



## Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council Policy Board

Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 6:00 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 1.17.23
- 2024 MnDOT Safety Performance Measure (PM1) Targets
- 2024-2027 Superior Area TIP Amendment #9

### Items for Presentation and Discussion:

- 2024-2027 Duluth Area TIP STBGP Projects & TA Projects Overview
- 2025 Minnesota Carbon Reduction Program (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:

Northwood Technical College  
600 N 21<sup>st</sup> 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: 555 645 090#

### 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](mailto:taanonsen@ardc.org) or 218-529-7541 to ensure a quorum will be present for voting items on the agenda.

*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](http://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*

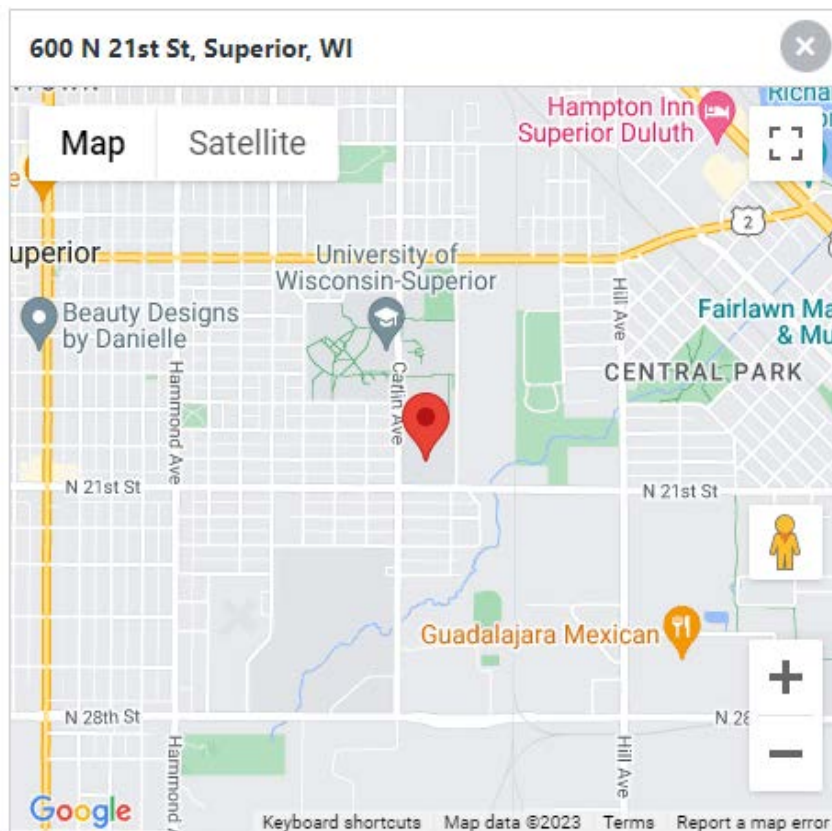
221 West First Street • Duluth, MN 55802 • 218/529-7541 • [www.dsmic.org](http://www.dsmic.org)

# Northwoods Technical College

600 N 21<sup>st</sup> Street  
Superior, WI 54880



Parking and entrance for the Conference Center is located at location #3 on the Campus map above.



## Policy Board Members

### Minnesota Members

#### City of Duluth

Mike Mayou

Terese Tomanek

#### City of Duluth

Citizen Rep

Vacant

#### City of Hermantown

Wayne Boucher (Co-Chair)

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Chad Ward

#### City of Rice Lake

Bob Quade

#### Duluth Transit

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Tom Szukis

#### St. Louis County

Annie Harala

#### St. Louis County

#### Suburban Townships

Scott Welsh

### Wisconsin Members

#### City of Superior

Jenny VanSickle

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Rosemary Lear

Sam Pomush

#### Douglas County

#### Suburban Townships

Broc Allen



## Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

## Policy Board

Wednesday, February 21, 2024 @ 6:00 pm

## MEETING AGENDA

<b>1. Introductions/Agenda Review</b>	
<b>2. Committee Business</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting Summary of 1.17.24 (for Approval)</li> <li>Director's Report</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>"Open Public Comment Period"</b></p>	10 min
<b>3. 2024 MnDOT Safety Performance Measure (PM1) Targets</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommend for Approval, Mike Wenholz</li> </ul>	10 min
<b>4. 2024-2027 Superior Area TIP Amendment #9</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommend for Approval, Sheldon Johnson</li> </ul>	10 min
<b>5. FY2028 Duluth Area TIP STBGP Projects &amp; Transportation Alternatives (TA) Projects Overview</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation &amp; Discussion, Rondi Watson</li> </ul>	15 min
<b>6. 2025 Minnesota Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) Funds Project Announcement</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation &amp; Discussion, Ron Chicka</li> </ul>	10 min
<b>7. Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Update</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation &amp; Discussion, Ron Chicka</li> </ul>	10 min
<b>8. Round Table</b>	
	5 min
<b>9. Project Updates</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administrative Modification #6-7 to the 2024-2027 Duluth Area TIP</li> <li>Amendment #1 to the MIC's 2024-2025 Work Program and Budget</li> </ul>	5 min
<b>10. Adjourn</b>	

### Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

Lyric Conference Center

6:00 pm



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Agenda Item Descriptions

\* = Presented for Approval or Adoption

1. INTRODUCTIONS / AGENDA REVIEW

2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- Meeting Summary of 1.17.23\*
- 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 – 40<sup>th</sup> AW / Piedmont Ave & 24<sup>th</sup> 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, 40<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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.



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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](mailto:sjohnson@nwrpc.com).



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**5. 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 40<sup>th</sup> Ave W (CSAH 91) Bike and Pedestrian Improvements.

**6. 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 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.

**7. BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) UPDATE**

The most recent quarterly meeting of the Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) met on Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, with 24 people in attendance (12 voting members, 12 others). There were no



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**Agenda Item Descriptions**

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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, 40<sup>th</sup> Ave W Corridor, London Rd, and various grant funding opportunities.

## 8. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

## 9. PROJECT UPDATES

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

**MN 23 in Duluth, W 5<sup>th</sup> St to 121<sup>st</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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.

- **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.

## 10. ADJOURN