



## Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

Guiding the Future of Transportation for the Twin Ports Area

12/20/2019

Colleen Hoesly  
Madison Area Transportation Planning Board  
100 State Street, Suite 400  
Madison, WI 53703

Re: Integrated Safety Management and Visualization Tool for Local Agencies

Dear Ms. Hoesly,

On behalf of the Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council (MIC), we are pleased to submit this letter of support for the joint Madison Area Transportation Planning Board (MATPB) and City of Madison's proposal for the U.S. Department of Transportation's "State and Local Government Data Analysis Tools to Support Policy and Decision Making for Roadway Safety" grant opportunity. Many local agencies do not have the personnel and/or resources required for taking a systematic safety management approach to identifying roadway facilities with safety concerns and potential improvements for those locations.

Accomplishing project identification and prioritization using the latest Highway Safety Manual and data-driven methodologies is challenging for many local agencies. Accessible and practical tools are needed to facilitate comprehensive safety management to close the gap in knowledge and experience with rigorous statistical methods. Additionally, local agencies need practical information that can be easily communicated with local officials and the community.

An integrated safety management tool for local agencies would contribute to implementing the Highway Safety Manual and methodologies for comprehensive safety analysis. The "Integrated Safety Management and Visualization Tool for Local Agencies" tool you are proposing to develop would be extremely valuable to local agencies and MPOs such as ourselves. Specifically, the capabilities to identify facilities with promise, select countermeasures, and optimize resource allocation to improve safety of the system overall would be of great benefit.

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We are happy to participate in an advisory role to provide input on the requirements, capabilities and features of such a tool. We will also gladly pilot the tool and provide feedback on the implementation of the tool.

We wish you success in this endeavor should the project be selected for funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron Chicka". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ron Chicka, AICP  
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