

Duluth-Superior Area Truck Route Committee Meeting Summary

Monday, December 10, 2018 from 10 AM - noon

Wisconsin DOT Lake Superior conference room

PARTICIPANTS:

Bryan Anderson (Minnesota DOT)	Leo Naumann (Jeff Foster Trucking)
Ross Baker (Wisconsin DOT)	Cari Pedersen (City of Duluth)
Mark Casey (City of Proctor)	Dena Ryan (Wisconsin DOT)
Ron Chicka (MIC)	Jason Serck (City of Superior)
David Gibbs (Ulland Brothers)	Mike Wenholz (MIC) - facilitator

PURPOSE: Regroup the Duluth-Superior Area Truck Route Study (TRS) committee to share and discuss drafts of key sections and maps of the TRS Update Final Report, and discuss the final steps and timeline to completion.

AGENDA:

1. **Introductions**
2. **Timeline Status to Completion**
3. **Final Study Report Topics/Sections**
4. **Review Draft Introduction Section**
5. **Review Draft Regulations Section**
6. **Review Draft Survey Results Section**
7. **Review Maps**
8. **Review Draft Recommendations Section**
9. **Next Steps / Action Items**

SUMMARY:

MW started the meeting by showing a slide reminding the group what the goal of the TRS is.

Each agenda item was discussed during the meeting. MW stated that he did receive comments from Jenn Moses (City of Duluth) who could not participate in the meeting, and would express those comments as appropriate throughout the meeting for the group to hear and discuss.

Timeline Status to Completion

- MW provided an update on the status of the TRS Update Final Report.
- Today's meeting serves as a final opportunity for significant input and suggestions. This was a reminder, as it was mentioned in an email previously. A final draft of the TRS Update Final Report will incorporate comments and suggestions from today's meeting.

- MW stated the timeline goal is to have a draft final TRS Update Final Report completed and sent out to the TRS Committee, as well as MIC Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Board members by the end of the year for a final short review.
- The goal is to have the MIC TAC and MIC Board review and approve the TRS Update Final Report at their January meetings (January 15 and 16).

Final Study Report Topics/Sections

- MW walked through the draft table of contents (“outline”) in the draft sent to TRS Committee members.
- MW reminded the group that this effort is an update of the 2001 TRS, and the final report will refer back to the 2001 TRS.
- MW asked if the listed topics/sections was good, or if additional topics/sections needed to be added. The group felt the existing list was fine.
- MW asked if anyone had a preference whether the list was considered topics or sections (of the report). No one had a preference, so moving forward they will be referred to as sections.

Review Draft Introduction Section

- The group answered the two questions MW had noted in highlighted text.
- MW asked the group if truck routes should be referred to as “preferred truck routes” within the final report? He explained the reasoning why he is asking, which stemmed from a discussion with Vic Lund (St Louis County). In general, since there are many roads that trucks are allowed to operate on, and the identified truck routes are only a subset of those roads, why not refer to them as “preferred truck routes”? While the group understands the point, they do not think this should be the common vernacular in the final report. They do, however, believe it would be good to explain these points in the final report, as it would be helpful to people using the or incorporating the final report into their own plans or projects. Some of these people are likely to not be familiar with truck routes, or these distinctions.
- The group stated an update final report does not need a “conclusion” or executive summary.
- No other comments or suggestions were shared.

Review Draft Regulations Section

- The group was fine with the reference to the state statutes, and do not want the full statute language in the final report, even as an appendix. It is too much information, and anyone interested in reading it can easily look it up online.
- MW noted the truck route ordinance language of MIC jurisdictions are listed as an appendix.
- No one was able to state where in either state statute local jurisdictions are granted authority to establish truck routes. MW has asked this numerous times of people outside the TRS Committee and no one seems to know.
- MC stated the City of Proctor has no truck route regulations.

- CP noted the word “shall” in the city regulations may be contradictory language, and others agreed. The group determined local jurisdictions will need to review this language if they have it in their ordinances. The City of Duluth and the City of Hermantown use this language.
- No other comments or suggestions were shared.

Review Draft Survey Results Section

- MW gave a few summary comments reminders regarding the survey. One key factor is that only 42 people submitted a survey, and many did not complete the entire survey.
- MW noted attendance at the two open houses was overall low. However, there were some useful comments received at the open house in Hermantown.
- Key comments from both the survey and open houses were incorporated into the TRS update recommendations, as appropriate.
- MW noted the survey results and responses are listed as an appendix.
- MW noted some of the result percentages have changed as he discovered some were not calculated correctly previously.
- No other comments or suggestions were shared.

Review Maps

- All 8 maps currently being considered to be included in the TRS Update Final Report were displayed on the monitor for people to review. This included a map displaying the proposed detour for truck routes outside of the City of Superior in Douglas County, that was provided by DR and RB. The 8 maps are:
 - Roads Trucks May Use
 - Existing & Recommended Truck Routes
 - Existing OSOW Routes
 - Draft Proposed WI Detour Truck Routes
 - Truck Count Locations
 - Truck Counts
 - Truck Counts & HCAADT
 - Percent Trucks
- No problems with map content were identified.
- MW noted that Jenn Moses (City of Duluth) stated the light colors on the Truck Counts and Percent Trucks maps are too hard to read, and that line segment colors are not easily distinguishable. Some others agreed.
- No other comments or suggestions were shared.

Review Draft Recommendations Section

- The group had significant discussion on this section, walking through each number in the draft.
- The group discussed and answered whether or not the identified 8 recommendations from the 2001 TRS were ever implemented.

- Numerous additional comments will be moved from standalone recommendations to things that should be considered for study and formal discussion.
- The group explained why it is important to recommend the additional segments to be included in the MIC area truck route network.
- The City of Duluth has two recommendations to review and reword.
- MW explained that he will include a basic strategy in the final report for implementing the recommendations.
- No other comments or suggestions were shared.

Next Steps / Action Items

- Share initial key comments and status update with MIC TAC and Board.
- Complete the TRS Update Final Report - incorporate the comments and suggestions from this meeting and Jenn Moses.
- Distribute the final report to TRS Committee, TAC, and MIC Board for final review – by end of 2018.
- Make any final revisions and ask for Board approval at the January meeting (January 16, 2019).
- MW thanked the TRS Committee for their participation and input over the past two years.