



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

Tuesday, August 18th, 2020 at 1:30 pm
VIRTUAL MEETING NOTICE

For the protection of the community, all MIC committee meetings will be held online and by telephone during the current Minnesota COVID-19 State of Emergency. Public access and public comment opportunities will be provided as permitted by Minn. Stat. § 13D.021 for local government meetings, allowing the use of communications media technology such as telephone and video conferencing.

Login and call-in information and meeting materials can be viewed on the [meeting web page](#) as well as at the bottom of this page.

Items for Approval:

- Meeting Summary of 6.16.20

Items for Approval with opportunity for public comment:

- 2020-2023 Superior Area TIP Amendment #9 & 10
- **DRAFT** - 2021-2024 Superior Area TIP-Approve Start of 30 day Public Comment Period on August 21,2020

Items for Presentation and Discussion

- Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Pedestrian Plan
- **Draft** 2021-2022 Work Program (to follow Friday, 8.14)
- Proctor Transportation 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 218-461-2666** to ensure a quorum will be present for voting items on the agenda.

Virtual Meeting Log-In/Call-In Information:

Join Microsoft Teams Meeting

[+1 218-302-4275](tel:+12183024275) United States, Duluth (Toll)

Conference ID: 819 997 713#



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

**TRANSPORTATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(TAC)**

MEMBERS

Airport

Tom Werner

Active Transportation

Vacant

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
Todd Campbell
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, August 18th, 2020, 1:30 pm

VIRTUAL MEETING AGENDA

1. Introductions/Agenda Review	
2. Committee Business	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting Summary of 6.16.20 (for Approval) Director's Report <p>*** Opportunity for Public Comment***</p>	10 min
3. 2020-2023 Superior Area TIP Amendment #9 & 10	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review for approval w/opportunity for Public Comment, Sheldon Johnson 	5 min
4. DRAFT - 2021-2024 WI Area TIP-Approve Start of 30 day Public Comment Period on August 21, 2020	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review for approval w/opportunity for Public Comment, Sheldon Johnson 	5 min
5. Duluth-Superior Metro Area Pedestrian Plan Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation & Discussion, James Gittemeier 	10 min
6. Draft 2021-2022 Duluth-Superior MIC Work Program	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation and Discussion, Ron Chicka 	10 min
7. Proctor Transportation Plan	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation & Discussion, James Gittemeier 	10 min
8. Round Table	
<p>*** Opportunity for Public Comment***</p>	5 min
9. Project Updates	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2020-2023 Duluth Area TIP Administrative Modification #20 Bike & Ped Planning Update Erie Pier Management Plan 	5 min

Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 15th, 2020

Virtual – MS TEAMS

1:30 pm



TAC Agenda Topics and Project Updates

August 18th, 2020 Meeting

Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

* = *Approval Item*

1. INTRODUCTIONS / AGENDA REVIEW

2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- **Meeting Summary of 6.16.20**
- **MIC Director's Report**
 - Duluth Transit Authority (DTA) – Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA) – A major planning study involving all aspects of the DTA's service operation will be underway soon. I am assisting the DTA in reviewing and interviewing consultant candidates to lead this work piece. We received a very good response to the RFP – getting seven responses from leading transit consultants from across the country. Three of the best have been interviewed and the group is soon to name the lead. This is a \$250K study; 14-16 month timeframe; that involves analyzing service options in both Duluth and Superior.
 - Duluth Transit Authority (DTA) – Joint Development Feasibility Study – A second smaller study that has been launched (and led by the consulting firm SRF out of the Twin Cities) is one looking at possible retail/housing capacity near the recently opened Duluth Transit Center (DTC) along Michigan Street in downtown Duluth. There are three different sub-groups assisting on this particular plan; the MIC seated with the governmental bodies of the area. A private sector sub-group is also an integral part of this plan. This effort has just gotten underway; the objective of which is to set the planning ground in place such that redevelopment in the form of commercial and/or housing options might find their way into the nearby area of the DTC since it is such a good transportation hub and can spur such development to happen. Federal funds can assist in this matter for redevelopment of chosen sites.
 - MNDOT- St. Louis County – Hermantown – Hwy 53 Corridor Study – This work item continues led by the MICs consulting team of AECOM/SRF. We are looking possible improvements to intersections – as well as the entire corridor – from Arrowhead Road northwestward to Midway Road. Data collection is nearly complete as the consulting examines traffic congestion and crash rates in order to determine whether or not the usual mitigation measures might be employed, or a different look is considered that may implement more restrictive intersection options that could greatly improve safety.
 - City of Duluth – Letter of Support for Federal Economic Development Administration (EDA) CARES Act – Coastal Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project – The City has asked the MIC, along with a number of other governmental partners, to support their application for funding to improve dock wall facings along the immediate shore (just outside the ship canal) and along facings near the DECC. A number of the MICs planning efforts over the years speak to the need to maintain these important pieces of infrastructure for both the movement of people and goods in the nearby vicinity of these locations. From the MICs Long Range Plan to our Truck Route Study to the Cruise Ship Terminal Facility Study of 2013; all discuss the importance of these dock wall improvements as a vital asset to the Duluth economy.



3. 2020-2023 SUPERIOR AREA TIP AMENDMENTS #9 & 10

TIP AMENDMENT #9

A TIP amendment has been requested for preliminary design work for a future painting project (scheduled for 2021) of the Blatnik Bridge. Preliminary design is scheduled for 2020.

2020 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT 113-20-010 Amended to TIP in August 2020	IH 535 Superior-Duluth Blatnik Bridge – Bridge Painting MnDOT Lead 1199-00-04	PE		\$40		\$40
		ROW				
		CONST				
		TOTAL		\$40		\$40

TIP AMENDMENT #10

A TIP amendment has been requested for preliminary design work for future rehabilitation of CTH C from the MN State Line to STH 35. Anticipated future roadway rehabilitation will include reconstruction of CTH C. Preliminary design is scheduled for 2020. Reconstruction is scheduled for 2022.

2020 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
Douglas County 113-20-011 Amended to TIP in August 2020	CTH C MN State Line – STH 35 Preliminary Design STBG-R 8758-00-02	PE			\$10	\$10
		ROW				
		CONST				
		TOTAL			\$10	\$10

If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact me at 715-635-2197 or by email at sjohnson@nwrpc.com.

4. 2021-2024 SUPERIOR AREA TIP-APPROVE START OF 30 DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON AUGUST 21, 2020

See attached Draft of the 2021-2024 Superior Area TIP



5. DULUTH-SUPERIOR METRO AREA PEDESTRIAN PLAN UPDATE

The general public input survey for the Pedestrian Plan was conducted for 3-weeks from July 17 to August 7 and has now closed. 627 respondents completed the survey. The MIC is now analyzing the survey responses and putting together a report on findings. MIC staff will review initial findings at the upcoming meetings and begin targeted stakeholder conversations and solution identification.

6. DRAFT – 2021-2022 DULUTH-SUPERIOR MIC WORK PROGRAM

Ron Chicka will be discussing the projects that may or may not be included. Draft copy will be sent on Friday, 8.14.20

7. PROCTOR TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The 2nd steering committee of the Proctor Transportation Plan met in August 6 to discuss Vision, Goals and Performance Measures as well as the public engagement portion of the plan, which includes a demonstration project. Bolton & Menk are working with jurisdictional staff on the details of the project and the process that will need to be followed.

8. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

***** OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT *****

9. PROJECT UPDATES

- **2020-2023 Duluth Area TIP Administrative Modification #20**

MnDOT requested a correction to the funding amounts and funding category placement errors for the 2nd phase of the Twin Ports Interchange project. There is no project scope change. There is a \$10,000 cost increase. Based on the adopted MIC Public Involvement Plan (2018), the proposed change conforms to Administrative Modification guidelines. It does not reach the minimum 10% total project cost increase for a \$100 million + total project cost and therefore does not reach the financial threshold to require a formal amendment.

Admin Mod #	Project # Jurisdiction	Description	Year	Federal \$	State TH or Bond \$	Total \$
20	6982-322 WP2 MnDOT	I-35 in Duluth Second Phase of Twin Ports Interchange Construction. Construct bridges, retaining walls, & drainage improvements.	2021	\$34,400,000 \$144,000,000	\$89,200,000 \$36,010,000	\$180,000,000 \$180,010,000



- ***Bike & Ped Planning Update***

The quarterly BPAC meeting was held on August 6, 2020. The meeting discussed current voting membership openings, the Pedestrian Plan, and update on the priorities for the Bikeways Plan recommendations and the latest project updates from area jurisdictions. The BPAC discussed two upcoming St. Louis County roadway projects, Woodland Avenue and Morris Thomas Road. The BPAC will put together a brief report on bike and pedestrian recommendations and submit to St. Louis County. The MIC is gearing up to conduct the annual bike and ped counts in September. A number of locations were discussed to consider conducting the 12-hour manual bike and ped counts including:

- Morris Thomas Road at Chambersburg Rd
- Woodland Ave at Arrowhead Rd
- Matterhorn Area – Decker Rd/Mall Dr/Maple Grove Rd
- Superior Active Transportation Plan – Priority Corridors

- ***Erie Pier Management Plan***

The rewrite of the Erie Pier Management Plan (EPMP) continues. It was decided at a kick-off meeting of the EPMP Committee in January that this effort would be more of a rewrite than an update of the 2007 EPMP. The primary author is Jeff Stollenwerk of the Duluth Seaway Port Authority, but Mike Wenholz of the MIC and perhaps a couple of others will be contributing, as well. A “Background” chapter has been drafted by Mike and Jeff is currently finalizing a draft of a “Beneficial Reuse” chapter. Both will be sent to the EPMP Committee for their review. A virtual meeting of the EPMP Committee will be scheduled in the near future. The goal remains for the plan to be completed by the end of the year or early in 2021.