



Meeting Summary

** = Approval Item*

Note Taker(s)	Barb Peterson, Tari Aanonsen	
Members Present		
	Members Present	
WI Co-Chair	Nick Baker	Douglas County Board of Supervisors
	Hannah Alstead	Duluth City Council
	Ed Anderson	City of Superior – Citizen Rep
	Annie Harala	St. Louis County
	Mark Johnson	City of Superior
	Rosemary Lear	Douglas County Board of Supervisors
	Nick Ledin	Superior City Council
	Mike Mayou	Duluth City Council
	Sam Pomush	Douglas County Board of Supervisors
	Bob Quade	City of Rice Lake
	Tom Szukis	DTA
	Jenny Van Sickle	Superior City Council
	Chad Ward	City of Proctor
	Scott Welsh	Solway Township
Members Absent		* Excused Absence
MN Co-Chair	Wayne Boucher *	City of Hermantown
	Broc Allen	Douglas County Suburban Townships
	Bill Fennessey	Douglas County Board of Supervisors
	vacant	City of Duluth - Citizen Representative
Others Present		
	Tari Aanonsen	MIC Admin Asst
	Bryan Anderson	MnDOT
	Angie Bershaw	Principal Planner, Bolton & Menk, Inc.
	Ron Chicka	MIC Director
	Duane Hill	MnDOT District One
	Sheldon Johnson	MIC Deputy Director/NWRPC
	Prescott Morrill	MIC Planner
	Barb Peterson	MIC Admin Asst
	John Ramos	Duluth Monitor
	Ricky Sarran	MIC GIS Specialist
	Rondi Watson	MIC Communications Co-ord./Planning Asst.
	Tom Werner	Executive Director, Duluth Airport Authority



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1. Introductions / Agenda Review

MIC Co-Chair, Nick Baker called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm. A “roll call” attendance was taken. When completed, Chair Baker asked if there were any questions or changes to the agenda. Hearing none he continued.

2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- Meeting Summary of 4.18.23

Nick then asked if there were any questions or changes to the April meeting summary.

Motion Discussion and Vote	Sam Pomush/Bob Quade moved to approve the 4.18.23 meeting summary. There was no further discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Ron Chicka reported the following:

As part of his AMPO committee position, Ron was in D.C. last month in meetings with colleagues across the country as they strategized for implementation of the many components of the federal bill relating to MPOs. These annual visits aid in closely collaborating with House and Senate committees that are responsible for the rulemaking behind the federal bill. This connection is invaluable. Ron stated that he felt his time in D.C. was successful.

Recent staffing items at the MIC office include: the retirement of Senior Planner, Kris Liljeblad, the upcoming retirement of Administrative Assistant, Barb Peterson, the hiring of Administrative Assistant, Tari Aanonsen and MIC intern, Eli Jurewicz. Ron wished the retirees well and expressed appreciation for their years of service.

3. 2023-2026 DULUTH AREA TIP AMENDMENT #12

Prescott Morrill provided a description of the amendment which has been requested to apply an increase of CRP funds of 3M to 3.1M to the St. Louis County’s Woodland Avenue Reconstruction Project in 2024.

Motion Discussion and Vote	Chad Ward/Ed Anderson moved to 2023-2026 Duluth Area TIP Amendment #12 to approve. There was no discussion; the motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.
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4. 2023-2026 SUPERIOR AREA TIP AMENDMENT #8-12

Sheldon Johnson provided a description of each of the amendments which include:

#8 is for preliminary engineering work association with a proposed culvert replacement on an unnamed tributary to the Pokegama River crossing STH 105

#9 is for construction/culvert replacement work on an unnamed tributary to the Pokegama River crossing STH 105

#10 is for the preliminary engineering work associated with the conversion of existing light fixtures to LED fixtures along USH2 & STH 35, utilizing CRP funds #11 is for the work associated with the conversion of



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existing light fixtures to LED fixtures along USH2 & STH 35, utilizing CRP funds

#12 is the request to proceed with incorporation of the new PM2 and PM 3 targets into the 2023-2026 Superior TIP

Motion Discussion and Vote	Sam Pomush/Mark Johnson moved to 2023-2026 Superior Area TIP Amendment #8-12 to approve. There was no discussion; the motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.
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5. GUEST SPEAKER: WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE DULUTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

- *TOM WERNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*

Tom Werner began by sharing the economic impact that the Duluth International Airport has on the region by generating \$760.6M in revenue, providing 6,230 jobs, housing several major aviation employers, as well as supporting 483,000 residents and major employers in our area. He went on to discuss the current infrastructure and the \$175M planned for new investments being made at the airport. This includes upgrades to a portion their current 75 miles of pavement, along with the removal of old buildings and the construction of new and improved hangars. A new air traffic control tower is in the planning stage, which will change the skyline, with an increase in height of 147 feet over the current one. The airport will be seeking public input on the esthetics of this future project.

Tom wrapped up the presentation by describing the future expansion of economic development with plans of building a Life Link III -Heli Hanger, increased hangar leases with Cirrus, as well as 160 acres of new retail development space.

6. I-35 CORRIDOR PLAN – DESIGN CONCEPTS

- *ANGIE BERSHAW, PRINCIPAL PLANNER, BOLTON & MENK, INC.*

Angie Bershaw presented how Bolten & Menk, Inc. developed a comprehensive plan to study the alternatives to the current I-35 corridor, from County Road 61 in Midway Township to 26th Avenue East in Duluth. Several factors were taken into consideration: livability, mobility, safety, costs, and local impacts. Angie went on to describe the programmed improvement plan along the corridor, which comprised of areas of focus within macro, meso and micro alternative plans.

Next steps are:

- Phase II: Public Engagement
 - Focus Group Meetings
 - Public Meeting on June 6, 2023
 - Online Engagement
- Phase III: Implementation Plan
 - Prioritization of Needs
 - Recommend Additional Studies



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7. PROJECT UPDATE

- *Amendment #2 to the MIC's Contract with Bolton & Menk*

An additional task has been identified for the Duluth Area I-35 Corridor Plan to further evaluate the Thompson Hill area from Boundary Avenue to Central Avenue. MnDOT has agreed to provide the additional funds in the amount of \$94,956.84, increasing the total project cost from \$80,000.00 to \$174,956.84.

- *ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATION #10 TO THE 2023-2026 DULUTH AREA TIP*

Admin Mod# 10: St. Louis County has requested the removal of Project # 069-070-049, Rumble Strips at various locations from the current TIP. These changes have been approved by MIC staff.

8. ROUND TABLE

9. **ADJOURN:** With no further agenda items, discussions or announcements, Chair Baker adjourned the meeting at 8:02 pm.



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ATTACHMENTS:

2023-2026 DULUTH AREA TIP AMENDMENTS #12

To Apply Federal Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funds to the St. Louis County’s Woodland Ave Reconstruction Project in 2024

With the introduction of new Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funds in the IJA, the MIC has the discretion to apply these funds to new or existing federally-funded transportation projects in accordance with federal and state guidance.

In collaboration with constituent jurisdictions, the MIC has decided to allocate the CRP funds to the Woodland Avenue Reconstruction Project #069-609-050 CRP in FY 2024.

The project total will be increasing from \$3M to \$3.1M due to the addition of these funds.

To account for the new change in funding, several adjustments are being made to other funding categories, as described below (*rows in grey are previous line items; the rows in white are new line items; the text in red is revised information*).

State Project ID	Type of Funds	Fed \$ (Non-AC)	Fed AC \$*	Fed AC Payback**	Other \$	Project Total \$ (Project Total)	Current Planned Year
069-609-050	STBGP	\$ -	\$ 1,480,000	\$ -	\$ 1,520,000	\$ 3,000,000	2024
069-609-050	STBGP	\$ -	\$ 1,627,650	\$ -	\$ 1,022,350	\$ 2,650,000	2024
069-609-050AC	STBGP	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,480,000	\$ -	\$ -	2025
069-609-050AC	STBGP	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,627,650	\$ -	\$ -	2025
069-609-050CRP	CRP	\$ 360,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 90,000	\$ 450,000	2024

Public comments will be taken about this proposed amendment when it is presented for approval at the May 17th, 2023 MIC Policy Board meeting. Contact Prescott Morrill with any questions: pmorrill@ardc.org



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2023-2026 SUPERIOR AREA TIP AMENDMENT #8-12

TIP AMENDMENT #8

A TIP amendment has been requested by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for preliminary engineering work associated with a proposed culvert replacement on an unnamed tributary to the Pokegama River crossing STH 105. Preliminary engineering work is scheduled for 2023.

2023 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT 113-23-015 Amended to TIP in May 2023	STH 105 Culvert replacement on unnamed tributary to Pokegama River PE 0.0 mi 8760-00-02	PE ROW CONST	102.8	25.7		128.5
		TOTAL	102.8	25.7		128.5

TIP AMENDMENT #9

A TIP amendment has been requested by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for work associated with a proposed culvert replacement on an unnamed tributary to the Pokegama River crossing on STH 105. Construction/culvert replacement work is scheduled for 2026.

2026 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT 113-23-016 Amended to TIP in May 2023	STH 105 Culvert replacement on unnamed tributary to Pokegama River Const/Replacement 0.0 mi 8760-00-72	PE ROW CONST	2,364.4	591.1		2,955.5
		TOTAL	2,364.4	591.1		2,955.5



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TIP AMENDMENT #10

A TIP amendment has been requested by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for work associated with a new local program referred to as the “Carbon Reduction Program”. Work associated with the proposed project will be towards replacing existing light fixtures with LED fixtures along USH2 & STH 35. Preliminary engineering work is scheduled for 2023.

2023 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
City of Superior 113-23-017	USH 2 & STH 35 Replace streetlights to LED. Pre-Eng Carbon Reduction Program 0.0 mi	PE ROW CONST			10	10
Amended to TIP in May 2023	8998-00-45	TOTAL			10	10

TIP AMENDMENT #11

A TIP amendment has been requested by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for work associated with a new local program referred to as the “Carbon Reduction Program”. Work associated with the proposed project will be towards replacing existing light fixtures with LED fixtures along USH2 & STH 35. Work is scheduled for 2023.

2023 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
City of Superior 113-23-018	USH 2 & STH 35 Replace streetlights to LED. Constr. Carbon Reduction Program 0.0 mi	PE ROW CONST	74.1		31.1	105.2
Amended to TIP in May 2023	8998-00-46	TOTAL	74.1		31.1	105.2



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TIP AMENDMENT #12

The MIC approved Pavement and Bridge Performance Measures (PM 2) and System Performance and Freight Measures (PM 3) on April 19, 2023. A formal TIP amendment process is requested to proceed with incorporating the new PM 2 and PM 3 targets into the 2023-2026 Superior TIP.

Infrastructure Performance Measures and 2022-2025 Targets (PM2)

Measure	Baseline	2-Year Target	4-Year Target
Percent of NHS* Bridges in Good Condition	51.3%	>49.0%	>48.0%
Percent of NHS Bridges in Poor Condition	2.6%	<3.0%	<3.0%
Percent of Interstate Pavement in Good Condition	65.9%	>60.0%	>60.0%
Percent of Interstate Pavement in Poor Condition	0.3%	<4.0%	<4.0%
Percent of Non-Interstate NHS Pavement in Good Condition	36.3%	>30.0%	>30.0%
Percent of Non-Interstate NHS Pavement in Poor Condition	4.2%	<10.0%	<10.0%

*NHS = National Highway System

System Reliability Performance Measures and 2022-2025 Targets (PM3):

Measure	Baseline	2-Year Target	4-Year Target
Percent of Reliable Person Miles on the Interstate	96.4%	92.5%	93.0%
Percent of Reliable Person Miles Reliable on the Non-Interstate NHS	93.9%	91.0%	89.5%
Truck Travel Time Reliability Index	1.20	1.3	1.3

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