



Planning what's
next for our region's
transportation system.

Moving Forward Edition

... NYMTC NOTES

About NYMTC

As the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for New York City, Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley, NYMTC provides a collaborative planning forum to address transportation-related issues, develop regional plans and make decisions on the use of federal transportation funds for its planning area.

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Moving Forward – Contribute to NYMTC's Next Regional Transportation Plan

To date in 2020, our region is confronting a confluence of crises largely unprecedented during the lifetimes of most residents: a public health emergency brought about by a global pandemic; a global economic crisis spurred by the response to the public health emergency; and a painful national dialogue on systemic racism in our society. Each of these challenges would be sufficiently disruptive on its own to roil both our region and our country. Happening as they are, nested within one another, they've significantly altered our lives and our perceptions.

Although it feels like thinking about the future is an unnecessary extravagance given the uncertainty of the here and now, these extraordinary challenges demand both a focus on the immediate and consideration of a longer view. As fundamental aspects of our daily lives are changed -- how and if we work, how we move about and when, how we sustain ourselves and our families, how and when we interact with one another -- our future increasingly depends both on how we respond in the weeks and months ahead, and how we envision the years ahead.

The development of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council's (NYMTC's) next Regional Transportation Plan – titled *Moving Forward; Our Region, Connected* – is one opportunity to look past the immediate uncertainties and consider both recovery and adaptation. For this next Plan, which will be completed in a little over a year, NYMTC's members have proposed a new, shared strategic vision for regional mobility. That proposed vision is outlined in this issue. NYMTC is seeking the thoughts and ideas of those who live or work in the region on this future vision and its relevance to future recovery and vitality.

Moving Forward
Your Region, Connected

The Next Regional Transportation Plan for
NYC, Long Island, and the Lower Hudson Valley



Website for NYMTC's next
Regional Transportation Plan,
nymtc.org/planmovingforward

NYMTC's Proposed Shared Vision for Regional Mobility



Our region's robust transportation network is essential to getting us where we need to go and to making available the things that we need. As the region emerges from the public health emergency that is a result of the coronavirus pandemic, millions of people in the multi-state New York City metropolitan region are beginning to once again travel while millions of tons of goods are also on the move. The public health emergency has underscored our collective need to get around easily and safely.

Elected and appointed officials who comprise NYMTC are a regional council that is a federally required metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for New York City, Long Island, and the Lower Hudson Valley. We collectively recognize that mobility – the ability for people and goods to move easily and safely to, from, and between locations – is crucial to the region's recovery and to the lives of everyone who resides in, works in, or visits NYMTC's planning region. Therefore, we as NYMTC's members aspire to ensure that the mobility

opportunities we provide reach 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.

As NYMTC, we will pursue our shared vision through the metropolitan transportation planning process built from this Regional Transportation Plan. Following are NYMTC's desired goals for the region's transportation system with a topical survey to collect your feedback on each goal.

GOAL #1: A transportation system that ensures the **safety** and **security** of people and goods across all uses and modes.

NYMTC will continue to pursue a safe and secure transportation system as an integral part of the transportation planning process. NYMTC's member agencies will seek to ensure the overall safety of highway infrastructure and transit systems.

We propose a vision of a transportation system that ensures the safety and security of people and goods across all transportation modes, while keeping transportation systems secure from threats. By improving the safety and security of transportation and freight system operations, and coordinating safety management, training, and education across jurisdictional borders, we will ensure a transportation network that is safe and secure within our region.



Click here to share your thoughts on Goal #1: nymtcsafetyen.metroquest.com

GOAL #2: A transportation system that is maintained, operated, and coordinated to better enable **reliable, easy, accessible, and seamless** travel across the region.

As NYMTC, we propose a frequent and reliable transportation system with integration to a multimodal transportation network for all users of all abilities. We seek to maximize the existing transportation system by applying resources to operate, maintain, and replace transportation assets based on need. We will enable the reliable, accessible, and seamless movement of people and goods for future recovery and vitality by modernizing the transportation system through rebuilding or replacement and improving first-and-last mile access to transit.



Click here to share your thoughts on Goal #2: nymtcreliabilityen.metroquest.com

GOAL #3: A transportation system that **efficiently** serves today's population and **plans for the growing number** of residents, workers, and increasing amount of goods.

Despite the impacts of the public health emergency, the likely timeframe for recovery means that long-range forecasted growth in population, employment, and the amount of goods moving within and through the NYMTC planning area will continue to challenge the transportation system. In light of this, we seek to protect and improve the efficiency of the transportation system by identifying and funding cost-effective investments, and expanding the reach of the system to underserved

communities and emerging markets. We also seek to modernize local freight networks to efficiently plan for growth in volume of and change in product deliveries. We want to incorporate emerging and innovative transportation services and tools into the transportation network design, such as: micro-mobility and shared mobility travel options to augment existing transit services; cleaner fuels and energy sources; and improved customer information and feedback.

These actions will promote alternative solutions and opportunities to reduce reliance on vehicle ownership in parts of the region, and alleviate congestion in areas that will experience an increased volume in personal vehicle trips on the road due to the global pandemic.

Click here to share your thoughts on Goal #3: nymtcdemanden.metroquest.com



GOAL #4: A transportation system that **minimizes its impact on the environment**, especially on climate change.

Transportation impacts the environment in various ways, including the production of greenhouse gas emissions which contribute to climate change. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reports that transportation activities accounted for 28 percent of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions in 2018. Additionally, transportation system improvements can also affect air quality, natural habitats, and water resources among other environmental resources.

As stewards of the regional transportation system, we seek to improve the environment and

mitigate negative impacts, especially on climate change, to the greatest extent that is practical. We will continue to encourage environmental stewardship in transportation projects by supporting alternatives to single-occupant vehicle trips and trucking freight; modernizing fleets to higher-standard and lower-emissions vehicles; and managing limited roadway capacity to mitigate congestion and vehicular emissions. NYMTC's operating agency members have their individual policies to address the impacts of transportation on the environment that are consistent with and supportive of this overall NYMTC shared goal.



Click here to share your thoughts on Goal #4: nymtcenvironmentalen.metroquest.com

GOAL #5: A transportation system that is **resilient** and can **mitigate, adapt to, and respond** to chronic and acute stresses and disruptions.

Recent major storms in the region have physically damaged the transportation system, resulting in billions of dollars in repair costs, due to flooding, debris and snow-clogged roads, loss of electric power, fuel shortages, and wind impacts. These massive disruptions have also resulted in overall economic costs to the travelling public from large-scale damage to loss of workforce productivity.

We seek to plan for and invest in long-term transportation resilience by identifying feasible, cost-effective strategies to reduce and manage vulnerabilities, improving regional coordination on emergency and long-term responses to system-wide climate impacts, and enhancing increasing travel option redundancies.

Click here to share your thoughts on Goal #5: nymtcreiliencyen.metroquest.com



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