Brewerton Trail Network Technical Analysis

A technical analysis of Brewerton's proposed multi-use trail network, including an overview of potential route connections, planning level project costs, and an understanding of community interest in pursuing the trail network.



Empire State Trail Local Economic Opportunities: Phase 2

Building off the EST Local Economic Opportunities (LEOP) report completed in 2022, SMTC staff will determine road owner interest in implementing plans laid out in the initial EST LEOP. Order-of-magnitude costs and more detailed plan evaluations will be developed for desired recommendations.



Financing Local Mobility

Research into various methods of financing for municipal road construction, maintenance, and operations. Engagement materials will also be considered to help municipalities navigate the planning and implementation process.



Greater Fayetteville Area Bicycle & Pedestrian Connections

Addressing the need for bicycle and pedestrian connections between the Town of Manlius's three villages (Fayetteville, Manlius, and Minoa), on-road facilities will be evaluated for suitability.



Micron General Planning Assistance

SMTC staff will analyze the impacts of the Micron development in the Town of Clay, including traffic modeling, analysis of similar projects across the country, and assessments of future development possibilities along with their impacts on land use and the transportation system.

Carry-Over Studies



Coldbrook Creek Trail Study

Improvements to an existing "goat" path along Coldbrook Creek in the Valley neighborhood will be explored by staff, including improving access to nearby shopping plazas for area residents.



Community Streets Program

Using the Community Street Guide created by SMTC, a “planning in action” pilot program will be initiated within the City of Syracuse.



Dome Traffic Management & Events Strategic Planning

The existing traffic management plan for JMA Wireless Dome events was created in the 1980s. Working with Syracuse University, the traffic management plan will be updated to take into account the I-81 viaduct project along with changes to development patterns over the last 40 years.



Exploring Tomorrow's Transit

Commuting patterns and needs have shifted as a result of the pandemic. SMTC staff will conduct community outreach and engagement to assist Centro in understanding how services may need to adapt to changes in demand.



Onondaga Nation / Nedrow Route 11 Mobility Study

Continuing SMTC's overall study of the Route 11 corridor, this project looks to address the transportation needs of area residents and commuters while improving safety, mobility, and access for drivers, transit riders, bicyclists, and pedestrians.



Safe Routes to School Procedural Manual

Recommendations on materials, wayfinding, and conceptual routes aimed at providing predictable and safe walking routes for Syracuse City School District students. A test case application will be utilized as a proof of concept.



Westside Trail

Building off SMTC's recent Geddes & Fayette Streets Complete Streets Review, staff will examine Lipe Art Park and unused railroad bridges across Geddes and Fayette Streets for a potential multi-modal trail connecting the Westside with Downtown Syracuse.



Westvale Plaza Area Pedestrian & Bicycle Mobility Analysis

The existing road network connecting to the plaza is perceived as unfriendly to pedestrians and bicyclists. Complete streets and traffic calming measures will be considered to enhance pedestrian and bicycle access to the commercial center.



SMTC

Formed in 1966 as a result of the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1962, and the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, the Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council (SMTC) serves as the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Syracuse metropolitan area, and provides a forum for cooperative decision making in developing transportation plans and programs. Its committees are comprised of elected and appointed officials, representing local, state, and federal governments or agencies (member agencies) having an interest in or responsibility for transportation planning and programming.