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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) 2001 Update Seeks Public Review and Comment By May 13th

SYRACUSE, N.Y. -- The Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council (SMTC) has officially begun a 30-day public comment period for its draft Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) **2001 Update**.

The LRTP is a blueprint to guide the Syracuse Metropolitan Area's transportation development over a 25-year period. Updated every three years to reflect changing conditions and new planning principles, the **LRTP 2001 Update** looks at major urban transportation planning issues such as environmental/air quality; complete access to transportation; alternative transportation modes (i.e., bicycle and pedestrian); the impact of land development on the transportation system; highway traffic congestion; and maintenance of the existing infrastructure. Also included is the **Conformity Analysis**, which successfully determines that the SMTC is in conformity with the applicable New York State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality in its adoption of a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Long-Range Transportation Plan, and any pertinent amendments or updates.

The public review/comment period for the draft 2001 Update will commence on April 13, 2001. **Comments received on or before May 13, 2001 will be considered for the final 2001 Update**, to be presented to the SMTC Policy Committee for adoption on May 14, 2001. For those interested in reviewing the draft LRTP 2001 Update, and/or making any comments regarding the document and its content, please contact SMTC Communications/Public Information Specialist Wayne Westervelt at (315) 422-5716.

The Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council was formed in 1966 as a result of the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1962 and Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964. Serving as the Metropolitan

Planning Organization (MPO) for the Syracuse Metropolitan Area, the SMTC provides the forum for cooperative decision-making in developing transportation plans and programs for Onondaga County. Its committees are comprised of elected and appointed officials, representing local, State and Federal governments or agencies (e.g., CNY Regional Transportation Authority, CNY Regional Planning and Development Board, City of Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York State Department of Transportation, etc.) having interest in or responsibility for transportation planning and programming.

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