



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council Policy Board

Wednesday, February 15th, 2023 at 6:00 pm
VIRTUAL ONLY 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 1.18.22
- Approval of Revised TAC Bylaws
- 2023-2026 Duluth Area TIP Amendment #7-9

Project Updates:

- 2023-2026 Duluth Area TIP Administrative Modification #7-9

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.

Join via TEAMS Information:

[JOIN MICROSOFT TEAMS MEETING](#)

OR to join by phone (audio only)
+1 218-302-4275 United States, Duluth (Toll)
Conference ID: 599 186 131#



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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

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Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

Policy Board

Wednesday, February 15th, 2023 @ 6:00 pm

VIRTUAL MEETING NOTICE

AGENDA

<p>1. Introductions/Agenda Review</p> <p>2. Committee Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting Summary of 1.18.23 (for Approval) • Director's Report • Review and approval Revised TAC Bylaws <p style="text-align: center;">"Open Public Comment Period"</p>	<p>10 min</p>
<p>3. 2023-2026 DULUTH AREA TIP AMENDMENTS #7-9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend to the Policy Board for approval, Prescott Morrill 	<p>5 min</p>
<p>4. PROJECT UPDATES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023-2026 Duluth Area TIP Administrative Modification #7 	<p>5 min</p>
<p>5. ROUND TABLE</p>	<p>5 min</p>
<p>6. ADJOURN</p>	

Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 15th, 2023
 HOLIDAY CTR/LYRIC CONFERENCE CTR
 1ST FLOOR, DULUTH, MN
 VIRTUAL VIA TEAMS
 6:00 pm

Happy St Patty's Day





Agenda Item Descriptions

* = Approval Item

1. INTRODUCTIONS / AGENDA REVIEW

2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- Meeting Summary of 1.18.23
 - Approval of Revised TAC Bylaws
 - Director's Report
- NWRPC at the White House - Sheldon Johnson, NWRPC Executive Director, has been invited to attend a **Communities in Action: Building a Better Wisconsin** event at the White House on Thursday, February 16. *Communities in Action: Building a Better Wisconsin* is part of a White House series that will feature local elected officials and community leaders working on behalf of their communities to create opportunities and improve people's everyday lives.
 - Duluth Central Entrance at UMD – The MICs plan will get some further “airtime” on Feb 27th at the School of Engineering. I have been asked to present our plan to students and faculty at a school function focusing on novel/interesting projects currently under study in the area. James Gittemeier, City Planning, is going to assist. This presentation will provide another opportunity to promote the key aspects of this plan; that of potentially building a more multimodal corridor for all users. Construction is still about 3 to 4 years out. The DOT is currently conducting feasibility analysis of our plan along with preliminary design.
 - Blatnik Bridge Update – As mentioned at our January meeting, I've attached a detailed analysis for all to review that discusses many components of the decision-tree process that screened various alignments of the bridge; those moved forward for more study and those not recommended for further evaluation, including the tunnel concept. Go to pages 19-22 of the attachment to see the tunnel discussion; or hit Control F, type in Search Box 'tunnel' and the numerous occurrences for tunnel will appear. Right-of-way needs, operational requirements, asset management as well as other issues are documented whereby the tunnel option was eliminated from further study.
 - Howard Gnesen Road Public Event – MIC staff, on Feb 6th, assisted the County with an in-person public input event as part of early planning for possible future improvements to Howard Gnesen Road between West Arrowhead Road in Duluth and Martin Road in Rice Lake. Three public workshop sessions were held at Homecroft Elementary School.
 - Howard Gnesen Road is an important transportation corridor that currently does not offer safe or comfortable options for walking and bicycling. St. Louis County received a grant from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) to help prepare an Active Transportation Plan for the roadway; that includes biking, walking or using mobility devices like scooters and wheelchairs. The goal right now is to gather input from people who live, work, go to school or travel along the road. This input will help the County to understand the needs and preferences of the community before they begin the preliminary design process.



Agenda Item Descriptions

3. 2023-2026 DULUTH AREA TIP AMENDMENTS #7-9

Amendment #7: The DTA is requesting a project increase for capital improvement funds for garage heaters. TRF-1600-23K project increase: \$25,000 → \$120,000 in FY 2023

Amendment #8: The DTA is requesting the re-allocation of funds to purchase nine Class 700 buses for the DTA fleet. This change will include the use of FTA funds, in addition to STBGP funds to make this purchase. These changes include:

- TRS-1600-23TA, purchase from nine (9) to seven (7) Class 700 buses. Project change: \$5,166,000 → \$4,821,600, in FY 2023
- The addition of project ID TRF-1600-23M for the additional two (2) Class 700 buses. Project total: \$1,377,600, in FY 2023

Amendment #9: The DTA is requesting the addition of project ID TRF-1600-23L for the replacement purchase of one (1) Class 400 bus. Project total: \$263,000, in FY 2023

4. PROJECT UPDATES

- *2023-2026 Duluth Area TIP Administrative Modifications #7 - 9*

Admin Mod #7: St. Louis County is requesting Project ID 069-070-048 no longer "TIED TO" Project ID 069-700-020. This has been approved by MIC staff.

Admin Mod #8: The Duluth Transit Authority (DTA) is removing three project line items from the Duluth 23-26 TIP in FY 2023. These projects were all non-vehicle capital improvement projects. They are: TRF-0016-23E, TRF-1600-23H, and TRF-1600-23I. This has been approved by MIC staff.

Admin Mod #9: The DTA is adjusting funding for three project line items. None of these changes rise to the level of need for an Amendment to the 23-26 TIP per MnDOT guidance. These project items and totals are as follows (these have been approved by MIC staff):

- TRF-1600-23, Route Operating Assistance. Project change: \$20,721,390 → \$19,820,400, in FY2023
- TRF-1600-23A, Dial-a-Ride Operating Assistance. Project change: \$1,158,050 → \$1,107,700, in FY 2023
- TRF-1600-23B, Capital improvement for Bus Barn floor rehab. Project change: \$400,000 → \$480,000, in FY 2023

5. ROUND TABLE

6. ADJOURN