



Transportation Advisory Committee  
 May 15, 2018 Meeting Summary  
 WITC Conference Center, Room 111  
 Superior, WI

<b>Meeting Location</b>	WITC	
<b>Note Taker(s)</b>	Barb Peterson	
<b>Members Present</b>		
<b>Committee Chair</b>	Todd Janigo	City of Superior
	Jim Foldesi	St. Louis County Engineering
	Jason Jackman	Douglas County
	Chris Lee	City of Duluth Planning
	John McDonald	MnDOT District 1
	Shawna Mullen	Active Transportation/Zeitgeist Arts
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Sophia Parr	DTA
	Cari Pederson	City of Duluth - Engineering
	Dena Ryan	WisDOT NW Region
	Cindy Voigt	City of Duluth Engineering
	Tom Werner	Duluth Airport Authority
<b>Members Absent</b>		* Excused Absence
	Bryan Anderson	MnDOT District 1
	Dave Bolf*	City of Hermantown
	Mark Casey	City of Proctor
<i>alternate</i>	Jeff Emerson	WisDOT
<i>alternate</i>	Rod Fournier	DTA
<b>alternate</b>	Matt Hemmila	St Louis County
	Jenn Moses	City of Duluth Planning
<i>alternate</i>	John Mulder	City of Hermantown
	Jason Serck	City of Superior
	Deb DeLuca	Duluth Seaway Port Authority
	vacant	MN DEED Office
<b>Others Present</b>		
	Ron Chicka	MIC Director
	James Gittemeier	MIC Principal Planner
	Chris Belden	MIC Planner
	Barb Peterson	MIC Admin Asst
	Phil Pumphrey	DTA
	Bobbi Retzlaff	MnDOT Central Office
	Ricky Sarran	MIC GIS Specialist
	Rondi Watson	MIC Communications Coordinator



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## 1. Introductions

Chair Todd Janigo called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm. All meeting attendees introduced themselves.

## 2. Committee Business

- **Meeting Summary of 4.17.18** Chair Janigo asked for any changes or corrections to meeting summaries. Hearing no other objections, he asked for a motion to approve.

<b>Motion Discussion and Vote</b>	Jim Foldesi/Dena Ryan moved to approve the 4.17.18 meeting summary as presented. There was no discussion and the motion was approved unanimously.
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- **Directors Report**

Ron asked everyone to note the report items in the meeting materials. He took a couple of minutes to introduce Phil Pumphrey the new General Manager of the DTA.

## 3. Sustainable 2045, MIC LRTP update, MIC Team

Mike Wenzholz started the update out by giving a brief description of what the LRTP is and why the MIC is in the process of updating it.

Chris described the demographics which are being used noting that the growth in the area has been stagnant for most of the last decade. He shared that the over 25% of the people living in area is age 55 and older and is projected to increase to 37% by year 2040. Chris also shared the current conditions of the Twin Ports massive infrastructure that is also coming to the end of its effect life cycle. The cost for this construction has risen by 68% between 2003 and 2016. He stated that some creative ways to afford the needed infrastructure replacements and right-sizing them for the future is going to be challenging.

James Gittemeier began by showing 2 pictures of the intersection of Lake and Superior looking towards the lift bridge. One showing before the construction of I35 where there was a lively commercial district which provided a tax base; and one after the I35 construction where a lot of the buildings were torn down to make room for the freeway. A lot of economic vitality and tax base was lost for the convenience of the freeway.

This example was used to show what Planning Perspectives need to be kept in mind when planning for the future transportation needs. We are facing many challenges which include:

- Revenues for transportation shrinking
- Public hesitant on raising gas tax
- Increased fuel efficiency
- Vehicle miles traveled leveling off
- Replacement of Post WWII infrastructure is coming due
- Poverty is deepening



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- Population is getting older
- Physical inactivity is increasing
- Technology is changing our behaviors

To name a few.

Mike then wrapped things up discussing the fact that there are many needs and wants vs the limited resources currently available. We must make wise sustainable choices that keep the following in mind:

- Revenues for transportation shrinking
- Public hesitant on raising gas tax
- Increased fuel efficiency
- Vehicle miles traveled leveling off
- Replacement of Post WWII infrastructure is coming due
- Poverty is deepening
- Population is getting older
- Physical inactivity is increasing
- Technology is changing our behaviors

Mike also encouraged everyone to take and pass around the survey that is currently open which will provide us the data we need to make our sustainable decisions while putting this Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) together. Watch for us at many of the upcoming events around the area over the summer.

#### 4. Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Bikeways Plan Update

James gave an overview of the BPAC meeting on 5.7.18. He also updated the events happening for Bus Bike Walk and made sure to note the upcoming ones which run through the end of May. James showed where the commuter stations would be located for Bike to Work Day and made sure to invite everyone who can to participate.

He continued stating that at the Congdon Park Elementary School had 180 cyclists and 120 walkers for their Bike to School Day. Piedmont also had their first Bike & Walk to School Day and had 25 cyclists, 50 walkers and 5 scooters.

James showed a preliminary map for the Bike Plan which he has been sharing with the jurisdictions and getting their feedback, which can then be incorporated. He described a kind of "Func Classification" for bike routes which is being considered. He has a few yet to meet with and then the task of putting the plan together.

*Jim Foldesi stated that he knows it is taking a lot of time to get this plan completed but he feels it is time well spent.*



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## 5. MIC Area Construction Map

Ricky Saran presented the idea of a yearly construction map for visitors to use to assist in getting around the area and avoiding the road construction. He is starting with both the MN & WI TIP projects and is looking for assistance for the cities of Duluth and Superior as well as the counties to add their projects as well. Anyone willing to provide a GIS contact would be greatly appreciated.

## 6. MIC Areawide Truck Route Study Update

Mike Wenzholz gave a brief review of the recently closed survey to be used in preparing the update of this study. He then reviewed the next steps to be taken and shared some of the Truck Counts he has received.

## 7. Grand Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

Chris shared an exciting new concept being considered by the DTA. Grand Avenue is a possibility for a study to be done. Bus Rapid Transit is very similar to a light rail system but uses buses instead. Chris continued showing some station designs which also includes platform level boarding making it easier to get on and off. He also showed that the busses even look like a light-rail train. Stay tuned for more details.

## 8. Roundtable Discussion

Watch the schedule of events remaining during the rest of Bus Bike Walk month.

## 9. Project Updates

- Canosia Township Trails Plan, Chris Belden

Kudos for Chris's work on this plan.

- Bike Walk Minnesota Conference, James Gittemeier & Chris Belden

## 10. Adjourn

With no further agenda items, discussions or announcements, Chair Janigo adjourned the meeting at 3:06 pm.