



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council Policy Board

Wednesday, August 17th, 2022 at 6:00 pm
HYBRID MEETING NOTICE

Join us in person, 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 6.15.22
- 2022-2025 Superior Area TIP Amendments #9
- DRAFT 2023-2026 Superior Area TIP/Open 30 day public comment period
- 2023-2025 Duluth Area TIP

Items for Presentation and Discussion

- 2023-2024 Work Program Project Discussion
- 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.

We will be meeting In Person at the Proctor Community Center

Join via TEAMS Information:

[JOIN MICROSOFT TEAMS MEETING](#)

+1 218-302-4275 United States, Duluth (Toll)

Conference ID: 649 162 168#

The Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council (MIC) operates its programs and services without regard to race, color, and national origin in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. Complaint instructions and forms can be found in the Title VI Non-Discrimination Program and Limited-English Proficiency Plan online at dsmic.org/titlevi-policy. If you require ADA accommodations to be able to participate in this meeting, or if language translation services are needed, please contact the MIC office at least three days prior to the meeting, and we will do our best, within the resources available to us, to accommodate your request.

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

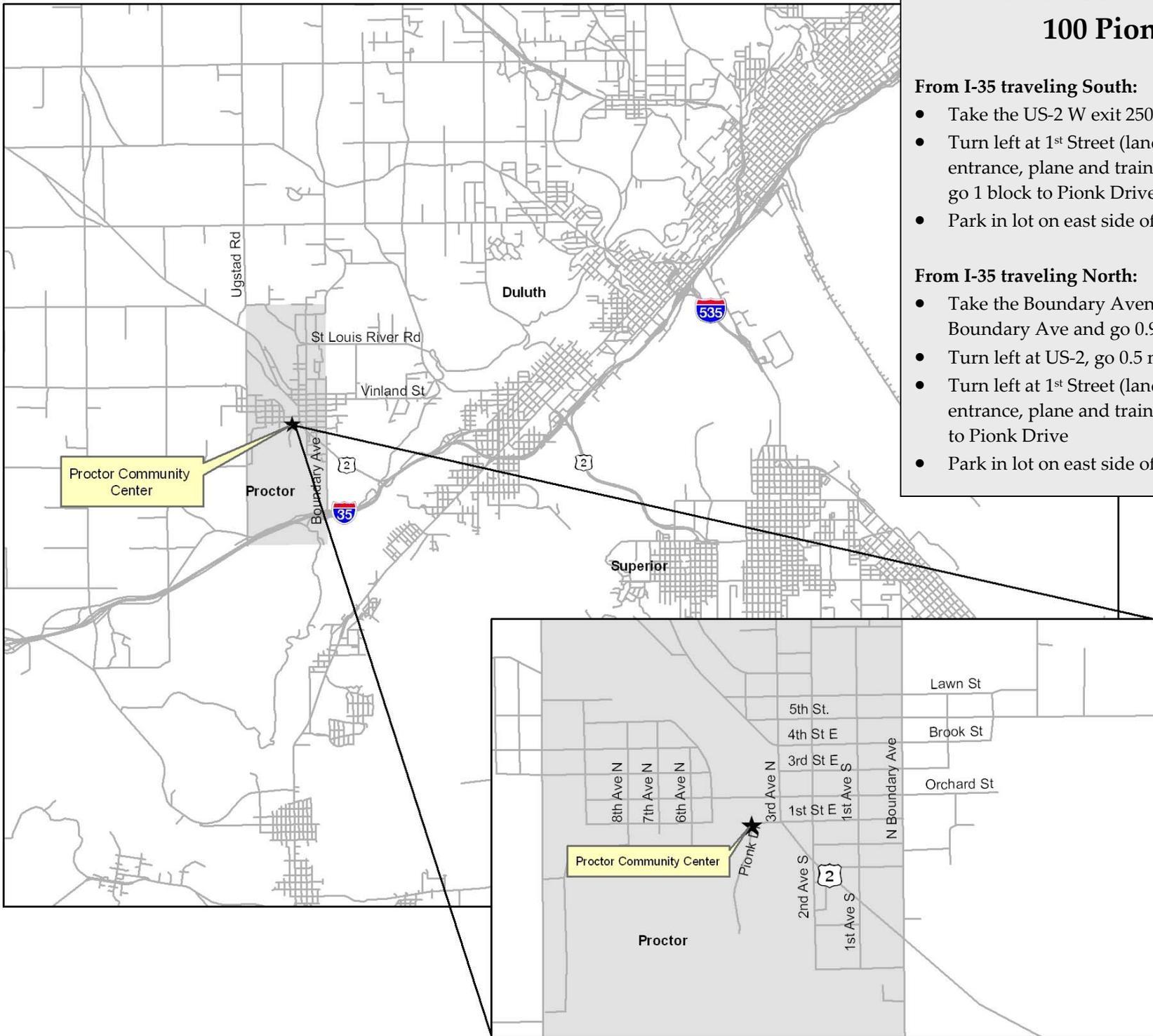
Proctor Community Center 100 Pionk Drive

From I-35 traveling South:

- Take the US-2 W exit 250, go 1.4 mi
- Turn left at 1st Street (landmarks: just past golf course entrance, plane and train display on left); go 1 block to Pionk Drive
- Park in lot on east side of building

From I-35 traveling North:

- Take the Boundary Avenue exit 249, turn left onto Boundary Ave and go 0.9 mi
- Turn left at US-2, go 0.5 mi
- Turn left at 1st Street (landmarks: just past golf course entrance, plane and train display on left); go 1 block to Pionk Drive
- Park in lot on east side of building



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Janet Kennedy
Mike Mayou

City of Duluth

- Citizen Rep
Jason Reid

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Douglas County

Suburban Townships
Broc Allen



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

Policy Board

Wednesday, August 17th, 2022 @ 6:00 pm

HYBRID MEETING

AGENDA

1. Introductions/Agenda Review	
2. Committee Business	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting Summary of 6.15.22 (for Approval) • Director's Report 	10 min
3. GUEST SPEAKER: MNSHIP (MN STATE HIGHWAY INVESTMENT PLAN) PRESENTATION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JOSHUA PEARSON, Project Manager, MnDOT 	20 min
4. 2022-2025 SUPERIOR AREA TIP AMENDMENT #9	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend approval to the Policy Board, Sheldon Johnson 	10 min
5. 2023-2026 SUPERIOR AREA TIP /OPEN 30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (AUG 19TH – SEPT 19)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend approval to the Policy Board, Sheldon Johnson 	10 min
6. 2023-2026 DULUTH AREA TIP	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend approval to the Policy Board, Prescott Morrill 	10 min
7. 2023-24 WORK PROGRAM PROJECT DISCUSSION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and Discussion, Ron Chicka 	20 min
8. ROUND TABLE	
	5 min
9. PROJECT UPDATES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I-35 Corridor Plan • Safety Action Plan 	5 min
10. ADJOURN	

Next Meeting

Wednesday, September 21st, 2022
DOUGLAS CNTY GOV'T CTR IN
PERSON AND VIRTUALLY VIA TEAMS
6:00 pm



Agenda Item Descriptions

* = *Approval Item*

1. INTRODUCTIONS / AGENDA REVIEW

2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- **Meeting Summary of 6.15.22**

- **Directors Report**

- Wisconsin State Freight Plan Update - Participated as a committee member in the WisDOT June Freight Advisory Committee meeting in Madison. Wisconsin's updated freight plan was presented, going for public comment through the Fall. Staff from Madison are set to present to the HTAC in September. Other topics presented included impacts of e-commerce on freight infrastructure and resiliency needs of freight infrastructure.
- Support Letters for Blatnik Funding and City of Superior Project Funding – In meeting attachments, there are two items we assisted with our partners over the recent past. For possible Blatnik funding, the DOTs consulting team compiled support letters from local agencies for the federal Bridge Investment Program. Second, per the City of Superior staff and with extra funding out of the recent federal bill, we wrote a letter supporting the decision to apply funds to the Barker's Island bridge project, as the City's top priority for these dollars.
- MNDOT Connected and Automated Vehicle Event – On Monday the 15th, MNDOT District 1 offices will have held their Connected and Automated Event – 4 pm at the main headquarters in Duluth. (We have sent a couple of reminders on this event if interested in signing up.) The event is occurring statewide to showcase the existing technology and improvements on the way. An equipped research vehicle will gather a variety of roadway data while in route to each event and this information will be presented to attendees.
- Blatnik Bridge Update – Since our committees have last met, a couple of subjects/events have taken place. Toward the end of June, a very well-attended Open House was held at the Superior Library. All components – to date – of the project were presented. DOT staff plus the consulting team were there to take questions and talk with attendees over a series of posterboards. A key new item talked about concerned a few options in play for the landing of the bridge on the Superior side. All options recommend a new design; one where Hammond is de-emphasized and acts more like an exit/entry than today. Options include one or a series of roundabouts at this location to access the mainline roadway. It's possible the shifting of Hwys. 2/53 may require right-of-way acquisition. Talks have occurred with landowners in this area as to that possibility. Secondly, the consultant hired to come forward with recommendations on walking and biking options for the Blatnik completed their report. Though the specific type of facility is still to be fully developed, the report did state that there is support for a path on the newly built Blatnik Bridge.

3. GUEST SPEAKER: MNSHIP (MN STATE HIGHWAY INVESTMENT PLAN)

Joshua Pearson, MnSHIP Project Manager

The 20-Year Minnesota State Highway Investment Plan (MnSHIP) directs capital investment for Minnesota's state highway system. The plan must identify investment priorities given current and



Agenda Item Descriptions

expected funding. It is updated every four years, as required by the Minnesota Statute. The DOT is currently in the next update cycle and is taking public input; including presenting to ATPs and MPOs statewide for their respective feedback. The plan takes into account many factors and prioritizes future investments to address the widening gap between highway revenues and construction costs. MnSHIP also considers federal and state laws, MnDOT policy and current and expected future conditions on the state highway system. MnSHIP describes how MnDOT will use capital investments to repair, replace and improve the state highway system. The plan does not address how MnDOT funds the operation of the system or day-to-day maintenance.

4. 2022-2025 SUPERIOR AREA TIP AMENDMENT #9

TIP AMENDMENT #9

A TIP amendment has been requested for resurfacing work along STH 105, .20 miles west of East Riverside Drive. This will be a small resurfacing project 0.07 miles in length in the Town of Superior. This short section of pavement is over the box culvert (Little Pokegama River) due to settlement of subsoils. Resurfacing work is scheduled for 2022.

2022 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT 113-22-015	STH 105 .20 miles west of East Riverside Drive 0.07 miles	PE ROW CONST		\$74.9		\$74.9
Amended to TIP in August 2022	100% State funds Resurfacing 8760-00-62	TOTAL		\$74.9		\$74.9

Questions regarding this project should be directed to Sheldon Johnson at 715-635-2197 or by email at sjohnson@nwrpc.com.

5. DRAFT 2023-2026 SUPERIOR AREA TIP/OPEN 30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD BEGINNING 8.19.22

The draft is can be found here: [DRAFT 2023-2026 SUPERIOR TIP](#)

6. 2023-2026 DULUTH AREA TIP

The document is available here: [DRAFT 2023-2026 DULUTH AREA TIP](#)

7. 2023-2024 WORK PROGRAM PROJECT DISCUSSION

Last month the MIC's Annual Review meeting was held with DOT and FHWA staff to discuss our work activities and budget items. As part of this dialogue, we learned there will be an estimated \$50,000 - \$75,000 available for an additional short-range project in the upcoming 2023 budget.

Staff discussion of MIC-area transportation priorities yielded the following list of possible projects. Each one was identified for future study in the MIC's long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

I would like to hear your thoughts at the August TAC and MIC meetings about what project(s) to potentially include in the draft work program and budget for CY 2023.



Agenda Item Descriptions

Possible Projects for Inclusion in the FY 2023 MIC Work Program and Budget:

Safety Action Plan - Part 2

Rationale:

- The modeling work to be conducted this year (Part 1) will identify specific locations needing improvement; Part 2 would identify remediation efforts for those locations.
- This plan will address motorized as well as active transportation modes.
- Other partners (Co-City) may be able to contribute to the MIC's funding to cover needed consultant costs for this project.

Rail Crossing Assessment (MIC area)

Rationale:

- This is one mode we haven't addressed in quite a while, and we are periodically asked for this information.
- It's relevant to several recommendations in our prior Safe Routes to School plans.

Traffic Signal System Assessment (MIC Area)

Rationale:

- Identified for future study in the MIC's long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan.
- Issue of signal coordination and technology was raised during the 2018 Bayfront study; also has connections to the (above) Safety Action Plan.
- Might have transit and emergency service benefits, if implemented.

MIC Area Roadway Capacity Assessment (4-to-3 lane reductions)

Rationale:

- Identified for future study in the MIC's long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan.
- 6th Avenue East Corridor in Duluth identified as one potential corridor.

8. ROUND TABLE

9. PROJECT UPDATES

- *I-35 Corridor Plan*

The project is well underway. Our consultants from Bolton & Menk developed a logo and other branding elements, finalized the Communications and Engagement Plan with input from MIC staff, and delivered a number of high-quality materials for us to use in interacting with the public during Downtown Duluth Sidewalk Days in mid-July. They have also initiated a detailed data collection effort as part of documenting existing corridor conditions. The kickoff meeting for the Steering Committee – consisting of representatives from all jurisdictions along the corridor, as well as from the Duluth Port Authority and the Duluth Transit Authority – was held on July 26.



Agenda Item Descriptions

- *MIC Area Safety Action Plan*

This project will be underway during the second half of 2022, continuing into 2023. It will prepare a comprehensive safety action plan that identifies prioritized recommendations to guide traffic safety efforts to reduce and/or eliminate risk factors for roadway crashes in the Duluth-Superior metro area.

A Project Management Team (PMT) which is comprised of representatives of state, county, and municipal agencies will guide the work. Key stakeholders and the public will be engaged, including underserved communities, the trucking industry, the DTA, law enforcement, and bike and pedestrian users of the roadway system. The plan will be consistent with the US DOT's National Roadway Safety Strategy, the Safe Streets for All Program, and the Highway Safety Improvement Program.

10. *ADJOURN:*