



Spring 2021

... NYMTC NOTES

Welcome to NYMTC Notes.

The New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) sincerely hopes that you and your friends and family members are staying healthy during these difficult times.

During this time of social distancing, we wanted to share with you what our agency is working on with its members to keep our transportation system funded and functioning.

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.

Visit www.nymtc.org/ABOUT-US to learn more!

Council Meeting and UPWP Adoption

On February 25, 2021, the principals of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) adopted the State Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The February 25th public meeting featured NYMTC Co-Chairs New York State Transportation Commissioner Marie Therese Dominguez and Rockland County Executive Ed Day as well as other member agency principals. Under the provisions of New York State Executive Order 202.92, this meeting was held virtually via webinar.

This year's UPWP totals approximately \$43 Million to support transportation projects, programs, and studies throughout the NYMTC region, as well as federally required planning reports and analyses undertaken by NYMTC staff and its member agencies including the Regional Transportation Plan and the Transportation Improvement Program.

Commissioner Dominguez and County Executive Day opened the meeting by acknowledging the courage, determination, and sacrifice of public transportation's front-line workers, as well as the agility and flexibility of the NYMTC member agencies in facing the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. This was followed by Commissioner Dominguez leading an engaged NYMTC principals' roundtable



discussion on the impacts of the pandemic. County Executives from the Lower Hudson Valley and Long Island, the New York City Director of City Planning and Commissioner of Transportation, and the Chief Development Officer of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority discussed the challenges faced during the past year, as well as the many accomplishments of their staffs. The principals identified future priorities and stressed the regional nature of transportation planning and the importance of NYMTC as a forum for collaboration.

Click here to view the meeting:
youtu.be/pKqU3mUzXsA

Click here to download the presentation:
[Unified Planning Work Program SFY 2021-2022](#)

Moving Forward: Plan 2050 Update and Next Steps

NYMTC is developing its next federally required Regional Transportation Plan, titled ***Moving Forward***, to become effective at the start of the next federal fiscal year on October 1, 2021. Updated every four years, the new Plan will cover all modes of ground transportation including roadways, railways, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, movement of goods, and special needs transportation. ***Moving Forward***, with a horizon year of 2050, will provide a long-range framework for the use of federal transportation funding in NYMTC's planning area.

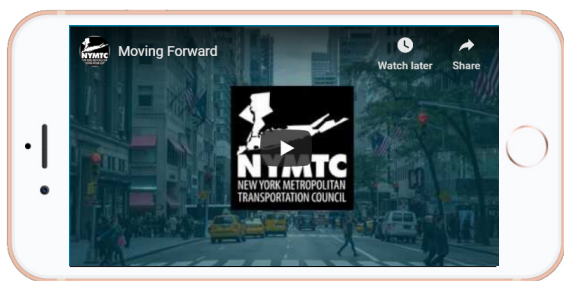
In the Spring and Summer of 2020, when in-person meetings were no longer an option because of the

COVID-19 pandemic, all of the outreach activities were converted to virtual platforms. The unprecedented and multifaceted revised outreach program was undertaken over a three-month period from June through September 2020, featuring six on-line focus groups for underserved communities and users of specialized transportation services, seven web-based public workshops using polling software that were organized geographically, an on-line community engagement platform on the website (nymtc.org/planmovingforward) which collected input at the convenience of the participant, and a supplemental on-line survey targeted to demographic and geographic cohorts underrepresented

in the initial outreach. Approximately 4,000 individuals provided input through this outreach program.

At this time, a draft of ***Moving Forward*** is scheduled for a 30-day public review beginning in mid-June 2021. The NYMTC Council is scheduled to meet to adopt ***Moving Forward*** in early September.

The Congestion Management Process Status Report which examines roadway congestion in the NYMTC planning area, and a Transportation Conformity Determination which fulfills the requirements of the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments, will accompany the new Plan.

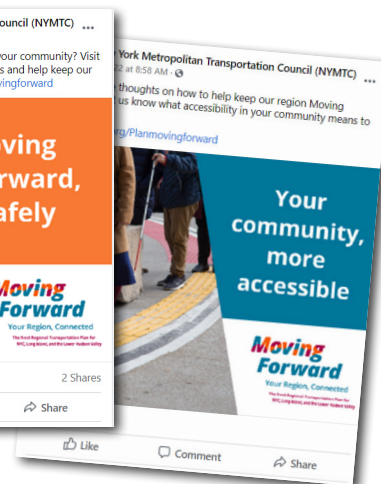
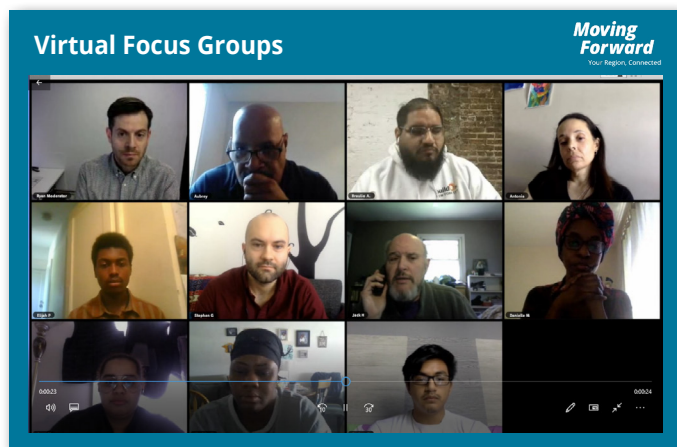


Moving Forward
Your Region, Connected

Avanzando
Su Región, Conectada

Продвижение Вперед

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NYMTC Freight Studies Updates

A widespread network of freight hubs, including rail transfer facilities, rail yards, and truck-oriented warehouse and distribution facilities, helps get goods to and from our region's customers and businesses. Trucks are a critical and necessary part of this system, but they are significant contributors to regional congestion and pollution. During 2020, NYMTC launched two studies reflecting the importance of freight in the tri-state region, that includes the planning areas of the nine metropolitan planning organizations and councils of government which comprise the Metropolitan Area Planning (MAP) Forum in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut.

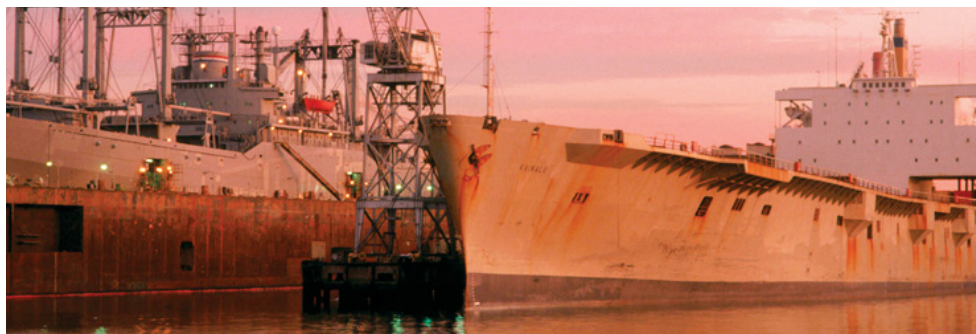
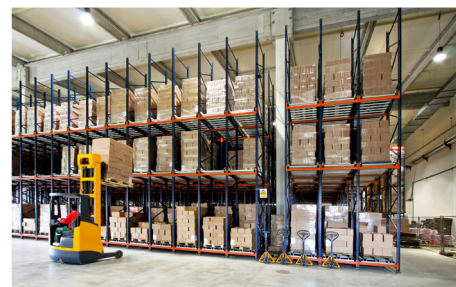
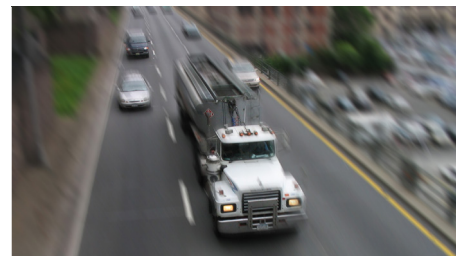
Clean Freight Corridors Study

Originating from NYMTC's current Plan 2045's Freight Plan, the **Clean Freight Corridors Planning Study** assesses opportunities for the designation and development of Clean Freight Corridors within the NYMTC planning area and across several states. The study is identifying a series of roadways to best advance high-efficiency, low-emission alternative transportation technologies for all types of vehicles that ship freight. The roadways to be assessed include high speed traffic highways, local roads that support the connection of two modes of freight, trucking "hubs", and areas of concentrated goods movement activity.

Regional corridors are being analyzed as potential regional locations for the fueling and charging infrastructure necessary to support electric and alternative-fueled vehicles. Recommended corridors will have the best potential for accommodating these vehicles, based on current and future vehicle volumes, technology development trends, freight movement, and trip patterns and types. A series of workshops with key stakeholder groups will be scheduled during the summer of 2021.

Regional Freight Land Use Study

NYMTC's **Regional Freight Land Use Study**, also recommended in the Regional Freight Plan, is collecting and analyzing freight and industrial land use data in the NYMTC planning area and larger multi-state metropolitan region. The study will use these data to define current, recent, and projected future land use designations and locations of freight businesses. The study is assessing potential changes in freight-related and industrial land uses across the region by developing a freight land use "typology" that identifies and describes key categories of freight land use. This typology also identifies examples across the region and describes trends and key issues specific to each category.



COVID-19 Updates

Pandemic-Related Studies in the 2021-22 UPWP

As the region begins to emerge from the public health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, it is important to understand the pandemic's impact on travel behavior and anticipate future needs. Toward this end, NYMTC has included funding for several planning activities in its newly adopted 2021-2022 UPWP to better understand the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on travel behavior and anticipate future transportation policies and programs. These initiatives include the following:

- The MTA's **Post Pandemic Study** will identify pre- and post-pandemic changes in how and when people travel, for all residents in the MTA region who travel to New York City.
- Westchester County's **Impacts of COVID-19 on Transit Study** will analyze Bee-Line System bus data to understand how commuting patterns and transit ridership have changed. Westchester County will also survey major employers to explore how policies implemented during the pandemic may have changed travel behaviors such as commuting and to anticipate possible longer-term impacts of telecommuting.
- The New York City Department of Transportation will survey and interview travelers in the New York City region to understand the **Impact of Long-term Teleworking on Vehicle Miles Travel**.
- The **Rethinking the Land Use-Transportation Connection Under Current Conditions Study** will help the New York City Department of City Planning



assess transportation needs in areas of New York City that have experienced the greatest disruption to pre-COVID-19 travel patterns.

- City Planning will also **Harness New Data and Technology** to assess existing worker and resident city populations, and changes in residential and workplace distribution to identify travel behavior changes. They will consider **Opportunities to Enhance the Public Realm**, focusing on opportunities to improve or repurpose public rights-of-way such as portions of city streets.

The NYMTC agencies will coordinate and share information on these pandemic studies to better inform the planning process.

COVID-19 Resources on NYMTC's Website

NYMTC has dedicated a portion of its website homepage at www.nymtc.org to COVID-19 resources. These include links to the following:

- Recent Federal Highway Administration data showing U.S. driving in 2020 is the lowest in two decades <https://bit.ly/30K3Nrb>
- The New York City Department of City Planning's interactive charts and maps highlighting 2020 travel trends <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/9ae470177d134f7fb42dac3ed61e37ad>
- C2SMART's COVID-19 Data Dashboard to track pandemic impacts on transportation systems <https://c2smart.engineering.nyu.edu/covid-19-dashboard/>
- The American Public Transportation Association's (APTA) Ridership Trends dashboard <https://transitapp.com/APTA>

Visit the site regularly for more information.

Upcoming Brown Bag Presentation on Suburban Mobility Studies

Join us at **noon on Wednesday, April 28** for a panel discussion via webinar on NYMTC-funded suburban mobility studies. This event is part of NYMTC's ongoing Regional Trends Series. This panel features:

- **Sean Sallie**, Deputy Commissioner of the Nassau County Department of Public Works will discuss the Nassau Mobility Study, and a hybrid-electric bus pilot project.
- **Ankita Rathi**, Planning Consultant with the Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning will discuss the Southampton Micro-transit Pilot Project, and the Suffolk County Mobility Implementation Plan.
- **Naomi Klein**, Director of Transportation Planning for the Westchester County Department of Planning will discuss the Westchester County Mobility and Bus Redesign Study, the Transportation Demand Management Study for the Grasslands Campus, and Impacts of COVID-19 Study.



Please use the information below to join this meeting:

<https://meetny.webex.com/meetny/j.php?MTID=mc9ac9ed7e0ed8291a6f68b1a286ef13d>

Wednesday, Apr 28, 2021 12:00 pm | 2 hours |
(UTC-04:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Meeting number: 185 909 6911

Password: NYMTC123

Join by phone

+1-518-549-0500 USA Toll

Access code: 185 909 6911

Stay Connected

Stay connected to your region! There are a number of ways you can continue to learn more about transportation events and investments occurring within the NYMTC region. Here is how you can stay involved.



Visit our website:
[NYMTC.org](https://nymtc.org)



Reach out to us:
NYMTC-Web@dot.ny.gov



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Please be safe and be well.

