



## Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council Policy Board

Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 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.

**GUEST SPEAKER: BETH KALLESTAD, MNDOT PRINCIPAL SUSTAINABILITY PLANNER  
MNDOT ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN**

### Items for Approval:

- Meeting Summary of 2.15.22
- 2023-2026 Superior Area TIP Amendment #6 & 7
- 2023-2026 Duluth Area TIP Amendment #10

### Items for Presentation and Discussion

- London Road Update
- HTAC Meeting Update
- Carbon Reduction Program

### Project Updates

#### WE WILL BE MEETING IN-PERSON AT:

- HOLIDAY INN/LYRIC CONFERENCE CENTER, DULUTH

#### Join via TEAMS Information:

[JOIN MICROSOFT TEAMS MEETING](#)

OR to join by phone (audio only)

+1 218-302-4275 Conference ID: 599 186 131#



### 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](mailto:bpeterson@ardc.org) or 218-461-2666** to ensure a quorum will be present for voting items on the agenda.

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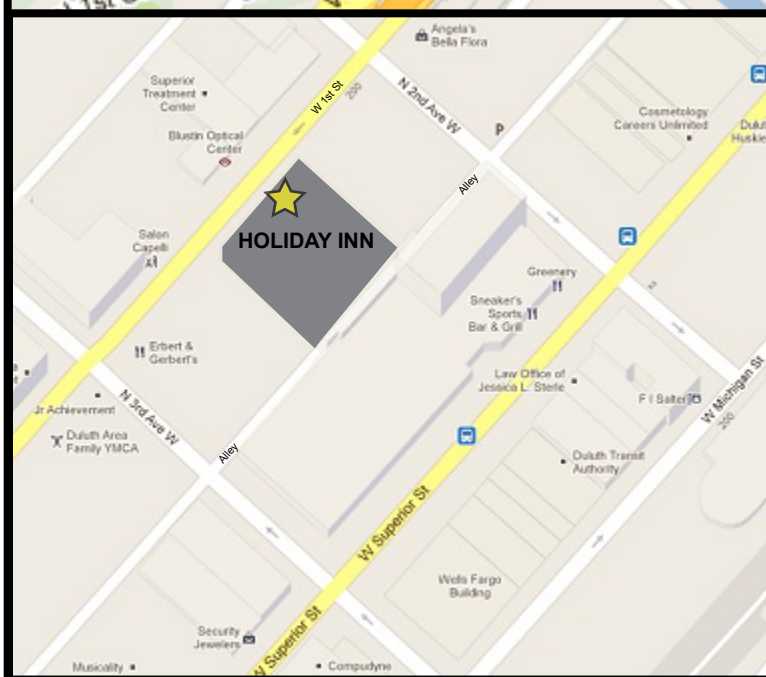
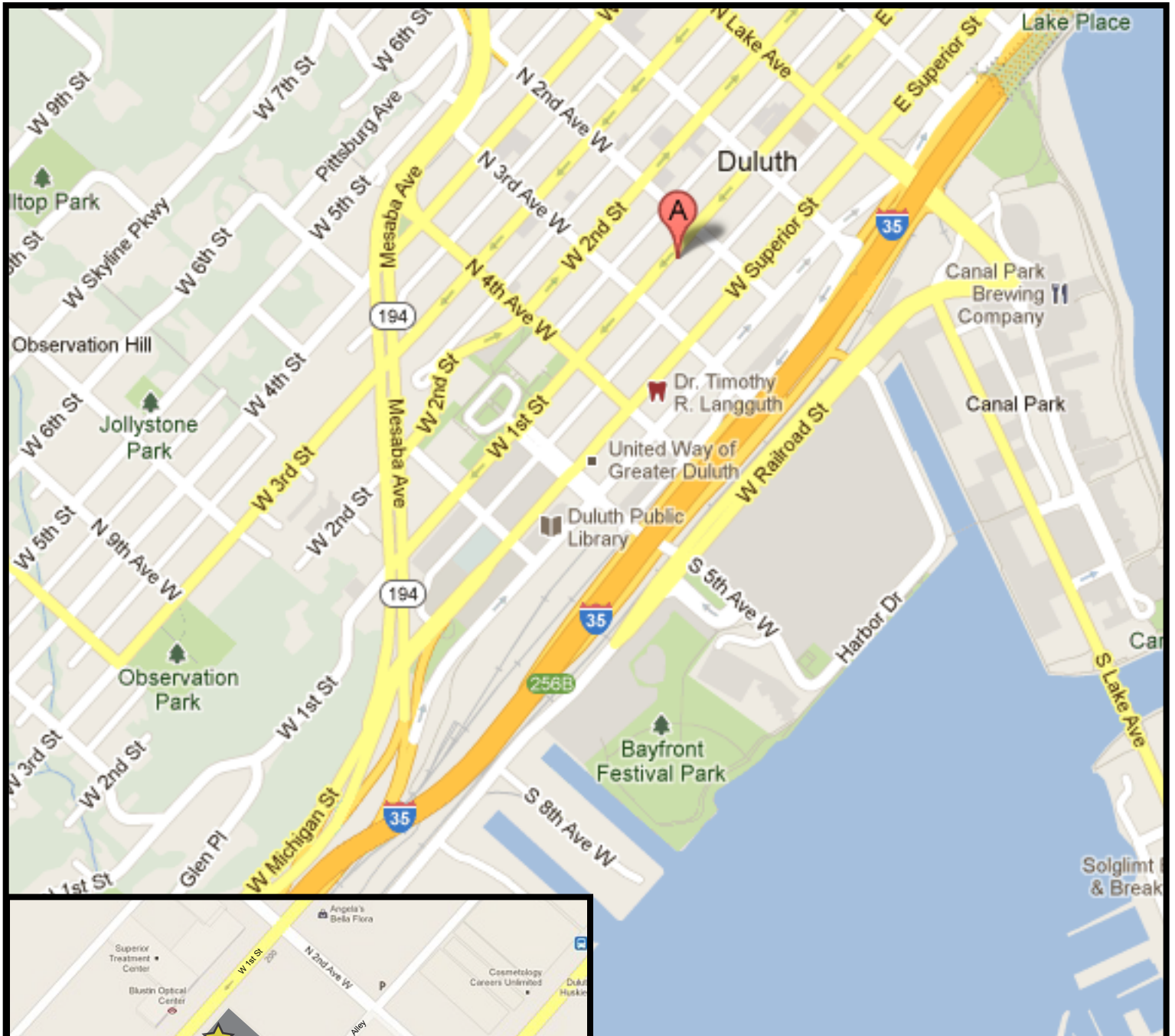
#### Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

*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](http://www.dsmic.org)

# Holiday Inn - Lyric Conf Ctr, Lyric II, 1st Floor

200 West 1st Street, Duluth, MN  
Parking in the Ramp is Free



## Policy Board Members

### Minnesota Members

**City of Duluth**  
Hannah Alstead  
Mike Mayou  
**City of Duluth**  
**Citizen Rep**  
Jason Reid  
**City of Hermantown**  
Wayne Boucher  
MN Co-Chair  
**City of Proctor**  
Chad Ward  
**City of Rice Lake**  
Bob Quade  
**Duluth Transit**  
**Authority Board**  
Tom Szukis  
**St. Louis County**  
Annie Harala  
**St. Louis County**  
**Suburban Townships**  
vacant

### Wisconsin Members

**City of Superior**  
Jenny VanSickle  
Nick Ledin  
vacant  
**City of Superior**  
**Citizen Rep**  
Ed Anderson  
**Douglas County**  
Nick Baker  
WI Co-Chair  
Bill Fennessey  
Rosemary Lear  
Sam Pomush  
**Douglas County**  
**Suburban Townships**  
Broc Allen



## Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

## Policy Board

Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 6:00 pm

## HYBRID MEETING AGENDA

<p><b>1. Introductions/Agenda Review</b></p> <p><b>2. Committee Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting Summary of 3.15.23 (for Approval)</li> <li>Director's Report</li> <li>Introduce Hannah Alstead, City of Duluth</li> <li>MIC Policy Board Bylaws Update</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>"Open Public Comment Period"</i></p>	10 min
<p><b>3. GUEST SPEAKER: BETH KALLESTAD, MNDOT PRINCIPAL SUSTAINABILITY PLANNER</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>MNDOT ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN</b></li> </ul>	20 min
<p><b>4. 2023-2026 SUPERIOR AREA TIP AMENDMENT #6 &amp; 7</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommend approval to the Policy Board, Sheldon Johnson</li> </ul>	5 min
<p><b>5. 2023-2026 DULUTH AREA TIP AMENDMENT #10</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommend approval to the Policy Board, Prescott Morrill</li> </ul>	5 min
<p><b>6. LONDON ROAD UPDATE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation and Discussion, Tom Lamb, MnDOT Dist 1 Project Mgr</li> </ul>	15 min
<p><b>7. HTAC MEETING UPDATE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation and Discussion, Kris Liljeblad</li> </ul>	5 min
<p><b>8. CARBON REDUCTION PROJECT FUNDS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommend approval to the Policy Board, Prescott Morrill</li> </ul>	5 min
<p><b>9. PROJECT UPDATES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I-35 Corridor Update</li> <li>MIC Safety Action Plan</li> <li>Howard Gnesen Rd Project</li> </ul>	5 min
<p><b>10. ROUND TABLE</b></p>	5 min
<p><b>11. ADJOURN</b></p>	

**Next Meeting**  
Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
DOUGLAS COUNTY COURTHOUSE/RM 270  
SUPERIOR, WI  
VIRTUAL VIA TEAMS  
6:00 pm

**Wishing you a Happy**  
**Easter**  
**April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023**





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## Agenda Item Descriptions

\* = Approval Item

### 1. INTRODUCTIONS / AGENDA REVIEW

### 2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- **Meeting Summary of 2.15.23**
- **Directors Report**
  - MIC Letters of Support – Number of requests for support to projects/initiatives in the area. They include:
    - a) Federal RAISE Grant – Aerial Lift Bridge maintenance.
    - b) Federal RAISE Grant – Lakewalk select improvements.
    - c) Dept of Commerce – Assistance toward a planning workshop targeting the continued beneficial use for dredged materials in the Duluth-Superior harbor.
  - Greater Mn MPOs and State Fund Request – Working with the other MPOs in the state, we are looking to augment our budgets for added state funds that go toward our federal dollars (a source that has increased by about 65% since 20 years ago). Our state funds for the MPO's budgets have not changed in 20 years, yet there are certainly more requirements for the MPOs to address; including more multimodal ones and coordination with different professional fields, such as health care and environmental. The Transportation Alliance of Minnesota is assisting in this endeavor, moving our request to the proper individuals at the legislature.
  - Blatnik Bridge Update – As mentioned at our last meeting, I've attached the MICs resolution from August of 2021 in support of the Blatnik Bridge project; that includes language on a multimodal option with appropriate bike-pedestrian and micro-mobility amenities. This text went through several drafts including comments from the BPAC. As to the federal NEPA process, the MIC serves on this committee and will monitor closely progress on decisions and keep the Board apprised of anything significant with respect to the multimodal stance we have taken.

### 3. GUEST SPEAKER: BETH KALLESTAD, MNDOT PRINCIPAL SUSTAINABILITY PLANNER: MNDOT ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

### 4. 2023-2026 SUPERIOR AREA TIP AMENDMENTS #6 & 7

#### TIP AMENDMENT #6

A TIP amendment has been requested by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for preliminary engineering work associated with resurfacing (cold in place) portions of STH 35 between CTH B South to 69<sup>th</sup> Street. Engineering work is scheduled for 2023.



**Agenda Item Descriptions**

**2023 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)**

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT  113-23-013  Amended to TIP in March 2023	STH 35 CTH B South to 69 <sup>th</sup> Street – Resurface (cold in place) 8.54 mi STBG-R 8010-00-07	PE ROW CONST  TOTAL	192    192	48    48		240    240

**TIP AMENDMENT #7**

A TIP amendment has been requested by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for preliminary engineering work in 2023 (appraisal plats) for future real estate acquisitions to support the IH535 Blatnik Bridge reconstruction.

**2023 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)**

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT  113-23-014  Amended to TIP in March 2023	IH535-St. Louis River Bridge (Blatnik) B16-005-0001 to 0005 PE Appraisal Plats 0.00 mi State Funded 1199-00-09	PE ROW CONST  TOTAL		250   250		250   250

Questions regarding this project should be directed to Sheldon Johnson at 715-635-2197 or by email at [sjohnson@nwrpc.com](mailto:sjohnson@nwrpc.com).

**5. 2023-2026 DULUTH AREA TIP AMENDMENT #10**

The City of Duluth has requested additional funding, and an expansion of scope for Project ID 118-090-026. This expanded project will connect the Cross City Trail (CCT) from a proposed shared use path (SUP) along the north side of Raleigh St in West Duluth to the CCT along N 59<sup>th</sup> Ave W. The new total project cost of \$1,150,000 in FY 2023.

Based on the criteria adopted in the MIC Public Involvement Plan, this addition requires a formal TIP amendment to the 2023-2026 Duluth Area TIP.

**Amendment #10** includes funding for an expansion of the project scope and total project cost of \$1,150,000 in FY2023.

The project details are summarized below:



**Agenda Item Descriptions**

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources		
			Federal	Other	Total
City of Duluth	CCT Segment III – from a proposed shared use path (SUP) along the north side of Raleigh St in West Duluth to the CCT along N 59 <sup>th</sup> Ave W	PE	\$600,000	\$150,000	\$750,000
118-090-026		ROW CONST			
Multi-Use Trail		TOTAL	<b>\$920,000</b>	<b>\$230,000</b>	<b>\$1,150,000</b>
Amended to TIP in March 2023	STBGP				

Public comments will be taken about this proposed amendment when it is presented for approval at the March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 MIC Policy Board meeting.

**6. LONDON ROAD UPDATE**

**TOM LAMB, PROJECT MGR, MNDOT DIST 1**

**7. CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM**

The Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) is a new funding source outlined in the recent IJA/BIL legislation aimed at project that decrease overall carbon emissions. Funds are allocated based on population, not road infrastructure/facility ownership. As a part of this program, the MIC has been allocated approximately \$270k in FY 2023, and slightly higher amounts in the following years. The allocation of these funds for the first few years will be largely at the discretion of the MIC, and will be subject to a Carbon Reduction Strategy (CRS), which will be drafted in the near future, and will apply to the distribution of funds from FY 2025 going forward. The MIC has been working on a strategy to implement these funds with a subgroup of jurisdiction representatives from our Technical Advisory Committee, with more details to come.

**8. PROJECT UPDATES**

- I-35 Corridor Plan Update***

The MIC and MnDOT planning project for I-35 is advancing with work on alternative solutions to address identified deficiencies within the 14-mile corridor. Bolton and Menk is the MIC’s consultant and they led a public outreach event at Denfeld High School in November. Subsequent outreach to Midway Township, the City of Proctor, Duluth Parking Commission, and the Friends of West Duluth Parks and Trails followed. All the input obtained revealed anxiety about final solutions and expressed interest in follow up meetings. Heading into Spring, the team is preparing for a more solutions-based outreach effort.

- MIC Safety Action Plan***

The *Safe Streets For All* federal program stimulated the MIC jurisdictions to begin a planning effort to identify improvement needs across the system. In 2022 the MIC hired AECOM to track the arterial system collisions from 2017-2021 and documented them by type. The collisions included fatalities and



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## Agenda Item Descriptions

injuries in both Duluth and Superior, of which 3% were fatal, 17% were serious injuries, and 80% had minor injuries. The work will continue into 2023, preparing a comprehensive safety action plan that identifies prioritized recommendations to guide traffic safety efforts to reduce and/or eliminate risk factors for roadway crashes. A Project Management Team comprised of representatives of state, county, and municipal agencies will guide the work.

- ***Howard Gnesen Rd Project***

Howard Gnesen Rd is an important transportation corridor in the cities of Duluth and Rice Lake 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 the County prepare an Active Transportation Plan for Howard Gnesen Rd between West Arrowhead Rd and Martin Rd. The Plan will compile input from people who live, work, go to school or travel along the road and identify alternatives to improve active transportation along or near Howard Gnesen Rd.

St. Louis County has a long-term vision to reconstruct Howard Gnesen Rd. This planning effort starting in 2023 is critical to begin forming a vision for the future of this corridor and is the first step in a multi-year process. Public engagement and input will continue to occur throughout the process of redesigning Howard Gnesen Rd.

## 9. ROUND TABLE

## 10. *ADJOURN*