

PLANNING WITH THE PUBLIC

Every time you leave your home, whether you're walking to the grocery store, riding a bike to school, catching the bus or train to work or driving to the airport, you use the transportation system. You are acutely aware on a daily basis of how well the system is working. Your expertise and input can provide vital information to planners and engineers who are working to provide transit alternatives, improve streets and expand service to the traveler.

Involved communities are essential to successful transportation planning—and the more people involved the better the final result.



GETTING INVOLVED

NYMTC's members and staff have focused on public outreach, creating innovative programs that involve the public in creating a shared regional vision for transportation. Here are a few ways to join the process:

- Visit www.nymtc.org where you can subscribe to our free electronic newsletter, NYMTC Notes. The site also features a comprehensive list of major studies in your community, links to local web sites, calendars of meetings and study contacts as well as a collective library of data on transportation issues.
- Attend a local or regional meeting, or an Advisory Working Group on specific issues, such freight transportation, pedestrian and bicycle safety, and demand management.
- Sponsor a NYMTC Roadshow at your local organization, on a transportation topic pertinent to your group.
- Join the Regional Planning Corps, a newly forming organization of community groups and volunteers working in collaboration with NYMTC to get their communities interested and involved in transportation planning activities.
- Visit the library and public work areas at NYMTC's Manhattan headquarters, where you'll find studies, data and models for review.

At NYMTC, we try hard to hear every voice and consider every idea.

WHO WE ARE

NYMTC members are chief local elected officials and heads of transportation and environmental agencies that are responsible for establishing and implementing transportation plans, projects, and programs. A staff of about seventy supports the activities of the members with analytical tools and innovative planning studies.

VOTING MEMBERS

Counties of Nassau, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, Westchester
Metropolitan Transportation Authority
New York City Department of Planning
New York City Department of Transportation
New York State Department of Transportation



ADVISORY MEMBERS

Federal Highway Administration
Federal Transit Administration
New Jersey Transit
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority
Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
US Environmental Protection Agency

NYMTC maintains four standing committees: three Transportation Coordinating Committees (TCCs) and the Program, Finance and Administrative Committee (PFAC). The TCCs, located in New York City, the lower Hudson Valley and suburban Long Island recommend transportation priorities important to their area and provide a forum through which the private sector, general public, local government and interested stakeholders can get involved in the planning process on a more local level.

NYMTC REGION



The NYMTC region is comprised of New York City, Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley, encompassing an area of 2,440 square miles and a population of 12 million, approximately 65% of New York State's population.

826,000 people move between New York, New Jersey and Connecticut each day by rail and bus, and thousands more via roads, bridges and tunnels.



NEW YORK METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

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ABOUT NYMTC

NEW YORK METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL





MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Everyone wants to go where they want, when they want. To work, school, shopping and the movies, we depend on a system that offers safe, convenient and efficient movement from place to place.

The 12 million residents of the New York metropolitan region make 59.6 million trips on an average weekday and 57.6 million on the average weekend day. The region has one of the most extensive transportation networks in the world with 477 route miles of commuter rail, 225 route miles of rail rapid transit, 22,870 centerline miles of roads, streets, highways and bus routes as well as several commercial airports and maritime facilities for both passengers and freight.

NYMTC is the regional council of governments whose job it is to plan for and make decisions on how money is spent regionally to build and maintain transit systems, highways, bridges, roads and other surface transportation. NYMTC's mission, developing a shared regional vision for transportation, requires a sophisticated capacity for data collection, reporting and analysis, partnered with the ability to draw together planning organizations, stakeholders and the public in the effort.

To ensure that transportation funding is allocated effectively in order to improve mobility, support economic progress and protect the environment, Metropolitan Planning Organizations have been formed throughout the country. NYMTC is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for our region. It is primarily funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration and by New York State and local government funding.

Together with an interested and active community, NYMTC members work to keep the region moving in the right direction in order to improve air quality, increase mobility, reduce congestion and continue our high quality of life.



THE REGION'S TRANSPORTATION NETWORK CARRIES

550,000 PEOPLE ON COMMUTER RAIL

3.1 MILLION ON BUSES

4.6 MILLION ON RAIL RAPID TRANSIT

128,500 ON FERRIES

150,000 ON AIRLINES

AND MILLIONS MORE ON THE REGION'S ROADS

PER DAY.



WHAT WE DO

NYMTC studies existing transportation networks, forecasts future needs and pools the planning activities of its member agencies to develop a shared strategic vision for transportation in the region.

It produces several key products used to guide the development, maintenance and funding of transportation projects in the region. These are the Regional Transportation Plan (The Plan), Unified Work Programs (UPWP) and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) documents.

NYMTC also manages planning studies in collaboration with member agencies and hosts sessions in which members discuss issues and come up with solutions.

While NYMTC is responsible for coordinating planning, maintenance and funding for studies and transportation improvement, it does not handle or control day-to-day issues such as the design and repair of roads, enforcement of traffic laws or resolution of zoning issues. These matters are handled by local transportation agencies.

PLANNING FOR THE LONG TERM

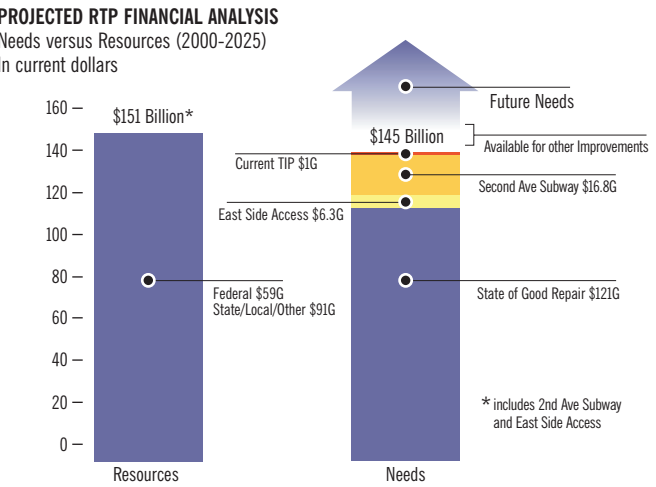
Updated every three years, the Regional Transportation Plan (The Plan) is a prerequisite for federal funding of transportation projects. The Plan identifies the region's transportation needs and objectives along with an analysis of regional trends and planned projects for a minimum of 20 years. Because the region does not attain National Air Quality Standards under the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, NYMTC must demonstrate that its Plan conforms to the New York State Implementation Plan for Air Quality (SIP).

NYMTC is responsible for the region's data and reports of interest to planning professionals, the public and the media. These public documents are available at www.nymtc.org for use in assessing travel demand in order to plan for the future of transportation in the region.



BUDGETING & FUNDING

Approximately \$121 billion will be needed over the next two decades, just to maintain the region's transportation infrastructure, including roadways, bridges and transit in New York City, the lower Hudson Valley and Long Island. The region is also currently considering a dozen major investment studies, transportation safety and security issues and the expansion of Intelligent Transportation Systems, which may require significant additional investment. In all, NYMTC forecasts that our region can expect to receive \$150 billion in current dollars from federal, state and local resources over the next 20 years.



Federal support is provided through the Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century (TEA-21) for infrastructure renewal and network expansion. Funding is also provided by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, New York State Thruway Authority, Port Authority of New York/New Jersey, local counties and municipalities as well as through resources such as toll revenue.

The federal government funds only those projects that are identified on the region's five-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) or in the 20-year Regional Transportation Plan. Adoption of the TIP assures Federal officials that NYMTC's members have agreed on priorities for the region. NYMTC also issues a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) which lists those studies and transportation and air quality planning activities that will be undertaken in the coming year.