



## Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council

### Unified Planning Work Program Status Report

#### 2020-2021 Program Year – 1st Half

#### September 2021

##### **General Administration (Project Manager: James D'Agostino)**

**September:** Documents were created and summarized for the required federal FHWA/FTA certification that is upcoming. This includes a desk reference of pertinent data/information related to the SMTC that FHWA/FTA is compiling as an addendum to the certification report. A call letter was sent out for the next UPWP cycle to member agencies and municipalities.

**August:** The SMTC began the process of preparing for the required federal FHWA/FTA certification and planning for its requirements.

**July:** The SMTC Directions Newsletter was sent out in July. SMTC staff began the coordination process with FHWA/FTA relating to the required 4-year Federal Certification requirements and scheduling. A mailing relating to current capital funding opportunities was sent to all relevant community entities and member agencies.

**June:** A Policy Committee Meeting was held updating critical MPO documents including required planning targets and the agency Public Participation plan as well as various completed studies. The agency newsletter was created and made ready to print.

**May:** All new IT infrastructure is functioning well allowing for a smooth interaction between on-site and off-site personnel. Next newsletter being prepped for publication by end of June.

**April:** Transition of IT infrastructure to new modern remote accessible server, email and VPN is complete. UPWP startup for new program year is underway. All projects on target as per adopted UPWP.

##### **Public Participation - General (Project Manager: James D'Agostino)**

**September:** The SMTC will hold the third Forum on Active Transportation (FOAT) on September 29 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. via Zoom. Dan Kwasnowski of SOCPA will introduce the county's new comprehensive plan, PLAN ONondaga to attendees. SMTC sent an e-newsletter in September, which can be found on our website at: <https://smtcmpo.org/all-publications/newsletter/>.

**August:** No significant items to report.

**July:** The agency's website was updated to reflect the material approved at the June SMTC Policy Committee Meeting. Efforts to continue and enhance remote public involvement while also restarting in-person meetings are underway.

**June:** The second quarterly Forum on Active Transportation (FOAT) was held virtually on June 15. NYSDOT and the City of Syracuse provided updates on current bike/ped related projects, and the guest speaker, Neil Burke, City of Syracuse Transportation Planner updated approximately 40 attendees on the City's Micromobility Program that will be taking over Sync to offer bike and scooter share. The Policy Committee adopted the 2021 Public Participation Plan at their June 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

**May:** Adjustments to various web pages took place throughout the month. Additionally, the draft Public Participation Plan was presented at the May Planning Committee meeting. The comment period remains open through June 12<sup>th</sup>. The SMTC's next Forum on Active Transportation (FOAT) meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, June 15 at 3:30 p.m. via Zoom. The agenda and link to register can be found on the [SMTC website](#).

**April:** A virtual meeting for interested parties was held on April 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss the draft Public Participation Plan before releasing for public review and comment. The draft 2021 Public Participation Plan 45-day public comment period began April 29<sup>th</sup> and runs through June 12<sup>th</sup>.

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

**September:** At time of this writing, no advancement occurred on a new multi-year infrastructure bill.

**August:** A bipartisan Senate infrastructure framework was approved August 10<sup>th</sup>. With both houses of Congress having approved their respective versions, the expectation by the end of August is that the House will take further action on the infrastructure bill.

**July:** The House passed the INVEST in America Act last month while the Senate may take up their own infrastructure version for adoption soon.

**June:** In early June, the House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure released their \$547B, 5-yr surface transportation proposal. At this time, the full US House has not acted on the proposal but may before the end of the month. Additionally, the Administration and a bipartisan group of Senators reached an agreement on a new infrastructure proposal. As mentioned last month, these types of activities are only the first of several steps in a process to have a new surface transportation authorization in place.

**May:** Discussions continued with Administration and Congressional delegates. Additionally, other committees that play a role in the broader reauthorization process, such as the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee have crafted a draft proposal. According to AMPO, the bipartisan leadership of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee released the Surface Transportation Reauthorization Act of 2021 on May 22. This bill would fund only the highway programs under Title 23 and would set a new baseline funding level over the 5-years of \$303.5 billion for Department of Transportation programs for highways, roads, and bridges.

**April:** Initial discussions between the Administration and members of Congress have started as the Administration's infrastructure proposal, the American Jobs Plan, was released on March 31. The \$2.5 trillion proposal includes \$611 billion for various transportation infrastructure investments such as modernizing 20,000 miles of highway, roads, and main streets; repairing the worst 10,000 smaller bridges; replacing thousands of buses and rail cars; and reconnecting neighborhoods cut off by historic investments. Interstate 81 is included in a fact sheet released by the Administration.

### **UPWP Previous Year Closeouts (Project Manager: James D'Agostino)**

**July:** All roll-over projects are completed at this time – no further updates to be given.

**June:** Minor roll-over projects and activities being wrapped up.

**May:** Minor roll-over projects and activities being wrapped up.

**April:** No significant items to report.

### **UPWP Maintenance & Development (Project Manager: James D'Agostino)**

**September:** A call letter was sent out for the next UPWP cycle and staff is brain-storming ideas and concepts to work with member agencies on.

**August:** Preliminary planning for the next UPWP cycle has begun in terms of carryover projects, possible available funding and regional needs.

**July:** No significant activity to report.

**June:** No significant activity to report.

**May:** All projects are scoped and have a schedule. All work is on track for timely delivery. End of year report being wrapped up for submission to federal partners.

**April:** New UPWP is printed and bound. Electronic copies are on the agency website.

### **NYSAMPO Conference Hosting (Project Manager: James D'Agostino)**

**September:** As the conference has now been canceled and postponed no further updates will be given this program year.

**August:** The NYSAMPO Association determined to cancel the 2022 conference given the relative state of public health and unknowns.

**July:** Communication with the NYSAMPOs on when a decision for the 2022 conference will be made occurred and it was decided that this will be by mid-September 2021.

**June:** No significant items to report.

**May:** Nothing additional will occur on this item until late summer to early fall.

**April:** A determination to wait until October of 2021 to determine if a 2022 conference is possible was made.

### **Census Data Compilation &/or Analysis (Project Manager: Andrew Frasier)**

**September:** In preparation for the upcoming FHWA/FTA certification process, staff have been creating interactive maps utilizing the new Census data to be posted on the SMTC's ArcGIS Online page.

**August:** The US Census Bureau released the redistricting data for the 2020 Census. Staff downloaded the data and are in the process of developing some commonly sought-after statistics about the metropolitan planning area. Populations rose in the City of Syracuse by 2.4%, Onondaga County by 2%, and in the MPA by 1.5%.

**July:** No significant activity to report.

**June:** No significant activity to report.

**May:** Staff continue to review several proposed changes to federal regulations for defining urban area boundaries given the new Census, and how this may affect MPOs.

**April:** Staff have been reviewing several proposed changes to federal regulations for defining urban area boundaries given the new Census, and how this may affect MPOs.

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

**September:** Staff has provided the new count consultant with a number of counts to be completed in September and a few in October.

**August:** Held kickoff meeting with consultant. Working with staff to develop a list of counts desired for projects.

**July:** No significant activity to report.

**June:** A new consultant is now under contract. Staff looking to continue toward the goal of producing a map with available count information and proceeding forward with next steps in the completion of the internal traffic count analysis template.

**May:** Staff has continued the process toward obtaining a consultant for traffic count assistance (i.e. drafting up a contract and rejection/acceptance letters). Staff continues to improve upon the internal traffic count analysis template and the database that will help in the creation of the future count map.

**April:** Selected consultant for Traffic Count Assistance. Staff has continued to work on the internal traffic count template for utilization when traffic count information is requested by staff for a study corridor as well as compiling count data via an internal database for an eventual map.

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

**September:** Staff completed several draft interactive maps that will be accessed from our website. The new maps include a StoryMap that highlights projects completed by SMTC, a Project Location and Environmental Considerations Map that can be used to view SMTC project boundaries as well as view various environmental layers, and finally an Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) map that identifies

the location of all documented ITS devices (cameras and variable message signs) and traffic signals in the SMTC Planning Area.

**August:** Progress is being made on an interactive story map that highlights projects completed by SMTC over the past 10+ years. The story map will provide a brief description of each project as well as provide a link to download the final report. Additionally, progress was made on the truck signage inventory. This is a desktop level effort using Google Street View to identify and digitize locations of truck related signs on federal aid eligible roads in the MPA.

**July:** Staff attended the ESRI Virtual User Conference. The conference included various presentations on the latest and upcoming features of ArcGIS. There were also many informational user and vendor presentations. Additionally, progress is being made on obtaining all the necessary data to create a web map highlighting ITS infrastructure in the MPA.

**June:** Staff coordinated with NYSDOT staff to obtain the latest infrastructure inventory for the region. Staff is currently working on creating an interactive map with this information to put on the Agency's ArcGIS Online page for public use. Staff also attended an ESRI led crash analysis training that was held for the GIS and Safety Working Groups. ESRI staff highlighted some of the tools that can be used for crash analysis.

**May:** Summer interns are starting in June and will be continuing work on City of Syracuse sidewalk condition ratings. Staff is currently preparing the iPads and GPS devices for this field data collection effort.

**April:** Staff began discussions on creating several new interactive maps to be added to the SMTC's ArcGIS Online page. These maps include a possible planning projects location map with links to project documents as well as a possible ITS infrastructure map.

### **Geographic Information Systems – Member Agency Assistance (Project Manager: Jason Deshaies)**

**September:** Analyst staff assisted the CNY RPDB with identifying gaps in the broadband inventory in Onondaga County. Each segment of road that does not have broadband infrastructure was identified and all addresses along those segments of road were selected to gain a better understanding of how many houses may not have access to broadband. A similar approach will be applied in the other counties in the RPDB area in the upcoming weeks.

**August:** Staff continues to assist the CNY RPDB with their broadband infrastructure project. Staff is using broadband inventory data as well as address points and land use data to identify homes and businesses that do not have access to broadband service. A summary has been created for each of the four counties in the CNY area.

**July:** A broadband infrastructure inventory for four counties was delivered to the RPDB from their consultant. Staff assisted the RPDB with mapping the inventory as well as developing a process to determine the percent of households that have access to broadband in their study area. Staff was able to determine broadband coverage for residential and non-residential properties by town for the entire study area. A combination of building footprints, address points, land use data and the broadband inventory mapping was used for the analysis.

**June:** Assistance was provided to RPDB staff in regard to various broadband GIS mapping tasks. Additionally, staff is currently updating the Onondaga County Highway Map. This effort should be complete and ready for printing in the near future.

**May:** Staff participated in a broadband discussion hosted by the AMPO GIS and Emerging Technologies Working Groups. A representative from SEMCOG (Southeast Michigan Council of Governments) gave a brief walk through of their online map of broadband access and usage. A similar map may be created for the CNY RPDB broadband service project. Additionally, staff participated in the spring Geospatial Advisory Committee meeting for PSLA at Fowler. The status of the program was presented to the group.

**April:** Analyst Staff continues to coordinate with the RPDB in regard to the broadband service project. Broadband GIS data is being collected for this project and will eventually be displayed on an interactive map. Additionally, staff has begun preparing for the continuation of the sidewalk condition data collection this summer.

### **Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning (Project Manager: Danielle Krol & Kevan Busa)**

**September:** Staff will hold the third Forum on Active Transportation (FOAT) on September 29 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. via Zoom. Guest speaker Dan Kwasnowski of SOCPA will introduce the county's new comprehensive plan, PLAN ONondaga to attendees. In addition, member agencies will share updates on

bicycle/pedestrian related projects/plans. In early September, staff participated in a quarterly NYSMPO Bike/Ped Working Group meeting. The group received updates from the NYSDOT Pedestrian & Bicycle Section Director on appropriate/inappropriate signage for sharing the road and shared use paths. The Director also noted that we should not be using or recommending any “dismount” signage for cyclists.

**August:** Upon request, staff met with the Onondaga County Health Department to discuss some potential options for their latest Healthy Communities Grant. The grant provides monies for locations with higher obesity levels and poverty rates. The OCHD will likely focus this round on the Town of VanBuren/Baldwinsville.

**July:** Staff participated in the first meeting of the Bicycle & Pedestrian Infrastructure Cost Estimating Toolkit subcommittee for the NYSMPO Bike/Ped Working Group. The MPO consultant is going to create an outline for the toolkit process based on our discussion and share it with the subcommittee for feedback/discussion.

**June:** Staff participated in the June 10 NYSMPO Bike/Ped Working Group virtual meeting. The group received many updates from NYSDOT on shared-use path stop sign guidance and the upcoming RRFB/HAWK video. Additionally, the group talked about the 2021 Work Plan which includes subcommittees on the following topics: Ped/Bike Counts, Complete Streets Toolkit, Walking/Bicycling Infrastructure Cost Estimating Toolkit (SMTC is on the committee for this) and an E-bikes fact sheet. The second quarterly Forum on Active Transportation (FOAT) was held virtually on June 15. NYSDOT and the City of Syracuse provided updates on current bike/ped related projects, and guest speaker Neil Burke, City of Syracuse Transportation Planner, updated approximately 40 attendees on the City’s Micromobility Program that will be taking over Sync to offer bike and scooter share in the City of Syracuse.

**May:** The SMTC’s next Forum on Active Transportation (FOAT) meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, June 15 at 3:30 p.m. via Zoom. The agenda and link to register can be found on the [SMTC website](#). As part of the MPO Bike/Ped Working Group, staff has signed up to participate in the “Bicycle & Pedestrian Infrastructure Cost Estimating Toolkit” subcommittee. Oftentimes staff is asked to include rough estimates of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure within planning documents. This group will work to find up-to-date cost estimates for such infrastructure as bike lanes, sidewalks, shared use paths, etc.

**April:** Staff is working on the agenda for the next Forum on Active Transportation (FOAT) to be held in June 2021. Once scheduled, details for the meeting will be posted on the SMTC Forum on Active Transportation web page. Staff participated in a webinar on April 7 titled *The Basics of Bikeway Selection at Intersections and with Parking*. Additionally, staff spent some time researching signage options for requiring bicyclists to dismount when using sidewalks.

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

**September:** Staff began analysis for the 2021-2022 BPCMS report using data collected so far. A small amount of fieldwork remains and will be completed shortly.

**August:** Staff made continued progress with pavement rating and rating is nearly complete for the 2021 season. Staff have begun the data review process for information collected.

**July:** Pavement rating for the 2021 season is underway and is about halfway to completion.

**June:** Staff presented the BPCMS report to the SMTC’s Policy Committee. Pavement rating for the 2021 season is underway.

**May:** Staff presented the BPCMS report to the SMTC’s Planning Committee and is preparing for a similar presentation to the Policy Committee. Staff is preparing to begin pavement rating for 2021; it is anticipated that it will begin in June.

**April:** SAC members have reviewed the draft final report for the 2020-2021 program year. Staff will present this report to the Planning and Policy committees. Staff is reviewing pavement rating methodology and planning for Summer 2021.

### **I-81 Participation (Project Manager: James D’Agostino & Meghan Vitale)**

**September:** Staff are finalizing comments on the DEIS for the October 14 submission deadline.

**August:** Staff are reviewing the DEIS and compiling comments. Various staff attended the virtual and in-person hearings held by NYSDOT on August 17 and 18.

**July:** The Draft EIS has been released and SMTC staff is reviewing it and will be submitting comments on behalf of planning staff. Additionally, coordination with NYSDOT on the required LRTP and TIP actions relating to this project are underway. Staff will participate in the upcoming meetings with NYSDOT on the effort.

**June:** Staff worked with NYSDOT on the forthcoming DEIS and the required MPO actions and LRTP and TIP Amendments that are critical to the project's success.

**May:** Staff met with NYSDOT and FHWA relevant to MPO actions required for project advancement.

**April:** Staff continues to coordinate with FHWA and NYSDOT on this important issue.

### **I-81 Travel Demand Modeling Project - SMTC (Project Manager: James D'Agostino & Jason Deshaies)**

**September:** No significant activity to report.

**August:** No significant activity to report.

**July:** No significant activity to report.

**June:** No significant activity to report.

**May:** No significant activity to report

**April:** No significant activity to report.

### **MPO Area Regional Planning Initiatives (Project Manager: James D'Agostino)**

**September:** Staff continues work on the opportunity analysis portion of the EST Local Economic Opportunities plan for SOCPA.

**August:** Staff is wrapping up the draft of the EST Local Economic Opportunities Plan for SOCPA and the Onondaga County base map for OCDOT.

**July:** SMTC will begin work on the opportunity analysis section of the EST Local Economic Opportunities Plan for SOCPA, which will include a 3-page section that brings together the analysis and mapping for each node in the project in the Adobe InDesign package.

**June:** Staff is working with SOCPA to wrap up the EST Local Economic Opportunities Plan.

**May:** Staff continues to work with SOCPA on the layout (in the Adobe InDesign package) of the EST Local Economic Opportunities Plan, as document sections are forwarded to SMTC staff.

**April:** Staff continues to work with SOCPA on the layout (in the Adobe InDesign package) of the EST Local Economic Opportunities Plan, as document sections are forwarded to SMTC staff.

### **Long Range Transportation Plan/Performance Based Measures (Project Manager: Meghan Vitale)**

**September:** The draft Chapter 6 (financial plan) amendment, along with a revised Chapter 4 (performance report) addendum, were distributed to the SAC for their review and comment. A SAC meeting is scheduled for October 5 to discuss the proposed amendment.

**August:** A Study Advisory Committee meeting was held on August 3 to present the proposed approach to amending the 2050 LRTP to incorporate the Community Grid-related projects for I-81. A draft of the Chapter 4 System Performance Report was distributed to the SAC members and comments were received; staff will revise that document per comments. Staff are continuing to work on updates to Chapter 6 Financial Analysis.

**July:** Staff are reviewing the recently released I-81 DEIS in the context of the upcoming LRTP amendment. A Study Advisory Committee is scheduled for August 3<sup>rd</sup> to review and discuss the proposed approach to the amendment process, and staff have drafted an addendum to include updated performance measures. The financial plan will need to be amended with new information from NYSDOT.

**June:** Staff continues to have conversations with NYSDOT about expected milestones and timing in the LRTP amendment and I-81 NEPA processes.

**May:** Staff participated in a call with NYSDOT staff to discuss an approach to the anticipated LRTP amendment for the I-81 projects. Planning is underway for a second Forum on Active Transportation in June, and for a job access transportation forum (timeframe TBD).

**April:** Staff continue to monitor progress on I-81 and coordinate with NYSDOT and FHWA as necessary in anticipation of an eventual LRTP amendment. Public involvement efforts continue, with staff beginning to reach-out to relevant member agencies to initiate a “job access transportation forum.”

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

**September:** Staff facilitated the NYSAMPO Transit Working Group’s quarterly call. Work continued on the next iteration of the Coordinated Plan. For freight related items, staff is preparing for next month’s Freight Working Group meeting and reviewing an FHWA Resource Center Action Plan draft. Staff are scheduled to discuss freight program related items with FHWA in October.

**August:** Work continued updating the Coordinated Plan. Additionally, staff participated in a Shared Transit Analytics steering committee kick-off meeting earlier in the month. Monthly steering committee meetings are anticipated.

**July:** Staff is summarizing responses received from the transportation services questionnaire developed for this year’s Coordinated Plan update.

**June:** Staff facilitated the NYSAMPO Transit Working Group’s quarterly call. Also, a transportation services questionnaire for the Coordinated Plan was sent via postal mail to 70 contacts. Responses will be received through July 11th. On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Policy Committee adopted Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan targets.

**May:** The 2021/2022 Coordinated Plan questionnaire was updated and will be sent to numerous human service agencies and transportation providers. An advisory committee meeting will be scheduled in the coming weeks to kick-off the latest update. Also, staff participated in four FHWA freight & land use training sessions.

**April:** With the new program year underway, staff will soon begin updating the area’s Coordinated Plan. Work started on modifying a transportation services questionnaire for distribution to human-service organizations and providers of public transportation. Staff is participating on a proposal review committee, led by the Albany NY MPO, for a shared transit service planning and analytics initiative. The NYSAMPO Freight Working Group continue holding bi-weekly calls with the FHWA Resource Team to coordinate the development of four training sessions to be held in May. Additionally, staff participated on a grade crossing improvement projects conference meeting with NYSDOT Main Office and CSX.

### **Traffic Safety (Project Manager: Michael Alexander)**

**September:** At the request of the City of Syracuse, the SMTC contracted with Spectrum to broadcast a locally televised bicycle safety (PSA) campaign for five weeks (on Fox News, MSNBC, CNN, and Spectrum News). The five-week PSA campaign features the five ‘SMTC Smart Cycling’ safety videos and runs a new safety topic/video each week. The televised campaign started Monday, September 13 and it coincides with SMTC’s social media campaign that features the same five bicycle safety videos. In total, Spectrum will run 635 commercials during primetime viewing periods. SMTC also participated on NYSAMPO Safety Working Group call on (W) 9/22. Staff participates as needed to help test the NYSDOT’s CLEAR system, which is the state’s new crash network assessment software.

**August:** The Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee continues to broadcast the bike safety videos on television statewide this summer. SMTC developed the 30-second PSA for use locally, which was then used to broadcast on television statewide by GTSC. It is now in the 4<sup>th</sup> year of the rotation (out of 5 years) for statewide broadcast. The NYSAMPO Safety Working Group held its call on Wednesday, August 25. Staff continue to review and help test CLEAR – the state’s new crash network assessment software. This process will be ongoing and will involve training with NYSDOT with coordination with other SWG members from across the state. Staff received updates about the state’s Lane Departure Action Plan.

**July:** The NYSAMPO Safety Working Group held its call on Wednesday, July 28. Staff are coordinating with NYSDOT and the SWG to review and help test CLEAR. This process will be ongoing and will involve training with NYSDOT and coordination with other SWG members from across the state. Staff also continue to monitor the progress of the state’s Lane Departure Action Plan.

**June:** The NYSAMPO Safety Working Group and the GIS Working Group held a joint training session on June 16. ESRI presented its Traffic Crash Analysis tool, which can be used as part of ArcGIS Pro. The Traffic Crash Analysis tool can be used to analyze crash data and identify streets and intersections where concentrations of serious and fatal crashes occur. The

SWG held its call on June 23. Although staff was unable to attend this call, staff will review the meeting notes to monitor the progress of state and national safety items including CLEAR and the state's Lane Departure Action Plan.

**May:** The NYSAMPO Safety Working Group met Wednesday, May 26, 2021. SMTC continues to monitor the progress of state and national safety items including CLEAR and the state's Lane Departure Action Plan. Staff also continue to attend traffic safety webinars and coordinate on safety items as needed.

**April:** The NYSAMPO Safety Working Group met on Wednesday, April 28, 2021. SMTC continues to monitor the progress of state and national safety items: CLEAR, the NYSDOT Lane Departure Action Plan, and proposed changes to the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Staff also continue to attend traffic safety webinars and coordinate on safety items as needed.

### **City & OCDOT Traffic Count Program (Project Manager: Kevin Kosakowski)**

**September:** Staff continues to update and maintain the internal database created to manage the program. The new consultant has been tasked with several counts.

**August:** No significant activity. Ongoing maintenance and updating of internal database.

**July:** No significant activity to report. Staff is continuing with the updating and maintenance of the internal database.

**June:** Maintaining and updating internal database and file managing the available 2020 count information and creating and/or replicating queries and reports to assist in the overall management of the program.

**May:** Staff is working toward properly filing/storing data and filling in the internal database with items/information associated with the program counts, including but not limited to filing available pdfs in proper folders on the agencies common drive to help in the future retrieval and eventual connection to both the database forms developed to date and eventual count map; as well as the general updating and maintaining of the database.

**April:** A new consultant has been selected and a contract will be entered into in the next few weeks.

### **Local Comprehensive Plan Assistance (Project Manager: Meghan Vitale)**

**September:** No further progress to report

**August:** No further progress to report.

**July:** No further progress to report.

**June:** Town of Skaneateles Eastern Gateway – staff summarized the technical memo's findings for the Policy Committee.

**May:** Town of Skaneateles Eastern Gateway – staff summarized the technical memo's findings for the Planning Committee.

**April:** Town of Skaneateles - No further progress to report.

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

**September:** No significant activity to report.

**August:** No significant activity to report.

**July:** No significant activity to report.

**June:** No significant activity to report.

**May:** No significant activity to report.

**April:** No significant activity to report.

### **Safety Assessment & Analysis (OCDOT & City) (Project Manager: Michael Alexander)**

**September:** The Policy Committee acknowledged the study as complete on June 23. No future updates will be provided.



**August:** The Policy Committee acknowledged the study as complete on June 23. No future updates will be provided.

**July:** The Policy Committee acknowledged the study as complete on June 23. SMTC prepared a final version of the study and posted it online to the SMTC website for public access. SMTC also distributed hard copies to interested Study Advisory Committee (SAC) members. No future updates will be provided.

**June:** The SMTC provided the draft report to the Policy Committee for review prior to the June 23 Policy Committee meeting. Staff delivered a pre-recorded presentation on June 23 that summarized the study's purpose, process, and findings. SMTC provided the opportunity to ask questions following the presentation. No questions or comments were received. The Policy Committee moved to acknowledge the study as complete. SMTC will prepare a final version of the study for distribution to the Study Advisory Committee and to post online to the SMTC website for public access.

**May:** April 30 was the deadline for the SAC to provide comments on the draft report. SMTC received two comments in support of the draft report but did not receive any suggestions for edits. Subsequently, the report was provided to the Planning Committee for review prior to their meeting on May 19. SMTC prepared and delivered a pre-recorded presentation to the Planning Committee. SMTC provided the opportunity to ask questions following the presentation. No questions or comments were received. Next steps include delivering the presentation to the Policy Committee on June 23, 2021, for acknowledgement of completion.

**April:** SMTC completed a draft of the study ahead of schedule on March 31, 2021. The full draft was disseminated to the SAC for review. SMTC held a fourth (and final) SAC meeting on April 23 to review the systemic assessment. SAC comments on the entire draft report were due to SMTC on 4/30. SMTC is currently preparing a presentation for the May Planning Committee meeting.

### **CNY Recreational Heritage Trail Bike Corridor Planning Assistance (Project Manager: Danielle Krol)**

**September:** Staff is using information from the Rails-with-Trails webinar to inform a PowerPoint presentation to share with NYS&W. Staff is also reaching out to the new NYSDOT Rail coordinator for additional input.

**August:** Staff recently participated in the "Rails-with-Trails: Best Practices and Lessons Learned" webinar that highlighted safety, design and liability issues associated with the development of shared use paths and other trails adjacent to active railroad and transit rights-of-way as outlined in a new report from the USDOT. Staff will utilize this report when discussing the potential for rail-with-trail along the Jamesville section of rail-line with NYS&W.

**July:** Staff is creating a Power Point to share with NYS&W to discuss the potential for rail-with-trail along the Jamesville section of rail-line. Staff will be reaching out to the new rail coordinator for NYSDOT Region 3 to bring him up to speed on this project. Additionally, staff is reaching out to the Town of Lenox (Madison County) for information on their recently built successful rail-with-trail project to include in the presentation.

**June:** Staff is in the process of preparing to meet with NYS&W to discuss the potential for rail-with-trail along the Jamesville section of rail-line, to make Corridor #21 Jamesville-Labrador Hollow Bike Corridor connection (from the CNYRPDB CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan).

**May:** No significant activity to report.

**April:** Staff will schedule early summer field work for Corridor #21 Jamesville – Labrador Hollow Bike Corridor and Corridor #27 Fabius – City of Cortland – Marathon Route 11 Bikeway. In the coming two months, staff will prepare maps and examples of successful rail-with-trail projects for a future meeting with NYS&W.

### **Joint TMC Co-Location – White Paper Evaluation (Project Manager: Mario Colone)**

**September:** Efforts continued on summarizing case study research for inclusion in the project's documentation. Expectation is that a Working Group meeting will occur in October.

**August:** Staff held a virtual discussion with the Region 3 TMC coordinator to gain a better understanding of current operations (i.e., activities undertaken, personnel) and desires if a larger facility is developed. A Working Group meeting will be scheduled in the coming weeks.

**July:** Background research and case study research continued. Several conference calls have been scheduled with NYSDOT and/or MPO staff from the Albany, Buffalo, and Rochester areas to gain insight into their operations centers and multi-agency involvement.

**June:** Staff started on background research and case study research and, development of a Transportation Systems Management and Operations questionnaire that will be used to guide future agency conversations.

**May:** On May 19, the Planning Committee approved the project's scope of work. Efforts are underway to create a survey that will be used to document current Transportation System Management & Operations (TSMO) activities/programs and a related asset inventory. Also, case study research on various TMCs throughout Upstate New York will begin.

**April:** A draft scope of work was provided to various member agencies for review and comment before sending to the Planning Committee for approval.

### **Dome Traffic Management & Events Strategic Plan (Project Manager: Meghan Vitale)**

**September:** Stantec and SMTC staff finalized a public survey about the experience of traveling to and parking for Dome events. This is now open for responses. We are working with Highland Planning, one of the subconsultants on the project team, to prepare for a series of interviews and focus group meetings with University Hill area stakeholders beyond SU/Dome. Stantec is revising the draft Existing Conditions report based on SMTC staff comments and have also mapped existing operations staff locations for review by the Syracuse Police Department and SU.

**August:** SMTC and Stantec staff have continued to follow-up with SAC members on various additional data requests. Stantec provided SMTC with an initial draft of the Existing Conditions report for review and comment, and Stantec staff are updating that draft prior to SAC review.

**July:** SMTC and Stantec staff have held numerous small-group meetings with SU stakeholders from various departments as well as City, Centro, and Syracuse Police Department staff. The purpose of these meetings was to gain a better understanding of current operations, and desires for a future traffic management plan. Staff are also working with Streetlight data to better understand regional traffic flows, especially to and from the Dome. Stantec is reviewing the game day vs. non-game day traffic flows with the Streetlight data as well.

**June:** Literature Review document has been reviewed by the SAC members, with only minor comments received. Stantec continues to run analyses in the Streetlight data platform, looking at selected high attendance events from 2018 and 2019 to understand arrival and departure patterns. SMTC, Stantec, and SU staff from various departments met on June 22 to gain a better understanding of how current events management functions from the University's perspective. Stantec staff also completed an inventory of Dome-related signage.

**May:** Stantec has completed a final draft of the Literature Review/case studies document, which is ready to be distributed to the SAC members for their review. Stantec staff also identified initial zones for Streetlight data analysis, and after multiple conversations with SMTC staff and review of data from stakeholders, are ready to proceed with secondary zone analysis as well. This will provide a more detailed picture of existing (pre-COVID) travel patterns to and from the Dome. SMTC continue to coordinate with SAC members to provide additional data, especially SU and Centro for parking and shuttle bus information. A draft "fan survey" is also ready to be shared with SAC members.

**April:** SMTC has purchased access to Streetlight data for use on this project, and Stantec staff are beginning to analyze the data for the zones discussed at the March 31 SAC meeting. Stantec completed a draft literature review and a draft "fan survey" and SMTC staff have provided initial comments on both items. Stantec compiled a "wish list" of data requests for SAC members (parking information, shuttle ridership, current and planned projects, etc.) and SMTC staff are following-up with individuals on these requests.

### **Tuscarora Road Corridor Study (Project Manager: Aaron McKeon)**

**September:** Staff prepared a narrated video outlining the project, its purpose, existing conditions, and potential design concepts for public review and comment. Posted this video to the SMTC's YouTube channel and planned a live, interactive session for mid-October. Work on the project report continued. A tube count on Tuscarora Road, intended to update existing NYSDOT counts, was also conducted.

**August:** Staff began preparation of a public presentation to be uploaded to the SMTC’s website in September. Also developed a perspective-view photo simulation of a raised crosswalk concept and continued to develop a study report.

**July:** Held a Study Advisory Committee to discuss design ideas with SAC. Refined design concepts based on SAC input. Staff will compile these design ideas into a presentation to be shared with the public in early September.

**June:** Prepared concepts and a presentation to be reviewed by the SAC at a meeting currently scheduled for early July. Also began a geospatial inventory of street lighting on the corridor, in response to survey comments identifying lighting as an ongoing issue.

**May:** Staff began developing exhibits of proposed corridor improvements to be shared at a June SAC meeting. Previous month’s fieldwork was reviewed and summarized. The online survey results were compiled for inclusion in the study report as an appendix.

**April:** Staff conducted fieldwork and a review of obstacles in the public right-of-way that could make adding a trail or sidewalk in the corridor more complicated and expensive. Staff began developing preliminary recommendations for the Tuscarora Road corridor. Also, the results of the online survey administered earlier in 2021 were compiled in a document.

### **US Route 11 Corridor Plan – Mattydale (Project Manager: Michael Alexander)**

**September:** Staff completed six draft report chapters that will be sent to SAC members for internal review. The SMTC has also developed draft materials for the fourth SAC meeting, which includes a presentation. The presentation will review four draft concept plans that show best practices for site layout, building placement, and access management. The concept plans reflect the full-build condition for each area to maximize traffic growth to reflect a “worst-case” scenario for the 2050 forecast year. Through its Travel Demand Model, the SMTC determined that excess capacity remains under 2050 full-build conditions. These results support planning-level considerations for alternative road design options, including lane reductions, which are reflected within the concept plans. Parking demand and environmental constraints are also accounted for within the concept plans. Each concept plan is developed to scale and can help guide future zoning and land use considerations.

**August:** Staff continue to draft initial report chapters. Four draft chapters are complete. The SMTC developed four draft concept plans that show best practices for site layout, building placement, and access management. Staff also coordinated with the Town about various TAP/CMAQ-related ideas. The concept plans reflect the full-build condition for each area to maximize the number of new housing units and the number of square feet of commercial space. Parking demand and environmental constraints are also accounted for within the concept plans. SMTC used the full-build calculations to determine the necessary inputs for the Travel Demand Model (Model). SMTC is in the process of developing presentation materials for the next study advisory committee meeting – date TBD.

**July:** The SMTC is developing draft concept plans for four focus areas within the study corridor. The concept plans are being drawn to scale and will show best practices for site layout, building placement, and access management. The concept plans reflect the full-build condition for each area to maximize the number of new housing units and the number of square feet of commercial space. Parking demand and environmental constraints are also accounted for within the concept plans. SMTC used the full-build calculations to determine the necessary inputs for the Travel Demand Model (Model). The Model determined that excess capacity exists throughout the study area even under a future full-build condition with lane reductions. Staff are also drafting initial report chapters and are coordinating with the Town about various ideas and opportunities for potential improvements.

**June:** SMTC presented findings from the Travel Demand Model (Model) assessment of four Model runs to the Study Advisory Committee (SAC) on Monday, June 7, 2021. This was the third (of six) SAC meetings, and SAC members actively participated throughout the meeting. SMTC answered questions and participants provided valuable input for the next steps in the planning process, which includes developing several concept plans. The SMTC will develop graphics that will illustrate best practices for site layout and access management strategies. This will include reducing the number of travel lanes and closing one block of road as a concept alternative. Staff followed up with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Salina Councilor who was unable to attend the SAC meeting. The Town Supervisor and 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Councilor are pleased with the Model results and proposed next steps to develop concept plans consistent with the Modeled scenarios.

**May:** SMTC finalized the Travel Demand Model (Model) assessment. Four Model runs were completed, which included the 2017 Base, the 2050 No-Build, the 2050 Full-Build, and the 2050 Full-Build w/lane reduction. Model findings suggest excess capacity within the road system, even under the 2050 Full-Build with lane reductions. SMTC will review the Model findings with the SAC in June (date to be determined). Next steps include developing various concept plans for the corridor based on input from the SAC and the Town of Salina.

**April:** SMTC continues to organize narratives to input into the draft chapters. SMTC made minor adjustments to the Travel Demand Model following its review of the initial Model findings. These corrections to the Model will correct Model outputs for the run of the 2050 Build scenario. Findings from a lane reduction scenario and a partial lane closure scenario is also currently under review. Model assessment results will inform future decisions about what options may exist to improve mobility along the Route 11 corridor in Mattydale. Identified options will be used to develop concept plans this summer for focus areas within the corridor.

### **Manlius Village Center Pedestrian Safety & Mobility Study (Project Manager: Danielle Krol)**

**September:** Staff has begun to write the existing conditions and issues sections of the draft document. Additionally, staff is working on initial recommendations, including a Synchro analysis to determine if there are significant changes to traffic with the removal of Liberty Lane. Staff has started to create a PowerPoint presentation to be shared as part of public outreach for this project.

**August:** A SAC meeting for this project was held on August 19 to discuss the feedback received from business owners and to discuss the initial recommendations that SMTC will prepare for the project. Staff will work on writing the existing conditions and issues sections of the draft document to share with the SAC within the next two months. Staff will also prepare initial recommendations and hold another SAC meeting to share these ideas with the SAC prior to gathering public input this fall. The SAC agreed that public input will need to be gathered virtually.

**July:** The next SAC meeting for this project has been scheduled for Wednesday, August 11 at 10:30 a.m. to share the information received from two Village of Manlius business owner meetings held in June, as well as to discuss potential recommendations that SMTC should bring forward for analysis.

**June:** Staff held two virtual business owner meetings in early June to obtain feedback from Manlius Village business owners on how traffic affects their business operations. SMTC received robust feedback that will be used to formulate a list of issues/concerns as well as ideas for improvements. A mid-to-late July SAC meeting is being scheduled for this project to share the information gleaned from the business owner meetings along with a list of potential recommendations.

**May:** Staff has been preparing for two virtual meetings, scheduled for June 2, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. and June 3, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., to obtain feedback from Village of Manlius businesses on how traffic affects their business operations. A public meeting for all Village residents will be scheduled in the near future.

**April:** Staff has summarized the select link analysis for the overlap of Routes 92/173 in the Village of Manlius. In addition, staff has developed a letter and survey to reach out to village businesses to obtain their feedback on how traffic affects their operations. A late May virtual Zoom meeting with business owners and Village of Manlius representatives is in the process of being scheduled.

### **Village of Skaneateles Pedestrian Safety & Access (Project Manager: Aaron McKeon)**

**September:** Staff conducted an in-depth analysis of safety issues related to US 20 in the village, including a segment-by-segment and intersection-by-intersection breakdown of traffic crash types. Based on this, more detailed analysis and utilizing SAC input, staff modified the previously developed design concepts and got buy-in from local leadership on these designs. Staff continued to develop a project report.

**August:** Discussed ways of synthesizing design concepts based on a combination of staff ideas and SAC feedback with Village representatives and NYSDOT staff. Continued to compile project study report.

**July:** Held a Study Advisory Committee to review design concepts with the SAC. SAC feedback on pedestrian safety improvement concepts was mixed. The pedestrian safety ideas presented to the SAC were sufficiently controversial among SAC members to warrant additional internal discussion regarding the best way to proceed.

**June:** Released a pre-recorded PowerPoint presentation (with narration) to give SAC members an introduction to the many different draft design concepts developed for six key locations in the village. This is anticipated to result in a more productive and efficient SAC discussion in July. Staff conducted a Synchro analysis of how proposed concepts would affect traffic operations in the village (e.g., adding center median for pedestrians would reduce the number of lanes on a given approach, resulting in X additional minutes of delay.)

**May:** Design concepts for pedestrian improvements throughout the village were compiled in a presentation, to be put online for SAC review in June.

**April:** Staff continued to develop concepts to improve pedestrian accessibility and calm traffic at key intersections in the Village of Skaneateles. Staff conducted fieldwork, including a review of pavement markings at signalized intersections.

### **Syracuse Sidewalk Planning Study (Project Manager: Andrew Frasier)**

**September:** Staff met with representatives from the City of Syracuse to discuss the future of the Sidewalk Planning Study. Staff are working to create and deliver a data product which will support the City's sidewalk program.

**August:** Staff have wrapped up data collection for this year. Staff collected information on sidewalks in all or part of seven neighborhoods in the City of Syracuse this year.

**July:** Sidewalk data collection is ongoing and will continue through at least August.

**June:** Sidewalk data collection is underway and will continue throughout the Summer.

**May:** Staff prepared a data collection plan in consultation with the City of Syracuse for Summer 2021. Sidewalk data collection will begin in June.

**April:** Staff continue to determine project needs for 2021, in consultation with the City of Syracuse. Staff will be developing a data collection field plan for Summer 2021.

### **Syracuse Residential Parking Permits Study - Phase 1 (Project Manager: Danielle Krol)**

**September:** Staff has begun to create the project document, including existing conditions and the white paper. Comments received from the SAC are being incorporated, as appropriate, into the project document. Staff has begun to gather occupancy counts and measurements of available parking space for the University area neighborhoods.

**August:** Staff is in the process of reviewing comments received on the draft white paper. Staff has also gathered occupancy counts for the selection of Tapp Hill streets being examined, along with measurements of available parking space on those specific streets. Staff is currently doing the same with the selected streets in the Park Ave neighborhood. Staff will begin the process of organizing existing conditions and the white paper into a document in the coming month.

**July:** Staff has sent the draft white paper to the SAC for their review. Staff has also determined which streets in the Tipperary Hill neighborhood will be used for gathering occupancy counts with the Go-Pro, and the days of the week and hours to obtain this information. Staff will utilize the same process for determining the streets in the Park Ave. neighborhood.

**June:** Staff conducted a trial run of the Tipperary Hill neighborhood using the Go-Pro to take stock of parked cars. Staff will use the information (photos of the neighborhood, taken every second along each street segment) to determine which streets to use for parking capacity counts. Staff will conduct a similar run of the Park Ave. neighborhood. Staff is also finishing up the draft white paper and will share with the SAC for their review in the coming weeks.

**May:** Staff is in the process of updating the white paper (a review of existing parking permit programs in cities in NYS) to include a review of a couple of parking permit programs from cities outside of NYS. Staff will be gathering evening (after 6:30 p.m.) parking occupancy counts for the Tipperary Hill and Park Avenue neighborhoods in the coming month.

**April:** Staff held the first SAC meeting for this study on March 30. Staff briefly reviewed the existing conditions data for the six study area neighborhoods (including demographics and existing parking regulations), initial findings related to the white paper (a review of existing parking permit programs in cities in NYS) and our recommendations for conducting parking occupancy counts. Per SAC request, SMTC is adding a review of parking permit programs from a few cities outside of NYS

that are considered aspirational. The SAC also discussed the potential use of drones to gather parking occupancy counts, as well as conducting these counts in the evening hours (i.e., after 6:00 p.m.).

### **Syracuse Safe Routes to School Guide (Project Manager: Kevan Busa)**

**September:** The SMTC is still waiting to set up a meeting at the City of Syracuse School District to discuss and help develop the guidebook. At this point the study is on hold until outreach with the school is possible due to the start of the fall semester for school.

**August:** The SMTC met with the Onondaga County Health Department to discuss the SRTS project and funding they have for healthy initiatives. They will be included at the next Study Advisory Committee meeting. The SMTC is still waiting to set up a meeting with the City of Syracuse School District to discuss and help develop the guidebook.

**July:** The study is continuing in the creation of the guidebook. The SMTC has reached out to the City of Syracuse School District and are attempting to schedule a meeting with them to talk about school specific items for the guidebook. Once that is completed, the guidebook will progress and a school for the case study will start to create a route.

**June:** The study is progressing in the creation of the draft guidebook. The SMTC has reached out to the Syracuse City School District and expect to schedule a meeting in the near future to discuss school-specific items for this guidebook. After that, another SAC meeting will be scheduled to discuss the progress of the guidebook before completing and using a case study (Grant Middle School) to create a Safe Route to School.

**May:** The study is now in the creation of the draft guidebook phase. A school has been chosen (Grant Middle) for the case study. Once a draft guidebook is created this will be brought to the Study Advisory Committee meeting for review.

**April:** A second study advisory committee meeting occurred in April. The draft white paper and initial data has been completed. The study now moves into the creation of the guidebook piece. Along with this guidebook there will be a case study of a specific school in the Syracuse City School District to develop a route.

### **Travel Demand Modeling (Project Manager: Jason Deshaies)**

**September:** Staff attended the Modeling Working Group meeting and participated in a discussion on the impacts of COVID-19 on the transportation system. The group discussed possible datasets and methodologies to analyze the impacts at a local and regional scale. MPO staff shared their experiences with data such as NPMRDS, Google and Apple mobility trend data, transit ridership data, parking utilization data and various others. The group agreed that the conversation should continue as we figure out how to represent the possible “new normal” in our regional models.

**August:** Streetlight data on the interstate system continues to be reviewed and summarized by analyst staff. The Streetlight data includes information such as Origin-Destination information as well as traffic routing. We currently have 16 directional zones set up on the interstate system to better understand the flow of interstate traffic as well as origins and destinations of interstate travelers in our planning area.

**July:** Staff attended the final Travel Demand Modeling training session hosted by FHWA in early July. Staff is currently coordinating with other MPO staff that attended the training and will follow up with FHWA in regard to feedback on the training and other follow-up items. Additionally, staff continues to review Streetlight Origin-Destination data to better understand interstate traffic patterns for the Dome Traffic Management study.

**June:** Assistance was provided to OCDOT in regard to traffic volume growth rates on Bear Road. Staff used the regional model to determine the annual growth rate for the identified corridor. A summary of the PM peak and daily growth rates were provided to OCDOT staff. Additionally, analyst staff coordinated and attended a Travel Demand Modeling training this month. The training was hosted by FHWA and consisted of 3 2-hour sessions.

**May:** Various model output maps were created for the Mattydale Route 11 project and are currently being summarized into simplified graphics for presentation to the SAC as well as the report. Additionally, analyst staff has been participating in review of Streetlight data (cell phone location data) for the Dome Traffic Management Plan. Staff will be trained on how to use the Streetlight data analysis tools in early June. This data may be useful for model validation.

**April:** Various land use and transportation scenarios were modeled for the Mattydale Rt 11 project and are currently being reviewed. Staff is working on creating additional maps including intersection V/C ratio maps as well as volume percent

change maps. Additionally, a select link analysis was completed to identify the origins of trips to a key area within the project corridor.

### **TIP Development & Maintenance (Project Manager: Mario Colone)**

**September:** As September marks the end of a Federal Fiscal Year, a number of amendments and administrative modifications occurred to the TIP. Two amendments and a related public notice were created for upcoming Planning and Policy Committee meetings in October. Additionally, the internal TIP database manual that describes in detail the functionality and structure of the Access database was updated. Also, in advance of a new multi-year TIP/STIP, staff requested existing project sponsors provide cost and schedule updates that will form the basis of the next capital program.

**August:** Several amendments occurred to the TIP earlier in the month. Discussions were held with project sponsors to identify needed TIP actions before the end of the Federal Fiscal Year in September 2021.

**July:** A Capital Projects Committee meeting occurred on July 21<sup>st</sup>. Several projects were identified for action prior to the end of the Federal Fiscal Year. Overall, sponsor schedules are advancing as anticipated with minor delays.

**June:** A Capital Projects Committee meeting is scheduled for July 21<sup>st</sup>. Staff participated in the Public-Private Partnerships and Tax Increment Financing webinars hosted by FHWA. On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Policy Committee adopted an update to the TIP Anticipated Effects Narrative that accounts for Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan targets.

**May:** Modifications to the SMTC TIP database were made for efficiency purposes. Staff participated in two FHWA Value Capture webinars over the month. Staff is in the process of scheduling a summer Capital Projects Committee meeting for late June or early July.

**April:** Amendments and/or administrative modifications occurred to the TIP as necessary throughout the month. Specifically, a special Executive Committee meeting was held in the latter part of the month to address a few City, County, and State project shortfalls.

### **Miscellaneous Activities & Special Technical Assistance (Project Manager: James D'Agostino)**

**September:** Staff participated in the recent FOCUS Citizens Academy as a panelist to discuss planning and our role in in for the area.

**August:** No significant items to report.

**July:** Various minor member agency requests were completed in July relating to mapping, transit and public outreach.

**June:** No significant items to report.

**May:** No significant activity to report

**April:** No significant activity to report.