



DULUTH-SUPERIOR

Metropolitan Interstate Council

MIC Policy Board

Wednesday, September 16, 2026, 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 8.19.26
- Final Duluth-Superior Safety Action Plan
- Duluth Urban Area Functional Classification Changes
- Final 2027-2030 Duluth Area TIP

Items for Presentation and Discussion

- Draft 2027-2028 MIC Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
- Harbor Technical Advisory Committee (HTAC) Update

Project Updates *(None this month)*

Public Meeting Location:

Hermantown Training Center/City Hall
Training Center Room
5111 Maple Grove Rd
Hermantown, MN 55811

OR

[Click here to join teams meeting](#)

[Join by Phone \(audio only\)](#)

1 218-210-0525

Conference ID: 746 090 289#

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 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. We are committed to accessibility. If you have an accommodation request that will allow you to participate more fully, 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

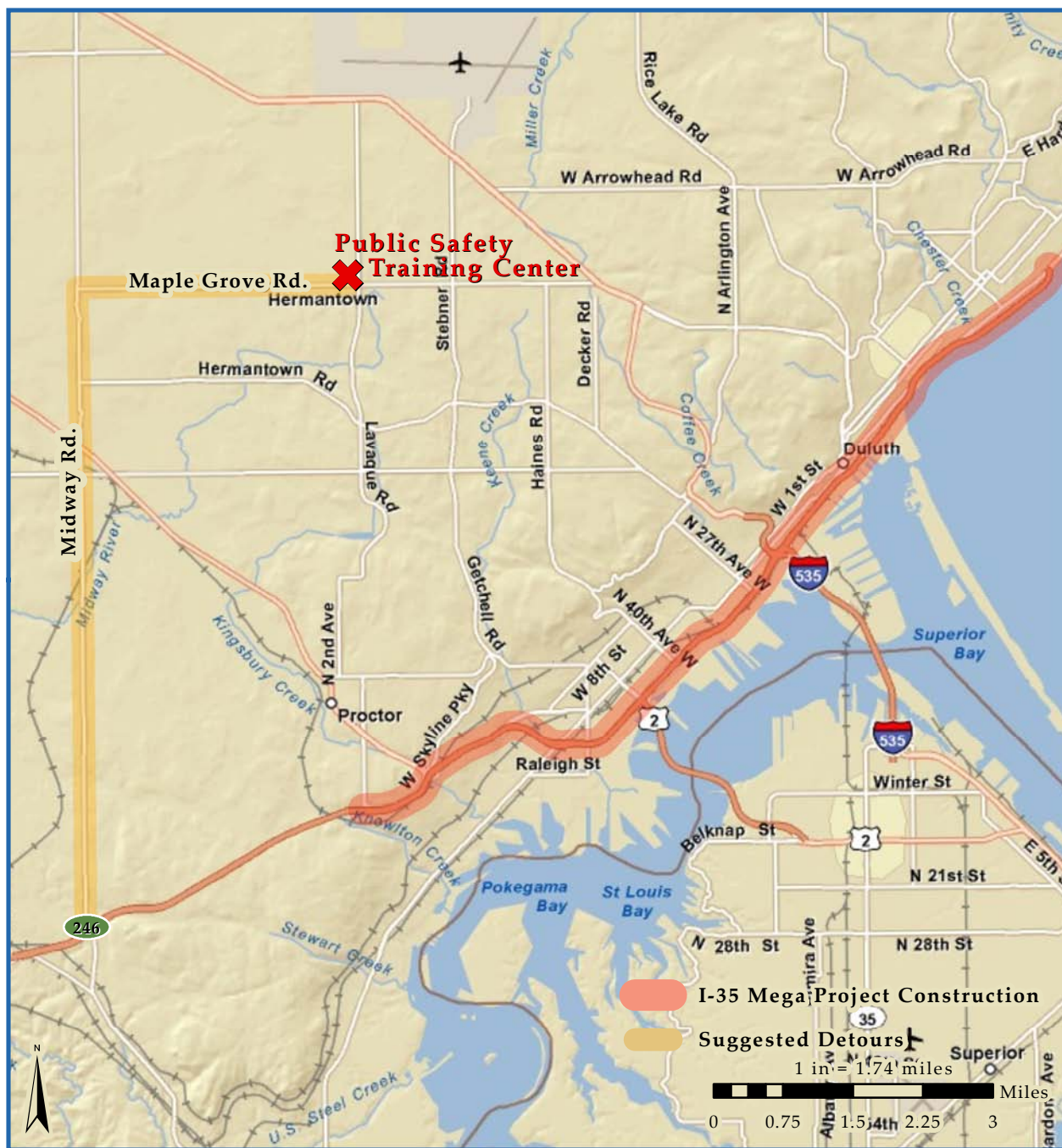
Duluth and Superior Urban Area Communities Cooperating in Planning and Development through a Joint Venture of the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission and the Northwest Regional Planning Commission

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Hermantown Department of Public Safety Training Center

5111 Maple Grove Road Hermantown, MN



Alternative Routes from Twin Cities:

Take Exit 246 for Midway Rd.; turn Left onto Midway Rd.

Turn Right at Maple Grove Rd.

Policy Board Members

Minnesota Members

City of Duluth

Diane Desotelle
Janet Kennedy

City of Duluth

Citizen Rep
Libby Bent

City of Hermantown

Wayne Boucher (**Co-Chair**)

City of Proctor

Chad Ward

City of Rice Lake

Bob Quade

Duluth Transit Authority Board

Adam McGill

St. Louis County

Keith Musolf

St. Louis County Suburban Townships

Scott Welsh

Wisconsin Members

City of Superior

Tylor Elm
Nick Ledin
Garner Moffat

City of Superior

Citizen Rep
Jenny VanSickle

Douglas County

Nick Baker (**Co-Chair**)
Rosemary Lear
John Lohse
Randy Skowlund

Douglas County Suburban Townships

Broc Allen



DULUTH-SUPERIOR

**Metropolitan
Interstate Council**

MIC Policy Board
Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at 6:00 pm
Meeting Agenda

1. Introductions/Agenda Review

2. Committee Business

- Meeting Summary of 8.19.26 (for Approval)
- Director's Report

"Open Public Comment Period"

10 min

3. Final Duluth-Superior Safety Action Plan (Roll Call Vote)

- Recommended for Adoption, Rondi Watson

30 min

4. Duluth Urban Area Functional Classification Changes (Roll Call Vote)

- Recommended for Approval, Eli Norlander

15 min

5. Final 2027-2030 Duluth Area TIP (Roll Call Vote)

- Recommended for Adoption, Eli Norlander

15 min

6. Draft 2027-2028 MIC Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

- Presentation & Discussion, Ron Chicka

10 min

7. Harbor Technical Advisory Committee (HTAC) Update

- Presentation & Discussion, Mike Wenholz

15 min

8. Project Updates (For Your Information)

- None this month

9. Apprise from MIC Board Members

10 min

10. Adjourn

Next Meeting

Wednesday, October 21, 2026
Location: Northwood Technical College
Time: 6:00 pm

**1. Introductions / Agenda Review****2. Committee Business**

- Meeting Summary of 8.19.26*
- Director's Report

MIC Policy Board – Potential Adjustment to Meeting Times – For the upcoming meeting, we will briefly review the responses to the survey we sent members. We did get a good response – about 75% of membership. We'll send a follow-up email, with the full results attached, later this week or next week once we've fully compiled the results.

ARDC-NWRPC Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) Update – As of this mailing date (9/9/26), ARDC still has not heard any formal response from either DOT or the Federal Highway Administration concerning the JPA submittal. All members, by request of the last meeting, did get our original submittal to the oversight entities. Currently, ARDC and NWRPC are not proposing to alter the membership number from its present total.

Duluth Transit Authority (DTA) Triennial Review – This month, staff assisted in the DTA's three-year review of all functions as conducted by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The MICs role, though minor, consists of communications between our two entities and keeping various items (e.g. TIP tasks, performance measure approvals, other operating agreements) up to date and consistent with current federal language. All of our work functions were found to satisfy FTA's checklist.

Federal Bill Extension – A Continuing Resolution (CR) has been signed by Congress and the Administration (signed 9/2) that extends most transportation programs (including MPOs) through mid-December. The legislation expires at the end of this month. This action has been anticipated. The potential major components of the next federal bill have been established over the past year to two years with members of the House and Senate staff that write the bills. It remains to be seen if a full new bill is acted upon in the December "lame duck" session of Congress. There were some programs that did not continue with the extension. These included advance appropriations for programs involving intercity passenger rail, the Bridge formula program, and projects for electric vehicles. Also, \$13.5 billion was cut from some highway and transit funding.

- Open Public Comment Period

3. Final Duluth-Superior Safety Action Plan* (Roll Call Vote)

After 12 months of planning and engagement, the MIC's [Duluth–Superior Area Safety Action Plan](#) is complete. At the September 16 MIC meeting, we will present an overview of the final plan and request its adoption by the Board.

Please review the [final Safety Action Plan](#) document prior to the upcoming MIC meeting. To ensure that your questions can be thoroughly addressed at the meeting, please submit any questions in advance to Rondi Watson at rwatson@ardc.org no later than Monday, September 14.



** = Presented for Approval or Adoption*

4. Duluth Urban Area Functional Classification Changes* (Roll Call Vote)

Since December 2025, MIC staff, along with jurisdictions and MnDOT Central Office have been conducting a detailed review process of MIC area roadways' Functional Classification designations. This review process identified 34 roadway segments in the MIC area to recommend for changes. MIC staff will present an overview of what Functional Classification is, the MnDOT and MIC area review process, and will show a web map of the proposed changes. **Policy Board members are encouraged to review the [informational slides](#) that are provided on the MIC website, review the functional classification changes web map (included in meeting materials), and submit questions to Eli Norlander enorlander@ardc.org before the meeting.**

5. Final 2027-2030 Duluth Area TIP* (Roll Call Vote)

Staff will provide a presentation on the Final 2027-2030 Duluth Area TIP. The Final Duluth Area TIP has been posted on the MIC website for review by the TAC and MIC members. The presentation will include an overview of changes made since the draft stage, upcoming projects included in this TIP document, and follow-up on public comments received during the 30-day public comment period. Staff will recommend approval of the Final 2027-2030 Duluth Area TIP. **Policy Board members are encouraged to review the document and submit questions to Eli Norlander enorlander@ardc.org before the meeting.**

6. Draft 2027-2028 MIC Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

The [Draft 2027-2028 MIC Work Program and Budget](#) document was sent to state and federal oversight for review on August 5, 2027. The MIC received a handful of comments, mostly regarding how the Safe & Accessible Transportation Options (SATO) funding was presented in the draft. MIC staff are working on making the appropriate changes and will have a final draft for review prior to the October meeting, when it will be presented for approval. A copy of the draft is available on the meeting webpage, as well as linked above, and a brief review will be presented for discussion. **Please return any comments regarding the draft to taanonsen@ardc.org by Wednesday, September 23, 2026.**

7. Harbor Technical Advisory Committee (HTAC) Update

The HTAC met on September 2 with a full agenda covering a variety of topics, including updates from the Dredging Subcommittee and the status of starting the Port Land Use Plan updates, an overview of CN Railway's iron ore business unit, status of Wisconsin DOT's Freight Plan update, news regarding the St. Lawrence Seaway from both American and Canadian perspectives, and pertinent harbor-related Blatnik Bridge Project details. A summary of this meeting will be provided.



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Metropolitan Interstate Council

MIC Policy Board

September 16, 2026

Agenda Item Descriptions

** = Presented for Approval or Adoption*

8. Project Updates (For you information)

- *None this month*

9. Apprise from MIC Board Members

10. Adjourn