

NEW YORK METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

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NYMTC LAUNCHES NEW, INTERACTIVE WEBSITE FOR *2040 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN*

PUBLIC ENCOURAGED TO HELP PLAN THE REGION'S TRANSPORTATION FUTURE

The New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) is launching a new interactive website – <http://ideas.nymtc-rtp.org> – to make it easier for people to share their concerns and ideas, provide feedback and participate in the development of the *2040 Regional Transportation Plan*. Input on topics ranging from traffic congestion to transit to biking to moving goods can be offered for local communities, New York City, the lower Hudson Valley, Long Island, and for the region as a whole.

When developed, NYMTC's 2040 Plan will lay out a long-range framework for maintaining and improving the region's transportation system: its roads, bridges, freight and mass transit facilities, and its bicycle and pedestrian networks. It will ultimately identify the transportation improvement concepts, projects and policy recommendations that can address the region's long-term growth challenges and needs – an initial step to bringing federal transportation dollars into the area.

Updated every four years, NYMTC's Plan will be the product of a metropolitan planning process that seeks to bring together as many of the region's governmental entities, its business community and its residents as possible to focus on future transportation needs. NYMTC is a regional council of governments that is the metropolitan planning organization for New York City, Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley, enabling federal transportation funds to flow into the region.

In addition to the new interactive website, NYMTC will hold a series of open house meetings over the coming months to gather ideas from the people who live and work here about what transportation projects and programs they'd like to see put in place through 2040, and beyond. Open house dates and locations will be posted on www.NYMTC.org and www.NYMTC-RTP.org as they become available. More information, including a draft outline of the 2040 Plan and the 2010 – 2035 Plan, is available on www.NYMTC-RTP.org.