



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council
Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Tuesday, February 18th, 2020 at 1:30 pm
St Louis Cnty/Public Safety Bldg
MEETING NOTICE

Items for Approval:

- Meeting Summary of 1.14.20

Items for Presentation and Discussion

- Duluth Area TIP Process Revisions – An Overview
- Bridge Scenario Closure Modeling
- Bike & Ped Update
- Duluth-Superior Metro Pedestrian Plan
- Project Updates

Attendance / Meeting Quorum

If you are NOT able to attend, or expect to arrive late to the meeting, **please contact Barb Peterson at bpeterson@ardc.org or 218-529-7541** to ensure a quorum will be present for voting items on the agenda.

Driving Directions and Parking

See map on reverse. This facility is ADA accessible.
This facility is near a DTA bus route but check times.

Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

Duluth and Superior Urban Area Communities Cooperating in Planning and Development through a Joint Venture of the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission and the Northwest Regional Planning Commission

221 West First Street • Duluth, MN 55802 • 218/529-7541 • www.dsmic.org

St Louis County Public Safety Bldg, 2030 N Arlington Ave



Directions: Take Hwy 53 to Arlington (Stop light at Lake Superior College)
 Take a right – follow to W Marble St/Public Safety Dr
 and take a Right – follow to 2030 N Arlington Ave
 (Public Safety Bldg)

**TRANSPORTATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(TAC)**

MEMBERS

Airport

Tom Werner

Active Transportation

Shawna Mullen

City of Duluth

Cari Pedersen

Cindy Voigt

Chris Lee

Kris Liljebblad

City of Hermantown

David Bolf

John Mulder

(alternate)

City of Proctor

vacant

City of Superior

Todd Janigo

Chris Carlson

Jason Serck

(alternate)

Douglas County

Jason Jackman

Duluth Transit Authority

Chris Belden

Phil Pumphrey

(alternate)

Economic Development

Karl Schuettler

MnDOT

Maren Webb

John McDonald

Bryan Anderson

(alternate)

Mobility Challenged

Vacant

Port/Harbor

Kate Ferguson, *Vice-Chair*

St. Louis County

Jim Foldesi

Matt Hemmila

(alternate)

WisDOT NW Region

Dena Ryan, *Chair*



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

Transportation Advisory Committee

Tuesday, February 18th, 2020, 1:30 pm

St Louis Cnty/Public Safety Bldg

Duluth, MN

MEETING AGENDA

1. Introductions/Agenda Review	
2. Committee Business	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting Summary of 1.14.20 (for Approval) Director's Report 	5 min
3. Duluth Area TIP Process Revisions – An Overview	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation and Discussion, James Gittemeier 	15 min
4. Bridge Scenario Closure Modeling	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation and Discussion, Ron Chicka & Mike Wenholz 	20 min
5. Bike & Ped Planning Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation and Discussion, James Gittemeier 	10 min
6. Duluth-Superior Metro Pedestrian Plan Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation and Discussion, James Gittemeier 	30 min
7. Round Table	5 min
8. Project Updates	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duluth Area TIP Administrative Modifications (#8, 9 & 10) Proctor Transportation Plan Travel Demand RFP UPWP Administrative Modification Truck Route Study Implementation HTAC Subcommittees 	5 min

Next Meeting

Tuesday, March 17th, 2020

WITC

Superior, WI

1:30 pm



TAC Agenda Topics and Project Updates

February 18th, 2020 Meeting

Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

** = Approval Item*

1. INTRODUCTIONS / AGENDA REVIEW

2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- Meeting Summary of 1.14.20
- MIC Director's Report

3. DULUTH AREA TIP PROCESS REVISIONS-AN OVERVIEW

There are several reasons the MIC is pursuing a revision of the TIP application and scoring process. The reasons include the following:

- Must include the federally required performance measures and targets.
- Tie the TIP project selection process to the goals and objectives of Sustainable Choices 2045 – the MIC's Long Range Transportation Plan.
- There is less funding than in the past, which makes it more challenging to establish a truly competitive process.
- Meaningfully incorporate comments and input received into proposed and implemented projects.

Each of these will be described in greater detail during the presentation. They will lead the way for making revisions to the MIC's TIP project selection process.

MIC staff will share a brief summary of a peer MPO TIP project selection process review. In addition, staff will discuss the overall desired result from this update, which is to have a straight-forward process that takes into account the LRTP's 5 planning perspectives (that form the basis for the LRTP's goals), allows for measurable outcomes, and includes multi-modal trade-offs.

4. BRIDGE SCENARIO CLOSURE MODELING

Ron and Mike participated in a meeting where our consultant (SRF) gave a presentation and led a discussion on the highlights of the recently completed Freight Bridge Model closure alternatives. The modeling looked at both closures of the Blatnik Bridge and the Bong Bridge. The only scenario that led to an anticipated failing level of service was reducing capacity to a single lane in each direction on the Blatnik Bridge. Single direction or full closure of the Blatnik maintained adequate capacity without overloading the Bong Bridge. The model also estimates miles traveled, time traveled, and user costs for both autos and trucks for each scenario modeled. The full closure of the Blatnik is estimated to have the highest user costs. Attendees at the meeting, including MnDOT, WisDOT, the City of Superior, and the City of Duluth, found the model useful and see it as a valuable tool for determining the most viable plans for future Blatnik Bridge work, as well as other uses such as considering user time, miles, and costs of specific closures associated with the Twin Ports Interchange project.



TAC Agenda Topics and Project Updates

February 18th, 2020 Meeting

Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

5. BIKE & PED PLANNING UPDATE

The BPAC met at their regularly scheduled quarterly meeting in February. The following topics were discussed, the development of the Pedestrian Plan, the prioritization tasks of the Bikeways Plan, the Transportation Alternatives Program, and a variety of project updates including Educational Workshops for 2020, the Superior Active Transportation Plan, the Lakewalk – Brighton Beach Project, and an update on the various projects on the Cross City Trail.

The BPAC is going to finalize and release an interim report on the bikeway priorities. The prioritization process will be further refined, including a reviewing and ranking of the bikeway studies called for in the Plan. A sub-committee of the BPAC will be formed to guide this work.

The 2020 Educational Workshop will focus on intersections, including the NACTO publication “Don’t Give up at the Intersection”. This workshop is tentatively scheduled for next Fall.

6. DULUTH-SUPERIOR METRO PEDESTRIAN PLAN UPDATE

The MIC, TAC and BPAC all participated in an “Issue Identification” exercise. MIC staff will review the findings from this exercise, including what are shaping up to be initial priorities. In addition, staff will discuss the data request, including the pedestrian facility (sidewalk) updates, crash data and ADA related projects and plans.

7. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

8. PROJECT UPDATES

- Duluth Area TIP Administrative Modifications (#8, 9 & 10)

Modification #8 - the MIC has approved MnDOT’s requested change to the 2020-2023 Duluth Area TIP to add a 100% state funded project for the detour of the Cross City Trail through the Lincoln Park Craft District in Duluth. This project is due to the Twin Ports Interchange (TPI) Reconstruction Project, which will require the closure and removal of the Cross City Trail along Lower Michigan Street for the entire 3-year timeframe of the TPI project. The Cross City Trail will be re-routed to Superior Street from 23rd Ave West to the junction with Lower Michigan Street. The 0.75 mile detour will be designed as a two-protected bikeway, with pedestrian use of the existing sidewalks.

Admin Mod #	Project # Jurisdiction	Description	Year	Federal	State	Local	Total
8	6982-340 MnDOT	In Duluth, on W. Superior St from JCT 23 rd Ave W to JCT Lower Michigan St. Cross City Trail detour agreement with the City of Duluth.	2020	0	250,000	0	250,000



TAC Agenda Topics and Project Updates

February 18th, 2020 Meeting

Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

Modification #9 - The MIC has approved MnDOT's requested changes to the 2020-2023 Duluth Area TIP regarding the MN 23 Mission Creek Projects. This is a 100% state funded. Modification #9 is the construction of 134th Ave West Project has been moved back one year to 2021 with a \$30,000 increase in project costs.

Admin Mod #	Project # Jurisdiction	Description	Year	Federal	State	Local	Total
9	6910-106 MnDOT Project moved to 2021	MN 23 in Duluth, from MN 23 to 4 th St. Construct 134 th Ave W. Bituminous paving, curb & gutter, drainage.	2020	0	200,000	0	200,000
			2021		230,000		230,000

Modification #10 - The MIC has approved MnDOT's requested changes to the 2020-2023 Duluth Area TIP regarding the MN 23 Mission Creek Projects. This is 100% state funded project. This is a new project to the TIP for landscaping along MN 23.

Admin Mod #	Project # Jurisdiction	Description	Year	Federal	State	Local	Total
10	6910-107 MnDOT New Project	MN 23 from JCT MN 210 to Mission Creek. Mission Creek Cemetery landscaping.	2021	0	1,500,000	0	1,500,000

- Proctor Transportation Plan

We received seven proposals from qualified consultants in response to the RFP we issued in January. They will be evaluated by representatives from the MIC, MnDOT, St. Louis County and the City of Proctor at a scoring session to be held February 13. Hiring decision and anticipated project start date will be reported next month.

- Travel Demand RFP

The MIC posted an RFP on February 3rd, seeking a consulting firm to update and maintain the MIC's Travel Demand Model (TDM) from 2020 through 2022. Key to this project will be incorporating new Census data as it becomes available, and producing revised demographic and travel demand outputs for use in our short-term and long-range transportation planning activities. Proposals are due February 28 and will be evaluated in a scoring session to be held March 9. We anticipate announcing the hiring decision at next month's meeting. More information about this posting and this project can be viewed at <http://www.dsmic.org/rfp>.



TAC Agenda Topics and Project Updates

February 18th, 2020 Meeting

Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

- UPWP Administrative Modification

The following is being added as a “Major Work Activity” to the 2020-2021 UPWP

Comprehensive Operations Analysis– The DTA/City of Superior is undertaking a comprehensive transit operational analysis and service design recommendations study utilizing FTA 5304 and 5307 funding.

- Duluth-Superior Area Truck Route Study 2018 Update Implementation

The Duluth-Superior Area Truck Route Study (TRS) 2018 Update was approved by the MIC Board on January 16, 2019. The update called for the development of an implementation strategy to support implementation of the 14 recommendations and to consider the 17 suggestions for additional study. A TRS Implementation Team has been formed and met to initiate development of the TRS implementation strategy. A matrix table identifying lead entities, priority, completion timeline, and a basic approach to implementing each of the 14 recommendations has been drafted. A similar matrix table is anticipated to be produced for the 17 suggestions for additional study. It is anticipated this effort will be completed within two more meetings in 2020.

- HTAC Subcommittees

HTAC Subcommittee work has continued to be active. The Bylaws and Membership SC met and an initial draft revised bylaws document and eligible voting members list has been produced for review. His SC hopes to be completed within 1-2 more meetings. The Harbor Safety Workgroup met and is coordinating final steps to use the grant money received towards effective messaging and outreach regarding good paddler safety, especially in terms of our working harbor and Lake Superior. Work is ongoing to draft an updated and significantly revised Erie Pier Management Plan (EPMP). The EPMP Committee will meet as needed to review drafts and discuss needs as we move forward. The goal is to complete the EPMP rewrite in 2020.