



**MIC Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Summary**  
 February 6, 2020 Meeting

<b>Meeting Location</b>	ARDC Arrowhead Conference Room, Duluth, MN	
<b>Meeting Chair(s)</b>	Carol Andrews	
<b>Note Taker</b>	James Gittemeier	
<b>Members Present</b>		
<b>Chair</b>	Carol Andrews	St. Louis County
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Chris Carlson	City of Superior
	Maren Webb	MnDOT District 1
	Ruurd Schoolderman	Duluth Bikes
	Judy Gibbs	Citizen Representative
	Dena Ryan	WisDOT
	Chris Belden	DTA
	Cari Pedersen	City of Duluth
	Dick Haney	Friends of Western Duluth Parks & Trails
	Jason DiPiazza	MSA Engineering Consultant
	Prescott Morrill	Citizen Representative
	Eleanor Basco	City of Duluth
<b>Members Absent</b>		* Excused
	Bryn Jacobson	Continental Ski & Bike
	Shawna Mullen	Zeitgeist Arts & Community
<b>Others Present</b>		
	James Gittemeier	MIC
	Rondi Watson	MIC
	Matt Andrews	City of Duluth
	Kris Liljeblad	City of Duluth

**1. Introductions/Agenda Review**

Chair Carol Andrews called the meeting to order at 2:35 pm. She thanked committee members for their participation in this committee. She added that she'd like everyone – not just the extroverts in the group – to be able to have a voice during meetings, and noted that she would be



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moderating discussions so that anyone who has commented on a given topic will be asked to wait until others have had a chance to speak, before speaking again.

## 2. Committee Business

- **Meeting Summary for approval**

Meeting summary from the previous meeting (11/14/2019) was brought forward for approval.

Motion Discussion and Vote	Kris Liljeblad made the motion with a second from Dick Haney; there were no changes requested to the summaries or other discussion and motion was approved unanimously.
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- **Other Business: • Meeting Topics, Structure & Length**

Carol Andrews stated that there would be less presentation at future meetings and more time and opportunity for discussion of the topics and that input would be sought from members who cannot make the meeting.

## 3. Duluth-Superior Metro Pedestrian Plan

### 1999 Pedestrian Plan Status Report

James Gittemeier provided an overview of the Pedestrian Plan and reviewed a brief status report on the 1999 Pedestrian Plan.

### Planning Activity – Identify a pedestrian-related issue(s)

James Gittemeier led an exercise where each BPAC member was asked to identify and share a short term and long-term issue that they would like to see addressed with this update to the Pedestrian Plan.

The pedestrian-related short-term issues to be addressed in the next 5 years were:

- Focus areas-prioritized - Sidewalks where they are needed most
- Improve ped crossing, including midblock crossing guidance
- Better snow removal/coordination
- Public understanding of magnitude of ped infrastructure
- State highways crossings and snow removal
- Funding-creative ways
- Maintenance on sidewalks
- Nighttime activities and safety
- Identify most critical missing links
- Identify non-compliant curb ramps
- Enforcement of sidewalk clearing



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- Ped connectivity required in development
- Create pleasant places to walk
- Complete streets ordinance

The pedestrian-related long-term issues to be addressed in 20 years were:

- Resource limitations
- Ped safety
- Dedicated ped areas (woonerfs/malls)
- Vertical barriers-improve/ways to address this
- Build connections between focus areas
- Car parking rethink
- Reduce VMT
- Transit service options
- CAV issues
- Improve access between Duluth/Superior
- Create places that you want to walk to
- Connection to mall-Joshua walk/hike
- Signage-10min to here
- Change walking mentality

### 4. Duluth-Superior Metro Bikeways Plan

#### Implementation Priorities

The next step for the Bikeways Plan, is to develop short and long-range priorities to provide direction and guidance to the MIC area transportation authorities. James Gittemeier discussed developing an Interim Report to be sent out in 2020 to provide immediate guidance, with the BPAC working through refining and updating the short and long-range strategies and recommendations. Discussion also focused on who was involved, who was missing from it and that more outreach is needed with those who were missing. MIC staff will pull together a small Bikeway Priorities sub-committee, including Kris Liljeblad, Ruurd Schoolderman, Jason Dipiazza, Prescott Morrill, Maren Webb and Chris Carlson, to discuss the interim report and the process moving forward.

#### Interim Solutions – resurfacing/utility/building projects

Discussion on MIC staff pulling together the 2020 project list, balancing the wish-list with the jurisdictional realities, deciding on which bikeway studies should be prioritized, and developing a timeline for reviewing these projects.



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### 5. Transportation Alternatives Program – Grant Applications

#### Projects Submitted

James Gittemeier discussed the transportation alternatives program (TAP) projects submitted for FY 2024 funding, which was a Hermantown project for the connection of Hermantown schools and new Wellness Center and the city government complex. This project will be under-consideration by the Transportation Alternatives Taskforce which covering the NE MN ATP, which encompasses the Arrowhead region and MnDOT District 1. More funding was asked for than is available and each project is picked for funding through a competitive process. The projects for FY 2024 will be selected in March.

With the MIC having a lead role in transportation planning for the urban area, the BPAC held a discussion on what projects are eligible for TAP funding, what role should the BPAC be playing in considering MIC area priorities, and what projects move forward for TAP funding. Over the past 20+ years, regional priority was placed on closing the Duluth-gap connecting the Munger Trail to the North Shore Scenic Drive, eventually providing a shared use path connection between the Twin Cities and up the North Shore, connecting the Munger Trail, Cross City Trail, Lakewalk and the Gitchi Gami Trail. As this project nears completion, discussion will continue by the BPAC.

#### Long Range Transportation Plan Future Projects

The next funding cycle, FY 2025 TAP funding conversations should begin in the Spring 2020 about MIC area priorities. The BPAC would like to see the 2025 projects be coordinated for efficiency purposes with other existing planned projects in the MIC's Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The MIC staff will review the LRTP and coordinate with local transportation authorities for possible 2025 TAP projects.

### 6. Project Updates

#### Educational Workshops for 2020

Discussion took place on when and what topic for the next educational workshop for 2020. The current focus of these workshops is to increase local level of knowledge and having consistency across jurisdictions regarding bikeway infrastructure design. The BPAC decided to move focus on intersections and bikeway infrastructure and holding an educational workshop in the Fall 2020. The NACTO guide "Don't Give up on the Intersection" will be one document to be discussed at the workshop. Jason DiPiazza, Maren Webb, and Prescott Morrill offered to work with MIC staff and the BPAC chair on developing this workshop.



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### **Superior Active Transportation Plan**

Chris Carlson provided an update on the plan. The plan has been drafted and is going through final review, including opportunity at the last public meeting in March at the Superior Public Library.

### **Lakewalk – Brighton Beach**

Discussion on the planned alignment of the Lakewalk extension across Brighton Beach. Questions were asked about the how close the new trail would be built new Lake Superior, particularly the ordinary high-water mark. Concerns were expressed over the trail being able to to

### **Other Project Updates:**

An update was provided on additional projects including the Cross City Trail Detour, St. Louis County roadway projects for 2020, and the Cross City Trail Segment 3, and particularly the Grand Avenue Crossing.

## **7. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.