

Onondaga County Sustainable Streets Project

Onondaga County Planning Federation
June 7, 2012



Sustainable Streets

1. Introduction to the SMTC
2. Sustainable Streets – Overview
3. SMTC's Sustainable Streets Project





The SMTC : An Introduction



What is a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)?



Agency charged with the:

- **Comprehensive, cooperative & continuous** transportation planning process for a metropolitan area

What is the SMTC's planning area?



Who is the MPO?

Member Agencies

Central New York Regional Transportation Authority (Centro)

Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board

City of Syracuse:

Mayor

Common Council

Department of Public Works

Planning Commission

Neighborhood and Business Development

CenterState Corporation for Economic Opportunity

New York State:

Department of Environmental Conservation

Department of Transportation

Empire State Development Corporation

Thruway Authority

Onondaga County:

County Executive

Department of Transportation

County Legislature

Planning Board

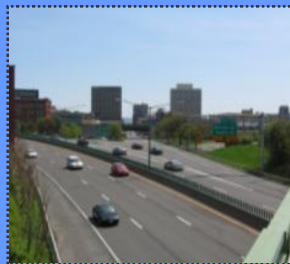
Director

Planners

Technical staff

Comprehensive transportation planning

Automobiles
and the
road network



Freight



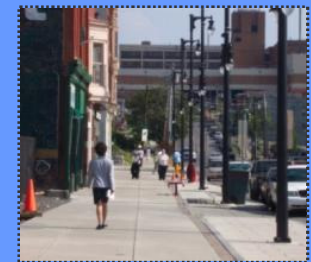
Transit



Bicycling



Walking



Cooperative transportation planning



- **Coordinate with federal, state, & local agencies** to develop transportation plans and programs
- Provide an opportunity for **citizens to participate in planning** (not implementation)

What does the MPO do?

Continuous transportation planning



Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) 2011 Update

A long range transportation plan that seeks to preserve the infrastructure, improve safety, provide system connectivity, improve mobility, increase access, protect air quality and support economic growth in the Greater Syracuse area.

Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council
 126 N. Salina Street, Suite 100
 Syracuse, NY 13202
 Phone: 315-422-5716
 Fax: 315-422-7753

Regional transportation vision

UPWP
 Unified Planning Work Program | 2012 - 2013



Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council

Specific transportation studies and plans



2011 - 2015 Transportation Improvement Program: SMTC MPA



Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council




Federal funding program

Why an MPO process?

- Examine the region's future and investment alternatives
- Facilitate collaboration of governments, interested parties, and the public
- Prioritize transportation needs
- Invest funds appropriately
- Plan to reflect the region's vision
- Balance needs versus limited funding
- Express the consensus of the community through member agencies and elected officials

Sustainable Streets

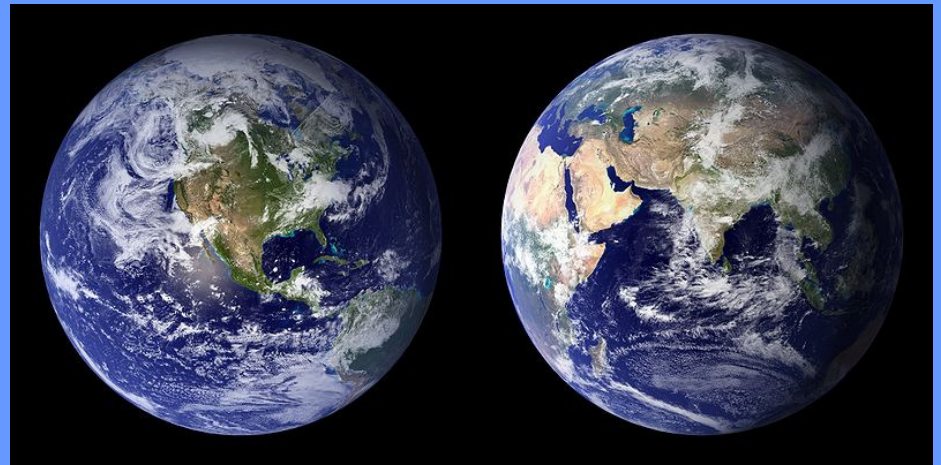
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What is 'Sustainability'?

“Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”

from United Nations General Assembly, December 1987



The Triple Bottom Line

- *Economic Value*
- *Social Value*
- *Environmental Value*



Transportation & The Triple Bottom Line

Transportation corridors that maximize

- Mobility/Accessibility for all modes
- Ecological benefits
- Social benefits



Sustainable Streets

- The movement of people and goods by all on-street modes and for all trip purposes and types. (**Complete Streets**)
- A transportation system that makes progress toward improving air quality, reducing VMT and minimizing stormwater runoff.
- Transportation investments that are equitable and that fit with communities' visions.

Sustainable Streets & Onondaga County

- Major projects in Onondaga County:
 - Connective Corridor:
 - ▣ Social benefit – linking SU Hill to Downtown
 - ▣ Environmental benefit – expected to reduce runoff by 5.7 million gallons annually
 - ▣ Mobility benefit – bike lanes/cycle track, landscaped buffer between sidewalk and street
 - Geddes Street: bike lanes, bioswales
 - Otisco Street Green Corridor: curb extensions / traffic calming & bioretention

City, Town & Village Level

- Mobility Improvements - Complete Streets
 - Sidewalk improvements / connections
 - Street trees
 - Sidewalk lighting
 - Bike network
 - ▣ On-road
 - ▣ Off-road
 - ▣ Paved shoulders
 - ▣ Bike parking
 - Transit network
 - ▣ Comfortable transit stops
 - ▣ Design for transit

Federal Transportation Funding for Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects

■ **Transportation Enhancements**

Program: 12 categories of eligible projects related to surface transportation, including pedestrian and bicycle facilities and safety improvements.

www.nysdot.gov/portal/page/portal/programs/tep

- Marcellus Streetscape Improvements
- Liverpool Commuter Corridor Beautification
- Ninemile Creek Aqueduct Restoration
- Civic Strip (Connective Corridor)
- Oneida River Park – Town of Hastings
- Seneca River Trail – Lysander
- Erie Canalway Trail – Jordan to Camillus
- South Shore East Trail – B'ville



Federal Transportation Funding for Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects

■ Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement program (CMAQ):

Projects that demonstrate air quality benefits, such as construction of pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/cmaqpgs/

- Creekwalk
- City of Syracuse - Signal Interconnect Projects
- Centro - Funding for buses
- Loop the Lake - phases of project (western segments)



Federal Transportation Funding for Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects

- **Safe Routes To School program:** Planning, design, and construction of projects that will substantially improve the ability of students to walk and bicycle to school (K-8 only).

safety.fhwa.dot.gov/saferoutes/ OR
www.saferoutesinfo.org/index.cfm

- Village of Fayetteville Sidewalk Improvements
- Town of Manlius Law Enforcement
- City of Syracuse – “Way to Go”
- West Genesee CSD Sidewalk Project
- Kinne Street Curbs and Sidewalks
- Long Branch Elementary Footpath
- School Safety in Skaneateles



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Onondaga County Sustainable Streets Project

Three separate studies being carried out by SMTC:

- Pedestrian facilities (currently in progress)
- Bicycle facilities
- Transit facilities



Overview



- Project undertaken on behalf of SOCPA
- Purpose:
 - Collect & document info on sidewalks:
 - When & where should they be required?
 - Best ways to finance, plan, design & build?
 - Green infrastructure options?
 - Maintenance?
 - Analyze existing sidewalk networks
 - Look at specific situations in the MPA

Sustainable Streets: Sidewalks Study Phases

- Phase 1
 - Inventory & Research
 - Documentation of findings / best practices
 - Network Analysis
- Phase 2
 - Applications of research to specific situations in the MPA

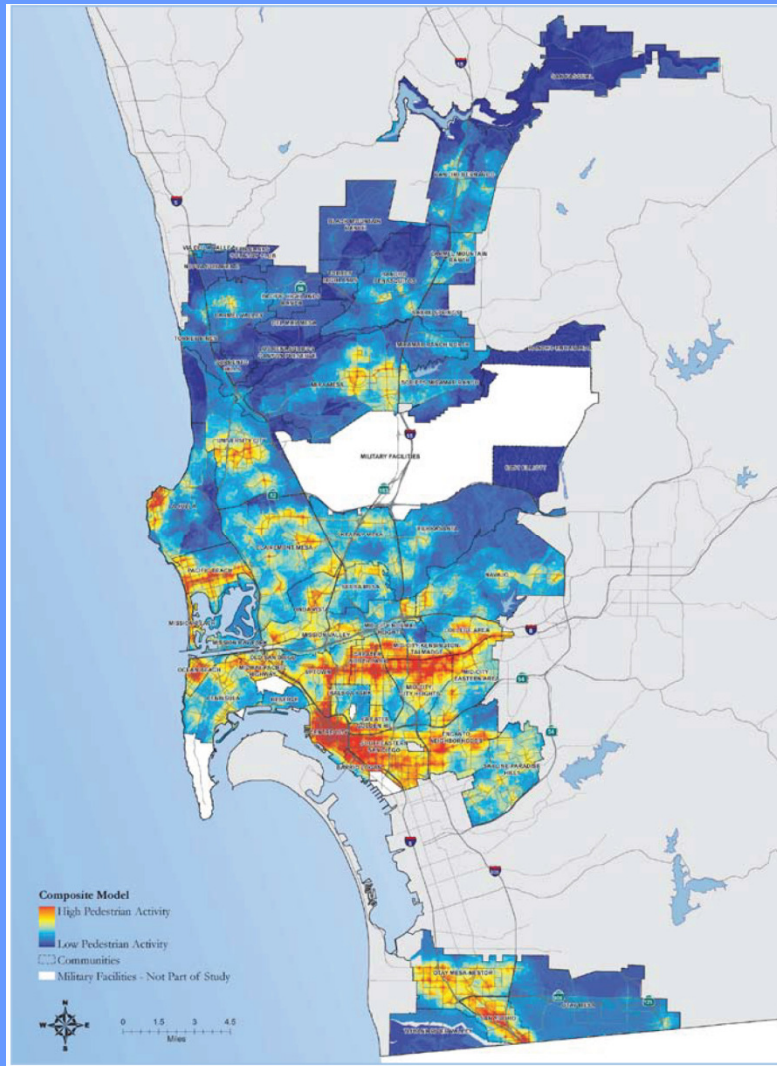


Phase 1 – Research & Analysis

- Inventory
 - Sidewalks (GIS)
 - Towns & Villages
 - City of Syracuse
 - Relevant municipal codes
- Research & Documentation
 - Finance, planning, construction, model codes, green infrastructure, etc.
- Network Analysis
 - Priority Zones
 - Critical links
- Public Involvement
 - Working Group Meetings
 - Public Meeting



Network Analysis



Source: San Diego Pedestrian Master Plan Report

- Identify Priority Zones where there are concentrations of pedestrian generators, such as:
 - Schools
 - Parks
 - Libraries
 - Shopping
 - Major transit hubs

Working Groups

- Asking Municipal Officials:
 - Is our inventory accurate?
 - What would you like this study to include?
 - Network Analysis criteria?
 - Ideas for Application Studies?
- Two meetings anticipated

Onondaga County Sustainable Streets: Part 1 – Sidewalks

Questions?

