

SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

Planning Positions: Entry, Mid and Senior

February 2022

The Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council (SMTC) is seeking qualified applicants for two to three transportation planning positions. The SMTC is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Onondaga County and small portions of Madison and Oswego Counties.

Desirable Skills and Abilities

The positions require an experienced (for non-entry level) and motivated transportation and/or planning professional with an ability to interpret data and communicate effectively both orally and in writing. The major work areas for the position(s) include participating in and/or leading transportation planning studies, meeting the needs of the SMTC's member agencies, and fulfilling requirements of the MPO process. The position(s) require considerable knowledge of the principles, practices and techniques of transportation and land use planning and the municipal planning process. Documented knowledge of current planning trends and strong writing skills are expected. Experience with and understanding of MPO operations and processes is highly desirable.

The ideal candidate(s) will have some combination of the skills below; all skills not expected.

- Demonstrated knowledge of the principles, practices and techniques of transportation and land use planning and the municipal planning process. Documented knowledge of current planning trends and strong writing skills.
- Traffic and Data Analysis: Familiarity with traffic analysis concepts and data will be beneficial. Working knowledge of software relevant to transportation planning and how it is applied to projects is also a benefit (i.e. Geographic Information Systems (GIS), HCS, Synchro, or TransCAD). A high level of proficiency with MS Excel is necessary; experience with MS Access is desirable.
- Communication: Strong written and verbal communication skills, especially the ability to convey technical information and data in a way that is easily understood by a non-technical audience. Candidates for mid- and senior-level positions should have demonstrated public speaking skills. Experience with public engagement such as presentations, focus groups, small-group forums, open houses, etc., (both in-person and using virtual public involvement tools) is a plus.
- Visualization: Preferred candidates should possess a basic level of user proficiency with Adobe Creative Suite/Cloud. Candidates with a demonstrated ability to create more advanced graphics, illustrations, and photo simulations, especially for transportation-related projects, in Illustrator and/or Photoshop, and ability to complete reports in InDesign are highly desirable.
- Project and staff management: For mid- and senior-level positions, candidates should have experience managing planning projects from scoping through final report completion, including a public engagement process. Candidates at the senior level should have previous experience managing a team of more junior-level staff members.

Salary range

The position(s) are expected to be filled at either the entry, mid or senior level, depending on qualifications. The current salary ranges are:

- Entry Transportation Planner: \$44,424 - \$53,778
- Mid-level Transportation Planner: \$54,947 – \$61,962
- Senior Transportation Planner: \$62,545 - \$73,652

Starting salary will be dependent on experience and qualifications.

The SMTC provides a competitive benefit package including Medical and Dental Insurance, participation in the NYS Retirement System, and an optional Deferred Compensation Plan.

Minimum Qualifications

At minimum, the ideal candidate shall have a four-year degree in Planning (Urban and Regional or Transportation), Geography, Landscape Architecture, Civil/Traffic Engineering, or a closely related field. Entry level positions should have some internship or similar relevant experience.

Mid-level Transportation Planner should have 3 years of directly related relevant experience OR (b) a master's degree in any of the above fields plus at least 1 year of directly related relevant experience.

Senior Transportation Planner should have 5 years of directly related relevant experience OR (b) a master's degree in any of the above fields plus at least 2 years of directly related relevant experience.

How to Apply

Interested candidates should forward a letter of interest, resume, salary requirements and three (3) professional references to: Director, SMTC, 100 Clinton Square, 126 N. Salina Street, Suite 100, Syracuse, New York 13202, or e-mail to jdagostino@smtcmpo.org.

Notes

All applicants should be eligible to work in the U.S. without VISA sponsorship. Applicants invited to interview will be asked to provide a writing sample, and will be encouraged to provide a sample of previous graphics/report layout work if applicable.

Should an employment offer be made, position(s) require physically working in the SMTC office. Part-time employment will be considered for the Senior Transportation Planner position (at least 20 hours per week) if the candidate prefers.

The position(s) is open until filled.

For a description of the SMTC please visit our website at www.smtcmpo.org.