

Executive Summary
State Fiscal Year 2026-2027
Unified Planning Work Program

Executive Summary

The New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) is a regional council of governments that is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for New York City (NYC), Long Island, and the Lower Hudson Valley. Every urban area in the United States with at least 50,000 residents has a Metropolitan Planning Organization under federal law.

NYMTC provides its region with a collaborative planning forum to address transportation-related issues from a regional perspective and to plan for and make decisions on using federal transportation funds. As a requirement for the receipt of federal transportation funding, Metropolitan Planning Organizations in urbanized regions must maintain a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process, considering all modes in a coordinated manner.

One of NYMTC's responsibilities is developing and adopting an annual Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The work program proposed for April 1, 2026, through March 31, 2027, identifies planning activities, such as transportation planning studies and technical analyses, proposed for federal and other funding.

NYMTC's Shared Goals, and Strategic Framework

NYMTC developed *Moving Forward 2055*, its Federal Fiscal Year 2026-2055 Regional Transportation Plan, to cover all modes of surface transportation from a regional perspective, including highways, streets, public transportation, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, goods movement, and special needs transportation.

Moving Forward 2055 is built around the member agencies' Shared Vision for Regional Mobility, which recognizes that mobility—the ability of people and goods to move easily and safely to, from and between locations—is crucial to the lives of people of all abilities who live in, work in, or visit the NYMTC planning region. Therefore, NYMTC aspires to ensure that the mobility provided by our transportation systems reaches everyone in a sustainable, healthy, and equitable manner; to invest efficiently for these transportation needs; and to respond effectively to the transportation challenges of tomorrow.

Moving Forward 2055's Shared Vision for Regional Mobility is built around seven vision goals developed jointly by NYMTC's members:

**SAFETY**

A transportation system for which safety and security are maximized for people and goods across all uses and modes.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

A transportation system for which infrastructure is maintained and improved in a sustainable and environmentally just manner.

**RESILIENCE**

A transportation system for which resiliency is supported through mitigating, adapting to, and responding to chronic and acute stresses and disruptions.

**CONGESTION**

A transportation system for which congestion is mitigated through investments and technology in support of healthier communities, more seamless travel, improved quality of life, and regional economic competitiveness.

**LAND USE**

A transportation system for which land use decisions are encouraged in support of strategic transportation enhancements and improving modal choices.

**FAIRNESS & ACCESS**

A transportation system for which equity in transportation is advanced and access to opportunities is improved for all communities.

**ENVIRONMENT**

A transportation system for which environmental impacts—including carbon emissions and other harmful pollutants linked to climate change—are significantly reduced through technology applications, increased use of greener travel options, and improved system efficiency

This Shared Vision provides a strategic framework and a blueprint for federal transportation investments in projects and planning activities, including the programs, projects, and studies proposed for funding within NYMTC's work program.

Developing the Work Program

NYMTC Staff and NYMTC member agencies develop the work program by coordinating and integrating transportation planning activities to the greatest extent possible. Federal requirements, national performance goals, and *Moving Forward 2055*, provide the context for the work program's development. NYMTC's work program comprises two main parts: the Core Program and the Discretionary Programs.

Core Program

Under federal regulations, NYMTC must produce the following planning products:

- A long-range Regional Transportation Plan
- A medium-range Transportation Improvement Program
- A Unified Planning Work Program
- A Congestion Management Process
- A Transportation Conformity Determination, containing a regional emissions analysis
- A periodically updated Public Involvement Plan

Completing the individual planning projects that develop and maintain these required products and analyses is NYMTC's highest priority in the planning process, and it comprises its core planning program, as described in the work program.

In addition, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act requires Metropolitan Planning Organizations to use at least 2.5 percent of their Metropolitan Planning funds on activities to increase safe and accessible options for multiple travel modes for people of all ages and abilities as part of transportation planning processes.

Discretionary Program

The work program's Discretionary Program includes the planning activities proposed to help NYMTC member agencies address issues related to:

- Near-term and other planning activities identified in Moving Forward 2055.
- Supplemental financing strategies.
- Congested links, corridors, or bottlenecks in the 2025 Congestion Management Process Status Report.

NYMTC's Work Program

The NYMTC's draft work program for State Fiscal Year 2026-2027 presents the planning activities proposed for federal funding. Highlights from the Core Program include:

- NYMTC's next Regional Household Travel Survey will be underway.
- The Annual Hub Bound Report will be released.
- Initial development of a new NYMTC website will begin.
- NYMTC's Public Involvement Plan, Title VI Program, and Language Access Program will be updated.
- A new annual work program will be adopted.

A summary of all discretionary projects is available at the start of the work program's Discretionary Program section. In addition, NYMTC provides a web map showing the locations of those projects, accessible via the link below.

[NYMTC SFY 2026 - 2027 UPWP Planning Activities](#)