



Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Tuesday, February 18th, 2020 1:30 pm

St Louis Cnty/Public Safety Bldg

Duluth, MN

Meeting Summary

Note Taker(s)	Barb Peterson	
Members Present		
	Chris Belden	Duluth Transit Authority
	Chris Carlson	City of Superior-Public Works
Committee Vice-Chair	Kate Ferguson	Duluth Seaway Port Authority
	Jim Foldesi	St. Louis County Engineering
	Jason Jackman	Douglas County
	Todd Janigo	City of Superior – Public Works
	Chris Lee	City of Duluth Planning
	Kris Liljeblad	City of Duluth Planning
Committee Chair	Dena Ryan	WisDOT NW Region
	Karl Schuettler	Northspan Group
	Cindy Voigt	City of Duluth Engineering
	Maren Webb	MnDOT Dist 1
	Tom Werner	Duluth Airport Authority
Members Absent		* Excused Absence
<i>alternate</i>	Bryan Anderson	MnDOT District 1
	David Bolf	City of Hermantown
<i>alternate</i>	Jana Kayser	Duluth Airport Authority
	John McDonald*	MnDOT District 1
	Shawna Mullen*	Active Transportation/Zeitgeist Arts
	Cari Pedersen*	City of Duluth
<i>alternate</i>	Phil Pumphrey	Duluth Transit Authority
<i>alternate</i>	Jason Serck	City of Superior
	vacant	City of Proctor
	vacant	Mobility Challenged Community
Others Present		
	Ron Chicka	MIC Director
	John Elantra	Representative for Pete Stauber
	James Gittemeier	MIC Principal Planner
	Barb Peterson	MIC Admin Asst
	John Ramos	Duluth Monitor
	Mike Wenholz	MIC Senior Planner



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1. Introductions/Agenda Review

Chair Dena Ryan called the meeting to order at 1:34 pm. All meeting attendees introduced themselves. John Ramos announced that he would be recording the meeting.

2. Committee Business

- Meeting Summary of 1.14.20 (for Approval)

Motion Discussion and Vote	Jim Foldesi/Kate Ferguson moved to approve the 1.14.20 meeting summary. There was no discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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- **Director's Report**

Ron Chicka announced that John McDonald was retiring as of March 3rd. A new representative from MnDOT Dist 1 should be forthcoming.

Ron also highlighted the 2020 Census flyer handed out to everyone.

Ron also shared that both MnDOT & WisDOT have contacted our consultant L(SRF) to run further scenarios concerning the Blatnik and Bong Bridges. This will be covered later during the meeting.

3. Duluth Area TIP Process Revisions – An Overview

Mike Wenholz and James Gittemeier addressed the group with the “What” and “Why” changes are needed. Some of the changes are the inclusion of the federal performance measures and targets and the proposed projects need to tie more directly to the LRTP goals and objectives. The funding has been dropping to the point where there has been no competition. The MIC is hoping to encourage more projects to come forward in order to make it a truly competitive process.

****Switching Item #4 and 5 on the agenda**

4. Bike & Ped Planning Update

James Gittemeier shared the highlights of Winter Bike Week which included fun rides, a winter bike commuting class, Bike to Work Day and a group bike tour.

James continued providing a summary of the topics discussed at the BPAC meeting earlier in February and the Cross City Trail detour; particularly, at the Garfield Ave intersection.



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5. Bridge Scenario Closure Modeling

Ron Chicka and Mike Wenholz shared the highlights of a meeting they attended 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.

6. Duluth-Superior Metro Pedestrian Plan Update

James also shared that at last month's TAC and MIC Policy Board meeting as well as the BPAC meeting a couple of weeks ago he had tasked the membership to share an issue that they felt was necessary to be reviewed and addressed in the Pedestrian Plan. He reviewed the responses and asked if there were any others that should be considered.

He is working on the stakeholder list and will be inviting them to a meeting to be scheduled soon.

7. Round Table

8. Project Updates

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

James Gittemeier gave a very brief explanation of the changes that were available in the meeting packet.

- Proctor Transportation Plan
- Travel Demand RFP
- UPWP Administrative Modification
- Truck Route Study Implementation
- HTAC Subcommittees

9. Adjourn: With no further agenda items, discussions or announcements, Chair Ryan adjourned the meeting at 2:56 pm.