Appendix B
Public Involvement Plan Supporting Documents
Planning for the Greater Syracuse Metropolitan Area’s transportation future involves careful planning and visioning. How does transportation affect our air quality? What is the condition of our roads and bridges? What kinds of facilities and services are needed to support planned growth or improve the safety of our transportation system? These are just some of the questions that will be addressed as the Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council (SMTC) initiates work on the 2004 Update to its 2020 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

In January 1995, the SMTC published the 2020 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP presents a vision of the transportation system and the projects that will bring that vision to reality over time. Central to that vision is the protection of the value of investments already made in developing the transportation system, while providing resources to pursue innovative solutions to mobility constraints, land development patterns, and travel choices available.

Updated every three years (1998 and 2001) to reflect changing conditions and new planning principles, the LRTP Update specifically looks at major urban transportation planning concerns as environmental/air quality; complete access to transportation; alternative transportation modes (e.g., air, rail, water, bicycle, pedestrian); the impact of land development on the transportation system; highway congestion; and maintenance of the existing infrastructure.

Throughout the production of the LRTP 2004 Update, the SMTC will be reaching out to the community-at-large in an effort to gather the informed views of the public regarding preferences for future development and transportation needs. The SMTC encourages you to play a vital role in creating a vision for the area’s transportation system. See pages 2-3 in this issue of DIRECTIONS for more information on how you can participate in the LRTP 2004 Update process.

LRTP 2004 UPDATE

Bicycle and Pedestrian
Vehicle Mobility
Bridges & Pavement
Multi-Modal Transportation (Air, Rail, Water)
Public Transit

Long-range transportation planning – A long-term vision that seeks to preserve the infrastructure, improve safety, provide system connectivity, improve mobility, increase access, protect air quality, and support economic growth.
Learn more about the Long-Range Transportation Plan 2004 Update and how YOU can participate.

[www.smtcmpo.org/LRTP2004]
Meetings, Public Presentations, and Public Comment

In contrast to its typical approach of holding three formal public information meetings during specific stages during the planning process, the SMTC participated in a number of meetings, workshops and focus groups, at which the LRTP 2004 Update was presented.

The SMTC reached out to a wide variety of individuals and organizations in an effort to be added to a meeting agenda where the LRTP 2004 Update was presented, and comments and feedback were solicited.

The LRTP 2004 Update was presented at the following meetings (see attached agendas):

10/10/02 National Association of Retired Federal Employees
Syracuse, New York (Chapter 200)

10/18/02 FOCUS Greater Syracuse (volunteer core group)

1/28/03 Onondaga County Planning Federation Annual Meeting
Lunch/Feature Speaker to municipal planning officials

3/12/03 Onondaga County Highway Superintendents Meeting
Lunch/Feature Speaker to municipal Highway Superintendents

3/19/03 Citywide Council of Syracuse Low Income Housing Residents, Inc.

It is important to point out that the PowerPoint presentation that was made at each of the previously mentioned meetings was also posted to the LRTP 2004 Update web site, allowing the general public to view the presentation slide by slide.

Upcoming Public Involvement Activities

- One public information meeting, at which it will present the draft final LRTP 2004 Update to the public. (May 2004);
- A 30-day public comment period, prior to presenting the draft LRTP 2004 to the Policy Committee (May-June 2004);
- Web site maintenance and updates (post draft LRTP 2004 Update for 30-day comment period);
- Press Releases to announce meetings, public comment period, and availability of draft LRTP 2004 Update;
- Newsletter coverage to announce meetings, public comment period, and availability of draft LRTP 2004 Update; and
- Promotion at all SMTC meetings.

Note: SMTC made every attempt to include the participation of the Onondaga Nation in all of its public outreach efforts. Press releases, newsletters, public opinion surveys and direct letters of invitation were sent to the Nation throughout the process.
Citywide Council of Syracuse Low Income Housing Residents, Inc.

REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, March 19, 2003, 5:30 PM

At the
Vinette Tower Community Room
947 Pond St.

Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call of Board Members
3. Roll Call of Organizations
4. Special Guest Presentation. Wayne Westervelt, Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council
4. Reading of Minutes from January 15 meeting
5. Correspondence
6. Treasury Report
7. Announcements- reschedule ROSS Capacity Building Committee Meeting
8. Resident Commissioners Report
9. Old Business
   A. Nominations and Election for Secretary
   B. Congressman Walsh Meeting update- David Leslie
   C. Community Development Block Grant Funding for Elderly Services- John DeVoe
   D. SHA Annual Pian Comment- David Paccone
10. New Business
    A. Dept. of Aging and Youth, Intergenerational Awards Banquet
    B. Camp 415 Scholarship and banquet
    C. Drawing for Resident Positive Recognition Award- Family Housing
11. SHA Management Report- Carol Shepperd
12. Introduction of SHA staff present
13. Selection of Site for May 21 meeting
14. Adjournment, 50/50 drawing
MEETING
12 NOON
THURSDAY
OCTOBER 10
Park West Restaurant
3395 Milton Avenue
Corner of Onondaga Road
And Milton Avenue

MENU
CHOICE
MEATBALL SANDWICH
or
FISH and RICE
DESSERT
COFFEE, TEA OR MILK
$13 including tax and tip

Call Reservations and Choice to
BILL MASTERS or LENA LOBELLO
486-2211 or 474-3475

Call Reservations not later than
Monday October 7
One thing we must stick to is
Making reservations for lunch. We
need to have reservations NO LATER
Than the Monday before our meeting
on Thursday.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Goodbye to summer and hello to fall.
A beautiful season to look forward to
and enjoy. It will also be a very busy
season for all NARFE MEMBERS.
We are looking at the "OPEN
SEASON" of FEHBP with changes very
possible. Also we will hear a great
deal in regard to Long Term Care. In
addition to these two important items
there are many bills sitting in
Congress that may have direct bearing
on our incomes.

Now, after all that we will still have a
good time of our meetings with great
speakers.

To the world, you may be one person.
But to one person, you may do the
world. Take time; make time;
There may not be another time

FEDERAL HEALTH PREMIUMS
RISING 11.1%

Premiums will rise an average 11.1
percent. The increase marks the third
consecutive year that premiums
have jumped by more than 10 percent.

Starting in January, fee-for-service
plans will raise premiums by an
average of 10.5 percent. HMO
organizations will raise premiums by
an average of 12.5 percent.

OPM held down the overall average
increase through tough negotiations
with insurance companies. OPM also
urged plans to raise co-payments or
add co-payments as a way to hold
down the size of the premium
increase.

Open season from Nov. 11 through
Dec. 9.

Blue Cross will remain in the program
as a waiver to accounting rules was
granted by OPM.

Rates for 2003 will be available at the
October meeting. Some plans in this
area are pulling out of FEHBP and
some are changing their area of
coverage.

When you get your plan be sure to
study it with care, to see if it still gives
you the coverage you want. And
follow the instructions on how to
secure any other plans brochures. Act
immediately as the open season is
short.

One of the best sources of health plan
information for retirees is the National
Association of Retired Federal
Employees' magazine, "Retirement Life."

LEGISLATION
Congress is behind schedule in
passing bills. It looks like the
government will continue to operate
under a continuing resolution. This
could be no action on Premium
Conversion or any other NARFE
legislation. One of the reasons for the
reluctance to press Premium
Conversion is that private sector
employees would likely demand...
2003 Annual Municipal Training Program
Meeting Notice and Reservation Form

DATE: January 28, 2003 (Tuesday)
TIME: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
PLACE: Dreamlin's Country Club, 800 Nottingham Road, Banquet room entrance
(map available upon request)
COST: $30.00 per person (full day); part-day participation at a reduced price is
available if requested in advance. (Registration form enclosed)

Note: To Attorneys and Code Enforcement Officers: Some of the following courses
have been certified for continuing legal education (CLE) credits for attorneys or
for in-service credit for enforcement officers. See registration form for details.

Program Schedule:

8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Registration, Continental Breakfast

8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Choice of one of two training sessions conducted by
representatives from the New York State Department of State
(NYS DOS):
A. Planning Board Overview (CLE: 2 hours; In-service credit: 2 hours)
B. Zoning Board of Appeals Overview (CLE: 2 hours; In-
service credit: 2 hours)

11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Lunch

12:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. Choice of one of two sessions conducted by representatives from
NYS DOS:
C. How to conduct Effective Meetings and Hearings (CLE: 1
hour; In-service credit: 2 hours)
D. Comprehensive Planning (CLE: 1 hour; In-service credit: 1
hour)

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Choice of one of two sessions conducted by NYS DOS or SOCRA:
E. Planning and Zoning Case Law Update (CLE: 1 hour; In-
service credit: 1 hour)
F. County Planning Board Referrals - A dialogue with Onondaga
County Planning Board staff.
LRTP 2004 Update — Public Opinion Survey

Your input as a resident of the Greater Syracuse Metropolitan Area is vital in determining the future vision of the transportation system. Your opinions are essential in assisting the SMTC in the development of a long-range transportation plan, most specifically the LRTP 2004 Update. Please complete the enclosed Public Opinion Survey, sharing your thoughts about the current and future needs of transportation throughout the Greater Syracuse Metropolitan Area.

1. What is your opinion of the existing bridge and road conditions in the area?
   - Road conditions:   Excellent □ Fair □ Poor □
   - Bridge conditions:   Excellent □ Fair □ Poor □

2. Do you experience any significant commuting issues (i.e., automobile access and movement) in the area?
   - Yes □ No □
   Explain: ____________________________________________________________

3. Do you perceive there to be traffic congestion problems in the Syracuse Metropolitan Area?   Yes □ No □
   If yes, where (what location)? _______________________________________
   When (what time of day)? ____________________________________________

4. What do you believe is needed to stimulate more bicycle and pedestrian transportation? ____________________________

5. In your opinion, is public transit serving the needs of the community?   Yes □ No □
   What would encourage you to utilize public transit more often? ____________________________

6. What would encourage you to use different forms of transportation more often?
   - Air Transportation ____________________________
   - Bicycle/Pedestrian Transportation ____________________________
   - Rail Transportation ____________________________
   - Water Transportation ____________________________

7. What activities would you participate in to improve air quality? ____________________________

8. How does freight movement (air, rail, and truck) affect you and your community? ____________________________

9. What growth (i.e. development) trends do you want (or not want) to see in the community? ____________________________

10. Additional comments: _____________________________________________

   _____________________________________________
   _____________________________________________
   _____________________________________________

11. Name (optional) ____________________________
    Address (optional) ____________________________
    Address (optional) ____________________________

Thank you for your interest and assistance! Please fax (315-422-7753) or mail (SMTC, 126 N. Salina St., Suite 100, Syracuse, N.Y. 13202) your completed survey to the SMTC. If you have any questions, please contact the SMTC’s Public Information Specialist Wayne Westervelt at (315-422-5716), or e-mail: wwwestervelt@smtcmpo.org

Visit the LRTP 2004 Update web site: http://www.smtcmpo.org/lrtp2004/
March 21, 2003

Chief Irving Powless, Jr.
Secretary, Onondaga Nation
Hemlock Road, Box 319-B
via Nedrow, New York 13120

Dear Chief Irving Powless, Jr.: 

As you may or may not know, the Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council (SMTC) is currently working on the preparation of the 2004 Update to its Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). While the LRTP is a 25-year blueprint for transportation development in the Greater Syracuse Metropolitan Area, the 2004 Update serves to address changing transportation related conditions and new planning guidelines.

The SMTC recognizes that technical analysis and policy support from local and state transportation decision-makers represent only part of the equation, and that the informed views of the public (including the Onondaga Nation) are necessary in any planning process. In contrast to the typical approach of holding multiple public information meetings during specific stages of the planning process, the SMTC has been reaching out to a wide variety of individuals, organizations and groups, seeking their input and opinions on the current conditions and future needs of the transportation system. Therefore, I would like to offer to deliver a presentation on the LRTP 2004 Update, whereby the SMTC can obtain any comments and feedback the Nation may have. If you are interested in hosting such a meeting, please contact SMTC’s Public Information Specialist Wayne Westervelt at (315) 422-5716.

If you are not interested in the presentation, there is still another way you can participate in the process. The SMTC has created a Public Opinion Survey (as part of the LRTP 2004 Update) that is currently being distributed throughout the community to gauge public views, perceptions and preferences relating to the transportation system. We have enclosed several copies of the survey for you to distribute throughout the Nation. Your participation in filling these forms out is encouraged. All forms should be mailed or faxed back to the SMTC.

A project specific web site has also been established, giving the public an opportunity to get the latest LRTP 2004 Update news and information, as well as submit on-line comments right from their computer. The web site is located at: http://www.smtcmpo.org/LRTP2004.

Although the SMTC continues to keep the Onondaga Nation aware of the public participation opportunities and major studies and activities it conducts (through press releases, newsletters and meeting announcements), I am
enclosing a brochure that describes the purpose, roles and activities of the agency. In addition, I encourage you to visit the SMTC web site for more information – http://www.smtcmpo.org.

If you have any questions, or would like to schedule a personal one-on-one meeting at which I can further explain the role and responsibilities of the SMTC, please contact me or SMTC’s Communications Specialist Wayne Westervelt at (315) 422-5716. Thank you and I look forward to your involvement in the 2004 Long-Range Transportation Plan Update.

Sincerely,

Mary M. Rowlands
Director

MMR:ww
Enclosures:  LRTP 2004 Update – Public Opinion Surveys  
SMTC brochure – A Citizen’s Guide to Transportation Planning

cc:   James D’Agostino, SMTC Program Manager
      Wayne Westervelt, SMTC Public Information Specialist
Council Seeks Public Opinion on Issues and Future Needs of Transportation in the Area

SYRACUSE, N.Y. -- Planning for the Greater Syracuse Metropolitan Area’s transportation future involves careful planning and visioning. How does transportation affect our air quality? What kinds of facilities and services are needed to support planned growth? How can we all play a role in improving the safety of our transportation system? These are just some of the questions that will be addressed as the Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council (SMTC) continues work on the 2004 Update to its Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) – a “blueprint” that guides the area’s transportation development over a 25-year period.

Updated every three years to reflect changing conditions and new planning principles, the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) specifically looks at major urban transportation planning concerns that include, but are not limited to air quality and environmental issues; complete access to transportation; alternative transportation modes (e.g., air, rail, water, bicycle, pedestrian); the impact of land development on the transportation system; highway congestion; and maintenance of the existing infrastructure.

Throughout the production of the LRTP 2004 Update, the SMTC will be reaching out to the community-at-large in an effort to gather the informed views of the public regarding preferences for future development and transportation needs. “Technical analysis and policy support from our local and state transportation decision-makers represent only part of the equation,” states SMTC spokesperson Wayne Westervelt. “The informed views of the public are necessary in any planning process.”

In support of this claim, the SMTC has developed a project specific web site where interested citizens will have the opportunity to get the latest LRTP 2004 Update news and information. Log on to www.smtcmpo.org/LRTP2004 and share your thoughts regarding the issues and needs surrounding transportation in the area. The site also has a Public Opinion Survey that can be filled out online and e-mailed back to the SMTC. This Survey seeks to gauge public views, perceptions and preferences relating to the transportation system.
For more information about the **LRTP 2004 Update**, or to obtain a Public Opinion Survey via mail or fax, contact Wayne Westervelt of the SMTC at (315) 422-5716.

# # #

**What is the SMTC?**

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. The SMTC is comprised of elected and appointed officials, representing local, state and federal governments or agencies having interest in or responsibility for transportation planning and programming.

Log on to the SMTC web site for the latest in transportation planning in the Syracuse Metropolitan Area: [www.smtcmpo.org](http://www.smtcmpo.org)