



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

Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 1:30 pm
MEETING NOTICE

This meeting will be conducted as a hybrid meeting – join us in person at the location listed below OR participate virtually via Microsoft Teams (login info, below).

Meeting materials can be viewed on the [meeting web page](#) as well as on the attached pages.

Items for Approval:

- Meeting Summary of 12.12.23
- Meeting Summary of 1.16.24
- 2024 MnDOT Safety Performance Measure (PM1) Targets
- 2024-2027 Superior Area TIP Amendment #9

Items for Presentation and Discussion:

- Long Range MTP 2050 – Project Scoring Metrics
- 2024-2027 Duluth Area TIP STBGP Projects & TA Projects Overview
- 2025 Minnesota CRP Project Announcement
- BPAC Update

Project Updates:

- Administrative Modification #6-7 to the 2024-2027 Duluth Area TIP
- Amendment #1 to the MIC's 2024-2025 Work Program and Budget

In-Person Meeting Location:

WisDOT
1701 N 4th Street
Superior, WI 54880

OR Join virtually via TEAMS below:

[Click here to join teams meeting](#)

OR Join by Phone (audio only)

+1 218-210-0525

Conference ID: 576 469 427#

Attendance / Meeting Quorum

If you are NOT able to attend, or expect to arrive late to the meeting, please contact Tari Aanonsen at taanonsen@ardc.org or 218-529-7541 to ensure a quorum will be present for voting items on the agenda.

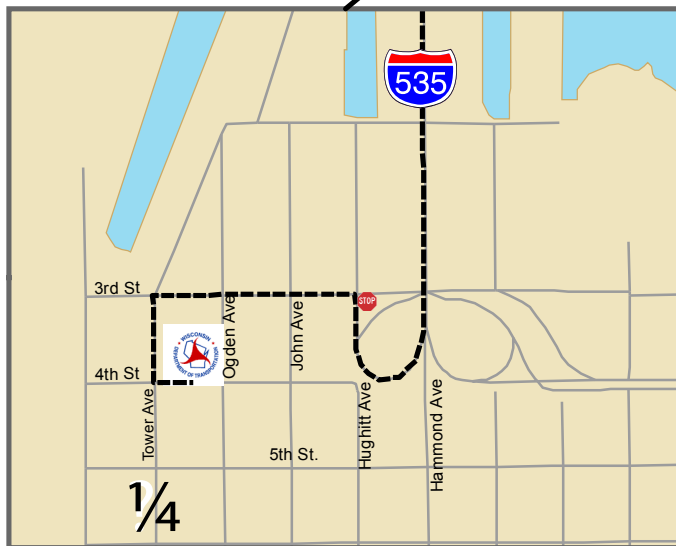
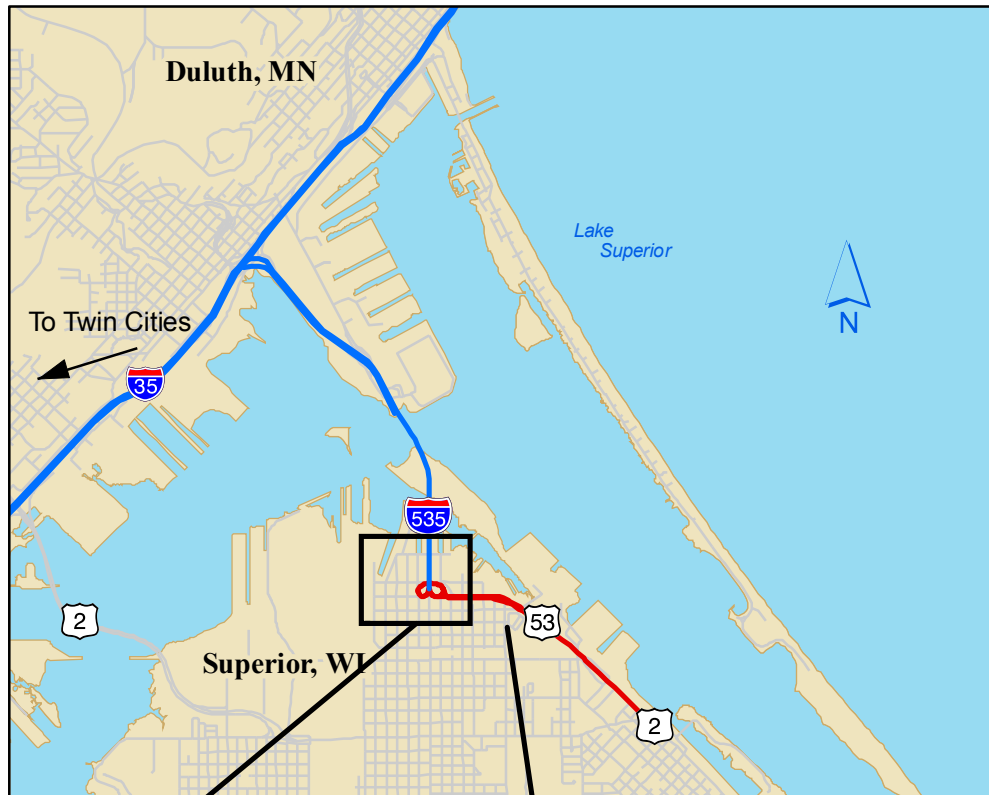
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Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

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

WisDOT Northwest Region - Superior Office
1701 N 4th St
Superior, WI



From Minnesota on either I-35 N or S:
 Take 535 / 53 (Blatnik Bridge) to Superior, WI
Bear RIGHT off bridge, then straight following signs for South 35
 At stop, turn LEFT onto 3rd St
 Bear LEFT as road curves (Tower Ave)
 Turn LEFT at 4th St (1st left)
 WisDOT will be on the left



From Wisconsin: Follow 53/2 from the south
 Bear RIGHT at signs for **Superior Business District/ South 35 / Vehicle Registration Driver Licensing**
 this becomes N 3rd St
 Bear LEFT as road curves (Tower Ave / South 35)
 Turn LEFT at 1st left (4th St)
 WisDOT will be on the left

- Parking lot in front of building
- Meeting held in Lake Superior Conference Room

TRANSPORTATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(TAC)
MEMBERS

Airport

Tom Werner

Active Transportation

Skip Williams

City of Duluth

Cari Pedersen

Cindy Voigt

Chris Lee

James Gittemeier

City of Hermantown

David Bolf

Trish Crego (alternate)

City of Proctor

Jess Rich

City of Superior

Todd Janigo

Chris Carlson

Jason Serck (alternate)

Douglas County

Jason Jackman

Duluth Transit Authority

Chris Belden

Rod Fournier (alternate)

Economic Development

Karl Schuettler

MnDOT

Maren Webb

Derek Fredrickson

Bryan Anderson
(alternate)

Mobility Challenged

Vacant

Port/Harbor

Kate Ferguson

St. Louis County

Jim Foldesi

Matt Hemmila (alternate)

WisDOT NW Region

Dena Ryan



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council
Transportation Advisory Committee
Tuesday, February 20, 2024, 1:30 pm
MEETING AGENDA

1. Introductions/Agenda Review	
2. Committee Business	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting Summary of 12.12.23 (for Approval) Meeting Summary of 1.16.24 (for Approval) Director's Report 	10 min
3. 2024 MnDOT Safety Performance Measure (PM1) Targets	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend to the Policy Board for Approval, Mike Wenzholz 	10 min
4. 2024-2027 Superior Area TIP Amendment #9	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend to the Policy Board for Approval, Sheldon Johnson 	10 min
5. Long Range MTP 2050 – Project Scoring Metrics	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation & Discussion, Jim Meyer, AICP, AECOM 	45 min
6. FY2028 Duluth Area TIP STBGP Projects & Transportation Alternatives (TA) Projects Overview	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation & Discussion, Rondi Watson 	15 min
7. 2025 Minnesota Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) Funds Project Announcement	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation & Discussion, Ron Chicka 	10 min
8. Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation & Discussion, Ron Chicka 	10 min
9. Round Table	
	5 min
10. Project Updates	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Modification #6-7 to the 2024-2027 Duluth Area TIP Amendment #1 to the MIC's 2024-2025 Work Program and Budget 	10 min
11. Adjourn	

Next Meeting
Tuesday, March 19, 2024
MnDOT
1:30 pm



* = Presented for TAC recommendation to the MIC Policy Board for Approval or Adoption

1. INTRODUCTIONS / AGENDA REVIEW

2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- Meeting Summary of 12.12.23*
 - Meeting Summary of 1.16.23*
 - MIC Director's Report
- Safety Action Plan Update 2024 – AECOM and the area jurisdictional partners continue to meet as now, with our recently added funds in the Work Program, we have enough of a budget to finish the detailed data analysis phase. We will have a list of projects throughout the MIC area with strategies identified to mitigate them. Separately, we'll continue to meet with FHWA in Minnesota as we prepare to launch the larger federal grant, most likely not until the end of the year or early next year.
 - Duluth – 40th AW / Piedmont Ave & 24th AW – The City and the County are meeting with area stakeholders to discuss components of these two projects: one, a corridor and one, an intersection. First, 40th AW from the freeway to the railroad crossing just below the large hill climb. This is to be a reconstruction project for 2026. The objective here is to design a new multimodal roadway layout including the future intersection control at Grand. Second, at Piedmont and 24th AW, determine if the temporary signal at this location should remain in place once the Twin Ports Interchange work concludes, plus determine the best signal control for the long term.
 - Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO) Washington DC Spring Meetings – Next month, I'll be participating in a series of meetings with my colleagues across the country as work on maintaining existing and developing new policy initiatives within the federal transportation bill. Meetings are set up with many partners including: Federal Highway and Transit, House and Senate leaders tasked with the bill, and other like entities in DC such as the National Leagues of Cities and the National Association of Development Organizations. One key new initiative that is quickly gaining ground is for the MPOs to directly receive our planning funds right to our host agency (as opposed to the funds first going through the states). This will be interesting as it plays out. Many MPOs – due to their host setup – already receive several federal grants directly. Unnecessary oversight and related expenses could be avoided. ARDC, in our case, has handled federal grants in the past and can certainly do so again.
 - St Louis Co. Highway Safety Improvement Awards – Based on the solicitation from last year out of this state operated program, the County received three federal grants totaling approximately \$1.3M. Included are the following:
 - 1) Edgeline painting (6") of county roads in the MPO area.
 - 2) Midway Rd and Becks/Halie (just south of I-35) – added turn lanes and lighting.
 - 3) Midway Rd and Rose Rd (south of 194) – added turn lanes and lighting.



Agenda Item Descriptions

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3. 2024 MNDOT SAFETY PERFORMANCE MEASURE (PM1) TARGETS*

The MIC will be asking to adopt the most recent Performance Measure 1 2024 baseline and targets. These performance measures are calculated by MnDOT on a semi-annual basis, and are incorporated into both the Duluth Area TIP, as well as the Long Range Plan. These current targets and baseline are as follows:

Table 1: 2024 Statewide Safety Performance Measure Targets

Performance Measure	Baseline (2018-2022 average)	2024 Target
Number of fatalities	414.2	352.4
Fatality rate (per 100M vehicle miles traveled)	0.725	0.582
Number of serious injuries	1,676.2	1,463.4
Serious injury rate (per 100M vehicle miles traveled)	2.930	2.470
Number of non-motorist fatalities & serious injuries	282.4	258.4

4. 2024-2027 SUPERIOR AREA TIP AMENDMENT #9*

TIP AMENDMENT #9

A TIP amendment has been requested for painting work associated with painting the Bong Bridge (B161-0038-0013) in partnership with MnDOT. Construction 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 113-24-020	USH 2 - Bong Bridge Zone Painting B16-0038-0013 0.0 miles	PE ROW CONST		333.5	333.5	667
Amended to TIP in February 2024	\$333,500 WisDOT and \$333,500 MnDOT (local) 8680-00-74	TOTAL		333.5	333.5	667

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



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5. LONG RANGE MTP 2050 – PROJECT SCORING METRICS

The MTP team will provide an overview of the project evaluation framework proposed for the development of *Sustainable Choices 2050*. The presentation will highlight the proposed data-driven metrics along with a description of planning emphasis areas that will be used to help refine the project scoring. The project evaluation framework builds upon the December 2023 presentation which included an overview of performance-based planning, discussed the importance to the regional transportation planning process, and presented similar examples.

6. FY2028 DULUTH AREA TIP STBGP PROJECTS & TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES (TA) PROJECTS OVERVIEW

Duluth TIP FY2028 STBGP Projects Update

The City of Duluth has applied for STBGP funding for their part of a City of Duluth/MnDOT reconstruction project for Central Entrance from Trinity Rd to Mesaba. STBGP funds are just one portion of this project, to include, but not limited to city legs of intersections associated with this project, as well as bike and pedestrian improvements. The City of Duluth STBGP application is in the amount of \$1,200,000 total project cost for this project.

Additionally, Hermantown has applied for STBGP funding for a portion of the Munger Trail connection. This project is a reconstruction of Hermantown Rd from Okerstrom Rd to Haines Rd, from a rural to an urban roadway typology (to include curb-and-gutter and stormwater infrastructure). This project includes an enhanced crossing across Hermantown Rd of the Munger Trail, to include RRFBs and other crossing improvements. The Hermantown STBGP application is in the amount of \$2,350,000 total project cost for this project.

TA FY2028 Projects Update

There are four Transit Alternatives (TA) project applications for FY2028 submitted to the Northeast Minnesota Area Transportation Partnership (NEMNATP) that are within the MPO planning area. The total requested amount is \$1,966,420.76 in the MPO area, with \$1.8M total TA funds available in the region. These projects are to be vetted and approved by the NEMNATP in April 2024 and include: Hermantown Community Connector Trail (Segment 1 & 2), Duluth Transit Authority transit amenities, Rice Lake Rd (CSAH 4) Trail, and 40th Ave W (CSAH 91) Bike and Pedestrian Improvements.

7. 2025 MINNESOTA CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM (CRP) FUNDS PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) is a relatively new funding source, authorized by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, to provide funds distributed by population size with the



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aim to reduce carbon emissions by either enhancing existing programmed projects, or funding stand-alone projects. This program is funded through FY2028.

The Duluth-Superior MIC has the discretion to select projects for the allocation of these funds each fiscal year. Currently, there is consensus amongst the MIC's CRP working group to allocate \$370,000 in FY25 funds to assist the City of Duluth with their planned West Superior Street corridor reconstruction project, in addition to the federal RAISE grant for this project. Documentation is still being finalized for this funding award, and work continues to determine the best candidates for FY26, FY27, and FY28 funds from this source.

8. BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) UPDATE

The most recent quarterly meeting of the Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) met on Thursday, February 1st, 2024, with 24 people in attendance (12 voting members, 12 others). There were no voting items or resolutions at this time. Items discussed included All Season Design, a Safe Systems Approach, a presentation by Tanja Mattonsen of St. Louis County, and a presentation by Mike Wenholz, MIC Principal Planner, regarding priorities for the MIC's Long Range Transportation Plan. Going forward, items the BPAC are tracking include: Bike Plan and Pedestrian Plan Updates in 2024 and 2026, respectively. Other projects BPAC is tracking include: Blatnik Bridge, 40th Ave W Corridor, London Rd, and various grant funding opportunities.

9. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

10. PROJECT UPDATES

- **Administrative Modification #6 to the 2024-2027 Duluth Area TIP**

MN 23 in Duluth, W 5th St to 121st Ave W

This modification, approved by MIC staff, is a reduction in total project costs due to updated cost estimates. The total project cost has been reduced by \$400,000, \$325,680 of which is from federal funds, and the project remains fiscally constrained, with no change to the project scope.

- **Administrative Modification #7 to the 2024-2027 Duluth Area TIP**

I-35 in Duluth, Lake Ave to 21st Ave E

This modification, approved by MIC staff, is a reduction in total project costs due to updated project costs and better unit price costs. The total project cost has been reduced by \$831,000, and the project remains fiscally constrained, with no change to the project scope.



Agenda Item Descriptions

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- **Amendment #1 to the MIC's 2024-2025 Work Program and Budget**

As described in the January meeting materials, the MIC had a \$100,000 balance left over from our 2023 budget, due to being short-staffed after the departure of our Senior Planner early last year. We proposed to carry that amount over to the 2024 budget by amending our approved 2024-2025 UPWP (\$75,000 to complete Phase 3 of the MIC-area Safety Action Plan and \$25,000 to complete the 2050 update of the MIC's long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan).

The Policy Board approved this amendment at the January meeting, and we subsequently received the required state and federal approvals. We are now working to amend our contract with AECOM, the consultant currently conducting the technical work for the MIC-area Safety Action Plan and assisting MIC staff with the 2050 MTP update, to update the scopes of work and budgets for those projects.

11. ADJOURN