



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

Tuesday, April 16, 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 3.19.24

### Items for Presentation and Discussion

- Long Range MTP 2050 – Summary of Project List Scoring
- Better Bus Blueprint Update and other DTA Initiatives
- West Superior Street Reconstruction Project

### Project Updates

- 2024 Duluth Area Bikeway Plan Update

### In-Person Meeting Location:

WisDOT

1701 4<sup>th</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: 159 851 727#

### Attendance / Meeting Quorum

If you are NOT able to attend, or expect to arrive late to the meeting, please notify 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.

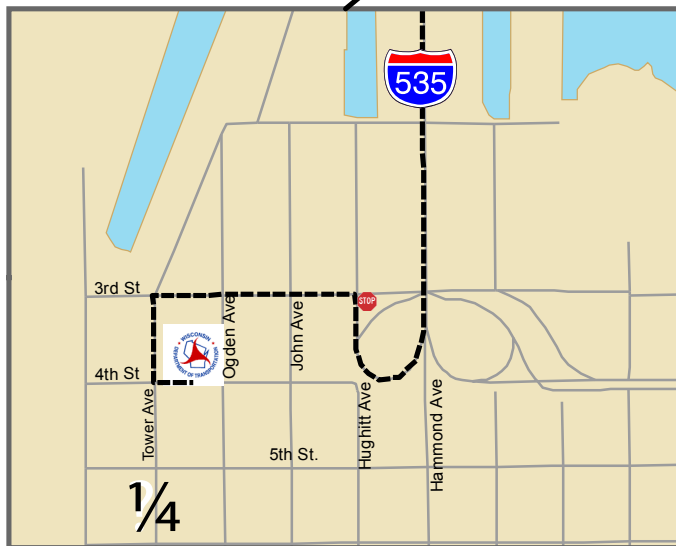
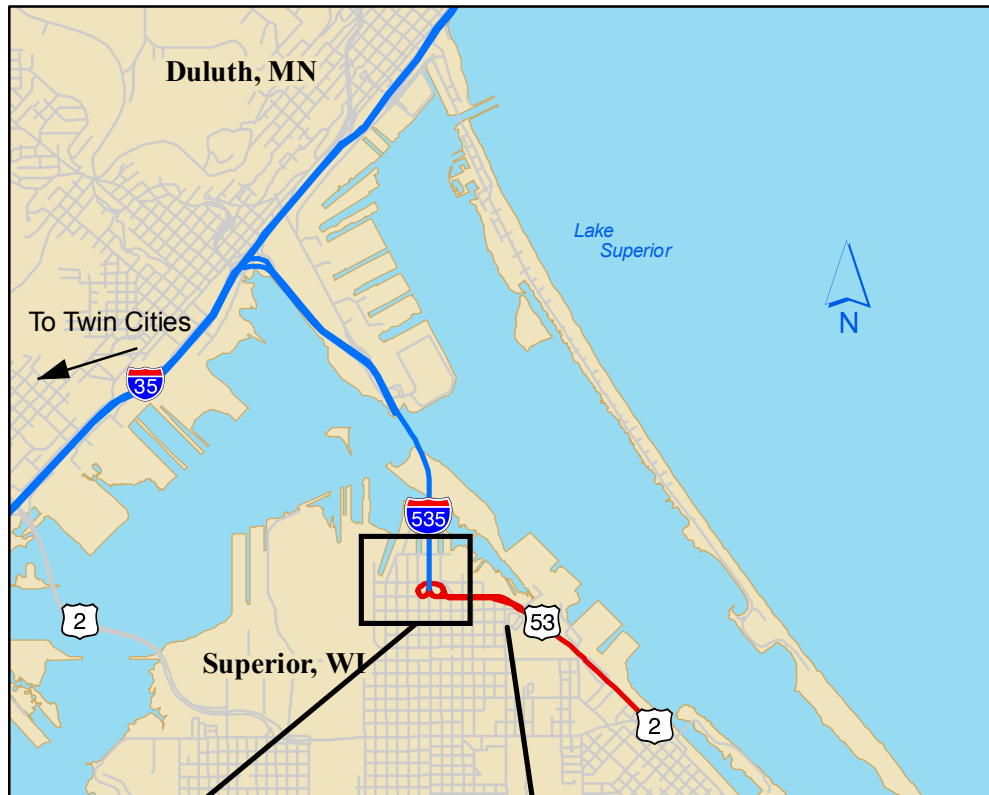
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### Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

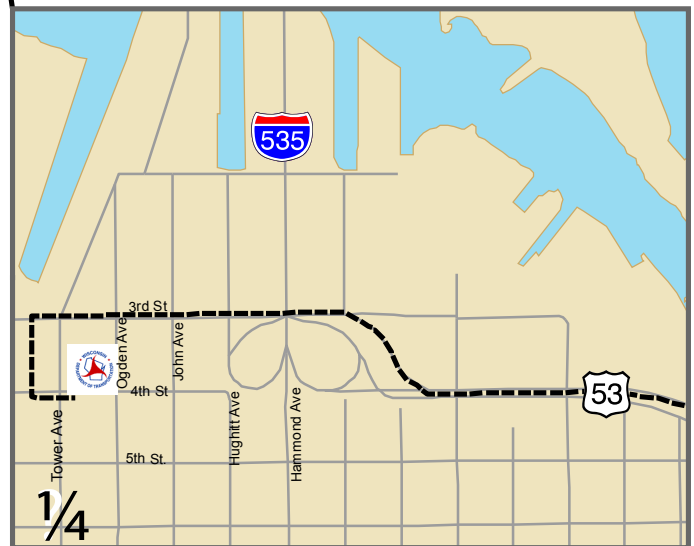
*Duluth and Superior Urban Area Communities Cooperating in Planning and Development through a Joint Venture of the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission and the Northwest Regional Planning Commission*

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

**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, April 16, 2024, 1:30 pm  
MEETING AGENDA

1. <b>Introductions/Agenda Review</b>	
2. <b>Committee Business</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting Summary of 3.19.24 (for Approval)</li> <li>Director's Report</li> </ul>	10 min
3. <b>Long Range MTP 2050 – Summary of Project List Scoring</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation &amp; Discussion; Jim Meyer, AICP, AECOM</li> </ul>	30 min
4. <b>Better Bus Blueprint Update and other DTA Initiatives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation &amp; Discussion; Chris Belden, Duluth Transit Authority</li> </ul>	15 min
5. <b>West Superior Street Reconstruction Project</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation &amp; Discussion; Alex Popp and James Gittemeier, City of Duluth</li> </ul>	30 min
6. <b>Round Table</b>	5 min
7. <b>Project Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2024 Duluth Area Bikeway Plan Update</li> </ul>	5 min
8. <b>Adjourn</b>	

*Next Meeting*  
Tuesday, May 14, 2024  
MnDOT  
1:30 pm



## Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

### Transportation Advisory Committee

April 16, 2024

## Agenda Item Descriptions

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

### 1. INTRODUCTIONS / AGENDA REVIEW

### 2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- Meeting Summary of 3.19.24\*
- MIC Director's Report

**SS4A Planning Grant -- \$62,500 local match required from MIC-area jurisdictions** - As described at last month's TAC and MIC meetings, we were awarded a federal Safe Streets for All (SS4A) planning grant in the amount of \$250,000 (plus a \$62,500 local match) – the largest FY23 award in Minnesota– to complete a Safety Action Plan to guide the implementation of a Safe System, multimodal approach to roadway safety. All cities, counties, and townships in the MIC area will be involved in (and will benefit from) this project.

**The next step to getting it up and running as soon as possible is to determine the amount of each jurisdiction's contribution toward the required \$62,500 local match.** We will be presenting options for allocating this amount (e.g., based on population size or number of roadway miles) at the next SS4A advisory committee on May 16. At that time we hope to reach a consensus about how the matching grant amount will be divided up, including specific dollar amounts to be forwarded along for inclusion in each jurisdiction's 2025 budget request.

**I-35 and Federal Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant** – With the City of Duluth receiving \$1.8M (total \$2.25M with match) a strategy meeting is being set between area partners to discuss next steps. The MICs recently finished plan set this in motion. We'll review some aspects of the document and consider additional planning work underway by the County, with respect to the Depot at 5<sup>th</sup> AW and NLX concepts, plus discuss where the DOT is at with their plans for the reconstruction/redesign for the 5<sup>th</sup> AW overpass (short term project for the DOT). All will need to be blended with this recent award for the City to develop long term plans for the Interstate in the downtown.

### Letter(s) of Support

- a) National Sea Grant Program – Continuing the federal funding via the Commerce-Justice-Science Appropriations Bill for work of both the MN and WI Sea Grants. Both are key participants in the function of the MICs Harbor TAC promoting and supporting the economic and environmental importance of the St. Louis River estuary.



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**3. LONG RANGE MTP 2050 – SUMMARY OF PROJECT LIST SCORING**

As required by federal code the MIC, along with assistance from its consultant AECOM, is developing a performance-based planning scoring approach for proposed projects in the long-term Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). This approach is to be integrated into the MTP update due October 2024. As a follow-up to the MTP project scoring approach discussions during the previous TAC meetings, the projects submitted by the jurisdictions have been scored. Jurisdictions have had an opportunity to review the scores, discuss the scores and cutoff score with AECOM and the MIC, consider Step 2 Reality Checks with some projects, and prepare for the Step 3 MTP Project Final Review Questions. This agenda item is to provide an opportunity to summarize the project scoring and reality checks with the full TAC and to discuss next steps.

**4. BETTER BUS BLUEPRINT UPDATE AND OTHER DTA INITIATIVES**

It's been seven months since the DTA's [Better Bus Blueprint](#) implemented simplified bus routing, higher frequency bus service, new user-friendly technology and targeted bus stop improvements. Chris Belden, the DTA's Director of Planning and Grants, will present information about the BBB rollout, and other key transit-related initiatives in the Duluth-Superior area.

**5. WEST SUPERIOR STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

The West Superior Street Reconstruction Project is a 1.65-mile-long project federally funded through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) U.S. DOT program. This project will rebuild and reconfigure Superior St from a highway thoroughfare (as old U.S. Highway 61 design remnants still remain in most segments) to an urban commercial street conducive to the new and re-used mixed-use development currently taking place. The City of Duluth staff will review the project status, the street design moving forward, and the design and construction schedule.

**6. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION**

**7. PROJECT UPDATES**

**2024 Duluth Area Bikeway Plan Update**

The Bike Subcommittee has reviewed the first round of content updates to the Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Bikeways Plan, last published in 2019. Work is ongoing to update the current plan, and the next round of draft updates are to be discussed and considered at the May BPAC meeting (5/2/2024).

**8. ADJOURN**