APPENDIX E

GLOSSARY AND LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS
**Glossary and List of Abbreviations**

**ADA** - Americans with Disabilities Act - Significant civil rights legislation passed in 1990 that prohibits discrimination against all individuals with disabilities. With certain statutory exceptions, public and private entities providing fixed route or demand responsive transportation services must acquire accessible vehicles or provide equivalent service to individuals with disabilities.

**ADA Plan** - CNYTRA’s plan to address the transit requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act by defining participant eligibility for the Call-a-Bus program and providing wheelchair lifts for fixed route service.

**Appropriation** - Legislation that allocates budgeted funds from general revenues to programs that have been previously authorized by other legislation. The amount of money appropriated may be less than the amount authorized.

**Apportionment** - At the federal level, approval by the Office of Management and Budget for an agency to spend funds appropriated by Congress. The public reporting of the OMB approved apportionment, detailing the amount of transit formula funding available to each urbanized area or designated recipient, is done by the FTA and is commonly referred to as "the apportionment".

**Authorization** - Federal legislation that creates the policy and structure of a program including formulas and guidelines for awarding funds. Authorizing legislation may set an upper limit on program spending or may be open ended, as in "such sums as may be necessary". General revenue funds to be spent under an authorization must be appropriated by separate legislation.

**AVL** - Automatic Vehicle Locator - An automatic tracking system which employs advanced technology to locate transit vehicles.

**CAAA** - Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. Landmark legislation passed by Congress that renews the Federal Clean Air Act and makes significant program changes. For the transportation sector, changes include a definition of conformity and requirement for the formulation by EPA and DOT of regulations regarding conformity, and requirements for the use and development of clean fuels and vehicles.

**Capital costs** - Non-recurring or infrequently recurring cost of long-term assets, such as land, guideways, stations, buildings, and vehicles. The costs often include related expenses; for example, depreciation and property taxes.

**CNYRTA** - Central New York Regional Transportation Authority- The regional public transit provider for Central New York.

**Conformity Analysis** - A determination made by the MPOs and the US DOT that transportation plans and programs in non-attainment or maintenance areas meet the "purpose" of the SIP (see definition below), which is to reduce pollutant emissions to meet air quality standards.
CMS - Congestion Management System - A systematic process which provides information regarding transportation system performance to decision-makers for selecting and implementing cost-effective strategies to manage new and existing facilities for the purpose of alleviating congestion and enhancing the mobility of persons and goods.

CMAQ - Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program - A funding program created in the ISTEA for projects and activities which reduce congestion and improve air quality in regions not yet attaining federal air quality standards.

CHIPS - Consolidated Highway Improvement Program - A state funding program for local road improvements.

Consultation - "One party confers with another identified party and, prior to taking action(s), considers that party's view."

Cooperation - "Actions taken are subject to the concurrence of the identified parties."

Coordination - "The comparison of the transportation plans, programs, and schedules of one agency with related plans, programs and schedules of other agencies or entities with legal standing, and the subsequent adjustment of plans, programs and schedules to maintain consistency and reduce or resolve possible omissions, duplications, or conflicts."

Corridor - Any major transportation route, which includes parallel limited access -highways, major arterials, rail or transit lines. With regard to traffic incident management, a corridor may include more distant transportation routes, which can serve as viable alternatives to each other in the event of accidents.

Emissions Budget - The part of the SIP (see definition below), which identifies the allowable emissions levels, mandated by the NAAQS for certain pollutants emitted from mobile, stationary, and area sources. The emissions levels are used for meeting emission reduction milestones, attainment, or maintenance demonstration.

Emissions Inventory - A complete list of sources and amounts of pollutant emissions within a specific area and time interval. Part of the SIP.

Enhancements - ISTEA defines transportation enhancement activities for the purpose of funding under the Surface Transportation Program as "the provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles, acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites, scenic or historic highway programs, landscaping and other scenic beautification, historic preservation, rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures, facilities and canals, preservation of abandoned railway corridors including the conversion and use thereof for pedestrian or bicycle trails, control and removal of outdoor advertising, archaeological planning and research, and mitigation of water pollution due to highway runoff."
**Exempt - Non-exempt Projects** - Transportation projects which will not change the operating characteristics of a roadway are exempt from the Transportation Improvement Plan conformity analysis. Conformity analysis must be completed on projects that affect the distance, speed, or capacity of a roadway.

**Federal Action** - "Any activity engaged in by a department, agency, or instrumentality of the federal government, or any activity that a department, agency, or instrumentality of the federal government supports in any way, provides financial assistance for, license, permits or approves."

**Federal-Aid Highways** - Those highways eligible for assistance under Title 23 of the United States Code, as amended, except those functionally classified as local or rural minor collectors.

**FHWA** - Federal Highway Administration - The federal agency responsible for the approval of transportation projects that affect the defined federal highway system. Administratively, it is under US DOT and is the sister agency of FTA.

**FTA** - Federal Transit Administration - The federal department of mass transportation, which is under US DOT (formerly called the Urban Mass Transit Administration or UMTA). The FTA is the sister agency of FHWA.

**FY** - Fiscal Year - New York State fiscal years, used in documents like the State Budget, run from April 1 to March 31. SMTC also operates on an April 1 to March 31 fiscal year.

**FFY** - Federal Fiscal Year - Federal fiscal years, used in federally mandated documents, operate from October 1 to September 31.

**Freeway** - A divided highway for through traffic that has full access control and grade separations at all intersections.

**Functional Classification** - The grouping of streets and highways into classes, or systems according to the character of service that they are intended to provide. Facilities are divided according to the degree they provide access to places vs. mobility between places. The recognition that individual roads do not serve travel independently and most travel involves movement through a network of roads is basic to functional classification.

**GOP** - Goal Oriented Program - NYSDOT's internal capital program for state facilities and fund sources. The program is based in the achievement of performance-based goals for the state transportation systems.

**HOV** - High Occupancy Vehicle - Also called a multiple-occupant vehicle (MOV). Any passenger vehicle that meets or exceeds a certain predetermined number of passengers. For designation of dedicated freeway lanes, a responsible jurisdiction may define an HOV as a vehicle containing two or more occupants, with federal approval. A definition of three or more occupants requires no additional federal approvals.
**HBRR** - Highway Bridge Repair and Replacement - A federal funding program for the repair, rehabilitation, and replacement of bridges. Administered by NYSDOT, both state-owned and local bridges are eligible for this capital program.

**HPMS** - Highway Performance Monitoring System - The system used by FHWA to provide information to Congress, the States, and the public on the extent and physical condition of the nation's highway system, its use, performance, and needs. The system includes an inventory of the nation's highways including traffic volumes.

**Highway Safety** - The reduction of traffic accidents, and deaths, injuries, and property damage resulting therefrom, on public roads.

**(H)SMS** - Highway Safety Management System - Systematic processes to ensure that all opportunities to improve highway safety are identified, considered, implemented where appropriate, and evaluated.

**I & M** - Inspection and Maintenance Program - An emissions testing and inspection program, implemented by states in non-attainment areas, to ensure that the catalytic or other emissions control devices on in-use vehicles are properly maintained.

**IVHS** - Intelligent Vehicle and Highway System - ISTEA established the IVHS. Program to enhance the capacity, efficiency, and safety of the federal-aid highway system and to serve as an alternative to additional physical capacity. Automated highways and vehicles are one component of this approach. IVHS is defined to include the development of application of electronics, communications or information processing (including advanced traffic management systems, commercial vehicle control systems, advanced public transportation systems, satellite vehicle tracking systems, and advanced vehicle communications systems) used singly or in combination to improve the efficiency and safety of surface transportation systems.

**Intermodal facility** - A transportation element that accommodates and interconnects different modes of transportation. Intermodal facilities include, but are not limited to, highway elements, coastal, inland and Great Lakes ports, canals, pipeline farms, airports, marine and/or rail terminals, truck terminals, and intercity bus terminals. Intermodal transportation facilities serve intrastate, interstate, and international movement of goods and people.

**IMS** - Intermodal Management System - A systematic process that collects and analyzes Intermodal facilities, connections, choices, coordination, and cooperation. It provides information of decision-makers to select cost-effective strategies for the movement of both goods and people.

**ISTEA** - Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 - Legislation passed by Congress in December 1991 that provides for a major restructuring of the highway program. Key components of the Act include a greatly increased flexibility in the programming of projects, a level playing field between highway and transit projects with a consistent 80/20 matching ratio, ties to the Federal Clean Air Act and Americans with Disabilities Acts, and an emphasis on maintenance of the existing system and operational improvements.
**Interstate Maintenance** - ISTEA establishes a funding category for maintenance of the Interstate system that specifically limits the use of these funds for capacity increasing projects that are not high occupancy vehicle lanes or auxiliary (merging) lanes. Eligible activities include reconstruction of bridges, interchanges and overcrossings along existing Interstate routes, including the acquisition of right-of-way where necessary and preventative maintenance. Projects are selected by NYSDOT and are included in SMTC TIP.

**Lifecycle Cost Analysis** - Procedure for evaluating the economic worth of one or more projects or investments by discounting future costs over the expected useful life of the project or investment.

**LOS** - Level of Service - A measure of congestion, which compares actual or projected traffic volume with the maximum capacity of the intersection or road in question. LOS can also be applied to other transportation services as an indication of the quality and quantity of transportation service provided.

**LRTP** - Long-Range Transportation Plan - A comprehensive long-range (20-30 year) plan for the transportation system of the region, updated every three years by the MPO. The LRTP includes goals, objectives, and policies, and recommends transportation improvements. The financial scenarios are developed: one fiscally constrained to existing revenue sources only; the other reflects a funding plan for a "desired" set of transportation improvements.

**Maintenance** - Legally, maintenance activities are non-containment activities that preserve the function of the existing transportation system.

**Maintenance Area** - "Any geographical region of the United States that the EPA has designated (under Section 175A of the FCAA) for a transportation related pollutant(s) for which a national ambient air quality standard exists." This designation is used after non-attainment areas reach attainment.

**Major metropolitan transportation investment** - Proposed regulations put forward by USDOT would define a major metropolitan transportation investment as a "project that involves new construction or extension of a controlled access principle arterials, or the capacity expansion of a controlled access principal arterial by a least one lane (or an equivalent increase in capacity through access control or technological improvement) or construction or extension of a busway, high occupancy vehicle (HOV) facility, or fixed guideway transit facility, or adding lanes to a busway or adding tracks to fixed guideway transit facility, or a substantial increase in service on a fixed guideway." This definition is significant for projects subject to analysis by the MPO in its planning process.

**MAB** - Metropolitan Area Boundary - The boundary of the metropolitan planning and programming area.

**Metropolitan Planning Area** - The area, established by the MPO and the Governor in accordance with ISTEA regulations, in which the federally mandated metropolitan planning
process must be carried out. All of Onondaga County and the Village of Phoenix in Oswego County comprise the planning area.

**MPO** - Metropolitan Planning Organization - A federally required transportation planning body responsible for the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in its region. SMTC is the MPO for the Syracuse urbanized area.

**Mobile Sources** - Mobile sources of air pollutants include motor vehicles, aircraft, seagoing vessels, and other transportation modes. The mobile source related pollutants of greatest concern are carbon monoxide (CO), transportation hydrocarbons (HC), nitrogen oxides (NOx), and particulate matter (PM-10). Mobile sources are subject to a different set of regulations than are stationary and area sources of air pollutants.

**NAAQS** - National Ambient Air Quality Standards - The standards set by EPA for various pollutants known to cause health related problems, including ozone and its precursors (nitrous oxides and hydrocarbons), carbon monoxide, lead, sulfur dioxide, and particulate matter (PM-10).

**NHS** - National Highway System - ISTEA established a 155,000-mile NHS to provide an interconnected system of principal arterial routes to serve major travel destinations and population centers, international border crossings, as well as ports, airports, public transportation facilities, and other intermodal transportation facilities. The NHS must also meet national defense requirements and serve interstate and inter-regional travel. Designation of the actual routes in the system is a cooperative process whereby the states (NYSDOT) propose the NHS to the U.S. Secretary of Transportation. Congressional approval by November 1995 is required. Eligible projects of NHS funding include new construction, reconstruction, and rehabilitation of highways, operational improvements, mass transit projects in an NHS corridor, safety improvement, transportation planning, traffic management and control, parking facilities, carpool projects, and bicycle and pedestrian projects. In areas that do not meet federal clean air standards, up to 100% of NHS funding is transferable to the STP upon request of the state.

**Network Level Analysis** - An analysis pertaining to policy, system planning, programmatic, or budgeting issues for the whole inventory of facilities (usually bridge and pavement) or a subset thereof.

**NYSDOT** - New York State Department of Transportation - The state transportation agency that is the owner/operator and maintainer of the state highway system. NYSDOT is organized into a Central Office, which deals with statewide issues, and regional offices. SMTC is entirely within Region 3 of NYSDOT.

**NYSTA** - New York State Thruway Authority - The state agency responsible for the operations, maintenance, and improvement of the New York State Thruway. Authority was recently
expanded to encompass the canal system and economic development projects related to the Thruway and the canals.

**Non-attainment Area** - "Any geographic region of the United States that the EPA has designated as non-attainment for a transportation related pollutant(s) for which a national ambient air quality standard exists." Levels of non-attainment are: marginal, moderate, major, and severe.

**OA** - Obligation Authority - The authority granted by USDOT for the states to obligate appropriated federal funds. OA is generally less than appropriated amounts, with the difference used to finance the federal deficit.

**Paratransit** - Forms of transportation services that are more flexible and personalized than conventional fixed route, fixed schedule service, but not including such exclusive services as charter bus trips. The vehicles are usually low- or medium-capacity highway vehicles, and their service offered is adjustable in various degrees to individual user’s desires. Its categories are public, which is available to any user who pays a predetermined fare (such as taxis), and semi-public, which is available only to people of a certain group, such as the elderly, employees of a company, or residents of a neighborhood.

**PMS** - Pavement Management System - A systematic process that collects and analyzes pavement information used as input in selecting cost-effective strategies for providing and maintaining pavements in a serviceable condition.

**PE** - Preliminary Engineering - The phase of project implementation that occurs after programming, but before right-of-way acquisition and construction. It includes environmental analysis and preliminary design.

**Principle Arterial** - The functional classification system at the federal level defines principal arterials for rural areas, urbanized area, and small urban areas. (Note: other definitions of principal arterials exist.) In urbanized areas, the principal arterial system carries the major portion of trips entering and leaving the urban area, as well as the majority of though movements desiring to bypass the central city. Significant intra-area travel, such as between major inner city communities, or between major suburban centers, as well and continuity for all rural arterials which intercept the urban boundary are also included. 40-65% of the VMT (see definition below) is accounted for on this system. Because of the nature of travel served by the principal arterials system, almost all fully and partially controlled access facilities will be part of this functional system, however; this system is not restricted to controlled access routes.

**Privatization** - The contracting of public services or selling public assets to private industry.

**Programming** - The inclusion of a candidate project in an officially endorsed TIP or STIP. The decision to program a project is based on an evaluation of its merits compared to other candidate actions. Programming is a commitment to the future implementation of the project, contingent upon the completion of required environmental analysis and available funding.
PIN - Project Identification Number - Unique number assigned by NYSDOT to identify projects in the capital program.

Project Selection - After the programming process is complete, projects are selected for the obligation of federal funds based on readiness, for inclusion in the annual element of the TIP/STIP.

PTMS - Public Transportation Management System - A systematic process that collects and analyzes transit facilities, equipment, and rolling stock information on an ongoing basis. It provides information for decision-makers to select cost-effective strategies for providing and maintaining transit facilities, equipment, and rolling stock in a serviceable condition.

Regionally Significant - The proposed rule from USDOT on metropolitan planning defines regionally significant to mean "any transportation facility with an arterial or higher functional classification, plus any other facility that serves regional travel needs (such as access to and from the area outside the region, to major activity centers in the region, or to transportation terminals) and would normally be included in the modeling for the transportation network." This definition is subject to change in the final regulations.

Responsible Agency - The agency that has agreed to be responsible for the state and local share of a federally funded project.

SOV - Single Occupancy Vehicle - Vehicles that contain only one occupant.

SDF - State Dedicated Fund - State funds that are dedicated for transportation purposes. The legislature establishes the split between transit and highway funding. Funding levels are part of the annual budget negotiation process, and project selection is conducted by NYSDOT.

SEQR - State Environmental Quality Review Act - State Law (6NYCRR 617) which requires the review and evaluation of the environmental impacts of state and local discretionary actions, including issuance of discretionary permits, licenses, and approvals, the undertaking of projects, and the adoption of resource management plans, rules, and policies that affect the environment.

SFY - State Fiscal Year - New York State fiscal years, used in documents like the State Budget, run from April 1 to March 31.

SIP - State Implementation Plan - An air quality plan mandated by the Federal Clean Air Act (FCAA), submitted by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Air Resources Division. The SIP contains procedures to monitor, control, maintain, and enforce compliance with federal air quality standards.

STIP - Statewide Transportation Improvement Program - "A staged multiyear program of transportation projects that are capital and non-capital, highway and transit, metropolitan and non-metropolitan, federally funded and non-federally funded."
STP - Surface Transportation Program - One of the key capital programs created in the ISTEA, it provides flexibility in expenditures of funds for highways, transit, pedestrian, and bicycle facilities.

SMTC - Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council - The regional transportation planning and programming agency for the Syracuse and Onondaga County area. SMTC was created in 1966 as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Syracuse urbanized area.

3C - "Three C" = continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative - This term refers to the requirements set forth in the Federal Highway Act of 1962 that transportation projects in urbanized areas be based on a "continuing, comprehensive transportation planning process carried out cooperatively by states and local communities." ISTEA's planning requirements broaden the framework for such a process to include consideration of important social, environmental and energy goals, and to involve the public in the process at several key decision-making points.

TEA-21 – Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century – On June 9, 1998, the President signed into law PL 105-178, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) authorizing highway, highway safety, transit and other surface transportation programs for the next 6 years. Subsequent technical corrections in the TEA 21 Restoration Act have been incorporated; thus, the material presented here reflects the combined effects of both Acts and the two are jointly referred to as TEA-21. This legislation builds on the initiatives established in the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA), which was the last major authorizing legislation for surface transportation. This new Act combines the continuation and improvement of current programs with new initiatives to meet the challenges of improving safety as traffic continues to increase at record levels, protecting and enhancing communities and the natural environment as we provide transportation, and advancing America’s economic growth and competitiveness domestically and internationally through efficient and flexible transportation.

TOA - Transit Operating Assistance - State funding program for transit operating assistance. Administered by NYSDOT.

TCM - Transportation Control Measure - A measure intended to reduce pollutant emissions from motor vehicles. Examples of TCMs include programs to encourage ride sharing or public transit usage, and city or county trip reduction ordinances.

TDM - Transportation Demand Management - A set of strategies to reduce the demand for transportation including, but not limited to, employer trip reduction, ride sharing, incorporation of flexible work schedules, and land use strategies to cluster development.

TIP - Transportation Improvement Program - "A staged multiyear program of transportation projects for a metropolitan planning area, excluding planning and research activities." A spending plan for federal funding expected to flow to the region from all sources for transportation projects of all types. By federal law, SMTC prepares the TIP annually with the
cooperation of local governments, transit operators, and the New York Department of Transportation. The TIP officially covers a five-year period.

**TMA** - Transportation Management Area - As defined by ISTEA; a TMA is designated by the Secretary of Transportation for all urbanized areas over 200,000 with boundaries contiguous to that of the MPO. TMA's must include a congestion management system (CMS) in their planning process and are responsible for project selection under the STP program.

**UPWP** - Unified Planning Work Program - A federally required document annually produced by all MPO's that describes all metropolitan transportation and transportation related planning activities anticipated within the area during the new 1 or 2-year period regardless of funding source. It is cooperatively developed with NYSDOT, NYSDEC, and local agencies.

**USDOT** - United States Department of Transportation - The department of the federal government, which includes the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration. USDOT is headed by the Secretary of Transportation, cabinet-level.

**Urbanized Area** - An area with a population of 50,000 or more designated by the U.S. Census Bureau, within boundaries to be fixed by responsible state and local officials in cooperation with each other, subject to approval by the Secretary of Transportation.

**VMT** - Vehicle Miles Traveled - The sum of distances traveled by all motor vehicles in a specified region. Travel demand forecasting (modeling) is used to generate the average trip lengths for a region. The average trip length measure can be used in estimating vehicle miles of travel, which in turn is used in estimating gasoline usage or mobile source emissions of air pollutants.