



DULUTH-SUPERIOR
**Metropolitan
Interstate Council**

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)
Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at 1:30 pm
Meeting Notice
REVISED

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 9.15.26
- Final 2027-2030 Superior Area TIP

Items for Presentation and Discussion

No items for presentation

Project Updates

- Superior Safe Routes to School Update

In-Person Meeting Location:

WisDOT
Lake Superior Room
1701 N 4th Street
Superior, WI 54880

OR

[Click here to join teams meeting](#)

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

1 218-210-0525

Conference ID: 883 631 854 #

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.

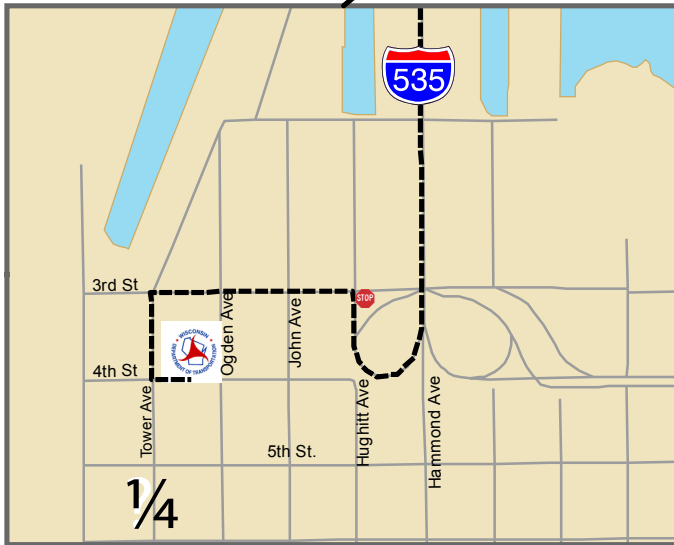
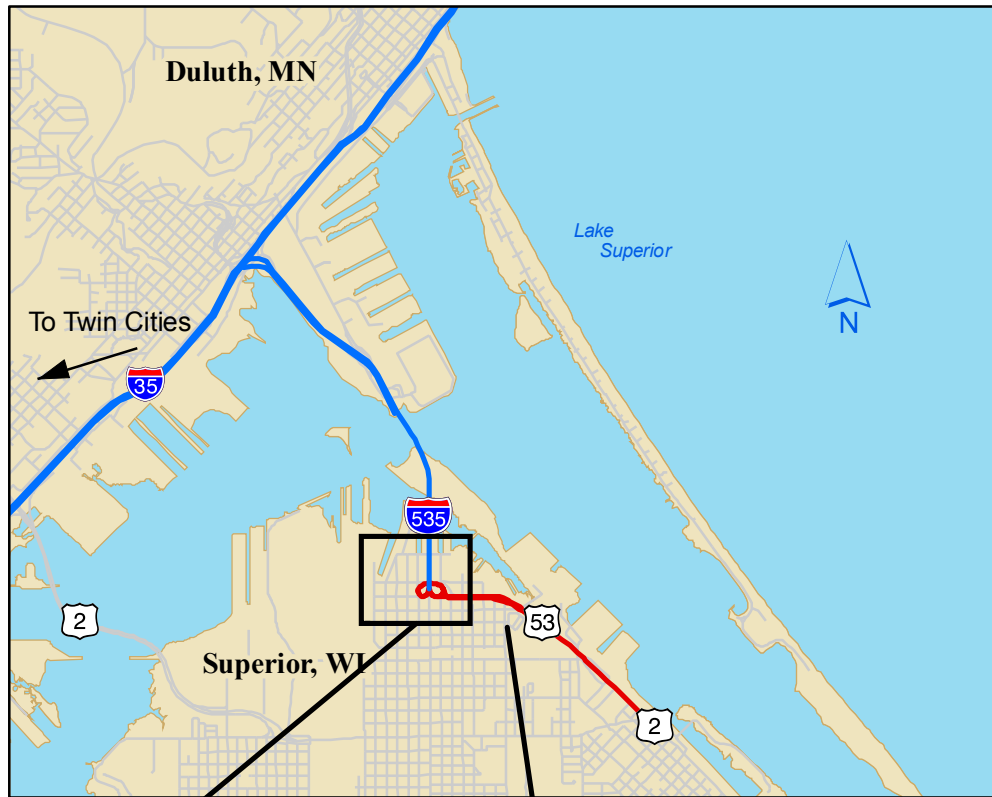
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Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

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

5/ Duncan Schwensohn

Cindy Voigt

Chris Lee

James Gittemeier

City of Hermantown

David Bolf

Trish Crego (alternate)

City of Proctor

Jess Rich

City of Superior

Chris Carlson

Vacant

Jason Serck (alternate)

Douglas County

Jason Jackman

Duluth Transit Authority

Chris Belden

Jeremy Kroke (alternate)

Economic Development

Vacant

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

Mae Sommerfeld



DULUTH-SUPERIOR
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Transportation Advisory Committee
Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at 1:30 pm
REVISÉ Meeting Agenda

1. Introductions/Agenda Review	
2. Committee Business - Meeting Summary 9.15.26 (for Approval) - Director's Report	10 min
3. Final 2027-2030 Superior Area TIP (Voice Vote) Recommend to the Policy Board for Adoption, Sheldon Johnson	15 min
4. MIC Meeting Resolution #26-17 (For Discussion) Resolution that the MIC perform a post-construction Road Safety Audit of the 26th Ave. East Roundabout at London Rd in Duluth	15 min
5. Project Updates Superior Safe Routes to School Update	10 min
6. Round Table Discussion	5 min
7. Adjourn	

Next Meeting

Tuesday, December 8, 2026

WisDOT

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 9.15.26*
- Director's Report

Federal Transportation Reauthorization – The federal bill is under a Continuing Resolution (CR) through mid-December (12/11). This includes many federally sponsored programs such as planning funds for MPOs across the country. It is uncertain of any further action in the upcoming lame-duck session of Congress.

City of Duluth – I-35 Reconnecting Communities Grant (RCN) - The City of Duluth is progressing toward releasing an RFP for consultant assistance for the I-35 Reconnecting Communities project. This planning project is supported by a federal grant that focuses on improving access to daily needs and fostering development and community restoration in communities harmed by past transportation infrastructure decisions. Through this planning project, the City of Duluth will work to gather and share information about the impacts of the development of I-35 in the study area neighborhoods, which include Spirit Valley and Downtown Duluth. This plan will also help to understand the community's goals for the future of the corridor in these neighborhoods. When completed, this plan will determine a locally preferred alternative for the study area. MnDOT and the MIC are key partners on this project and staff from each have been invited to participate in regular meetings throughout this project.

MNDOT Freeway Economic Impact Study – Separate from the above RCN Grant, but serving as input, the DOT Research division together with UMD's Business and Economic Research program is leading an effort to fully analyze the broad economic impacts of a freeway facility in an urban setting. A consultant team is also assisting on the work that is looking at many case studies across the country and best practices that may augment work across the state, and specifically here the I-35 upcoming work. Many variables are being documented including construction impacts, job creation, business and population displacement/creation, labor market accessibility and tourism impacts.

MNDOT Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan (SMTP) – Approximately every five years, the DOT updates its highest-level policy plan for transportation, the SMTP, that is a 20-year vision document that outlines objectives across all modes and guides investment. Six work groups have been formed (safety, system stewardship, climate action, critical connections, healthy equitable communities, open decision making) and will meet over the coming year to assist the DOT. Participation in these groups is very broad-based and does include staffing from MPOs. MIC staff have been tabbed to assist with the Safety subgroup; that is fortunate as we have just completed our SS4A Plan and will be ready aid in policy development around this topic.

U.S. Census Proposed Rule Change – In September, the Census Bureau proposed several new rulings for data collection tied to the 2030 count. Many impacts across multiple fields as the counts pertain to any population-based formula for funding a program; for transportation including funds for MPOs and ultimately transportation infrastructure itself. Among the new possible provisions are counting some, not all, people – involves citizenship status; possible change to counting where one is enumerated – for example, "snowbirds" may get counted where they are during the counting period and not where their tax



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records indicate residency; and, removing questions on race and ethnicity – which has possible negative implications to grants at a sub-area level. For MPOs, this has impacts on anything demographic-related in our work, plus traffic modeling. National MPO association and other entities (i.e. City or County based) are replying with their concerns.

MIC Roadway Capacity Analysis – Within the Work Program (UPWP), we have identified an item concerning possible roadway reduction efforts in the region. Such as, recently, Tower Avenue south of Belknap in Superior and 6th Ave East in Duluth. These are planning efforts led by the respective roadway jurisdiction; with MIC staff assisting, as needed. We list this item in the Work Program to denote to the funders (State/Fed) of planning efforts that we may become engaged with should the roadway entity initiate an effort. Therefore, should staff time ensue on such efforts we can point to justification in the UPWP. To date, no further reduction plans have been brought to our attention via a jurisdiction. Possible ones could be: MnDOT and Grand Avenue on the western end of Duluth, or further lane reductions along segments of N. 28th in Superior (e.g. east of the high school).

3. Final 2027-2030 Superior Area TIP* (Voice Vote)

Staff will provide a presentation on the Final 2027-2030 Superior Area TIP. The Final Superior Area TIP has been posted on the MIC website for review by the TAC and MIC members. Staff will provide a presentation that includes 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 the Final 2027-2030 Superior Area TIP for approval.

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

4. MIC Meeting Resolution #26-17 (For Discussion)

Resolution that the MIC perform a post-construction Road Safety Audit of the 26th Ave. East Roundabout at London Rd in Duluth

5. Project Updates

• Superior Safe Routes to School

On September 30th, MIC staff held the kickoff Steering Committee meeting for the Superior Area Safe Routes to School plan. This group is comprised of representatives from the School District of Superior, schools within the district, Cathedral School, and UW-Superior. This meeting provided an overview for the Steering Committee about the MIC and the Safe Routes to School planning process. The meeting also included a visioning exercise and a chance to share current positives and initial needs for improvements for transportation around schools. Next, the project team will be collecting data about travel to and from Superior area schools. One of the initial steps for this project is a parent and caregiver survey which has been included in the districtwide newsletter on October 14th. Beyond the Steering Committee, the MIC will be working with a list of stakeholders to complete data collection and receive feedback throughout this



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Agenda Item Descriptions

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project. Superior City Council, Douglas County Board, Douglas County Highway department, WisDOT, Duluth Transit Authority, and Superior residents are represented on this stakeholder list. Visit the project webpage for updates: <https://dsmic.org/plans-projects/superiorsrts/>

6. Round Table Discussion

7. Adjourn