DULUTH-SUPERIOR
Metropolitan
Interstate Council

MIC Policy Board
Wednesday, October 21, 2026, at 6:00 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 9.16.26
- Final 2027-2030 Duluth Area TIP – Revised Resolution
- Final 2027-2030 Superior Area TIP
- Resolution #26-15
- Resolution #26-16
- Nominating Committee – MIC Board Co-Chairs

Items for Presentation and Discussion

No items for presentation

Project Updates

No project updates

Public Meeting Location:
Northwood Technical College
Conference Center Room 108F
600 N 21st Street
Superior, WI 54880

OR

Click here to join teams meeting
Join by Phone (audio only)
1 218-210-0525
Conference ID: **297 683 778#**

Attendance / Meeting Quorum

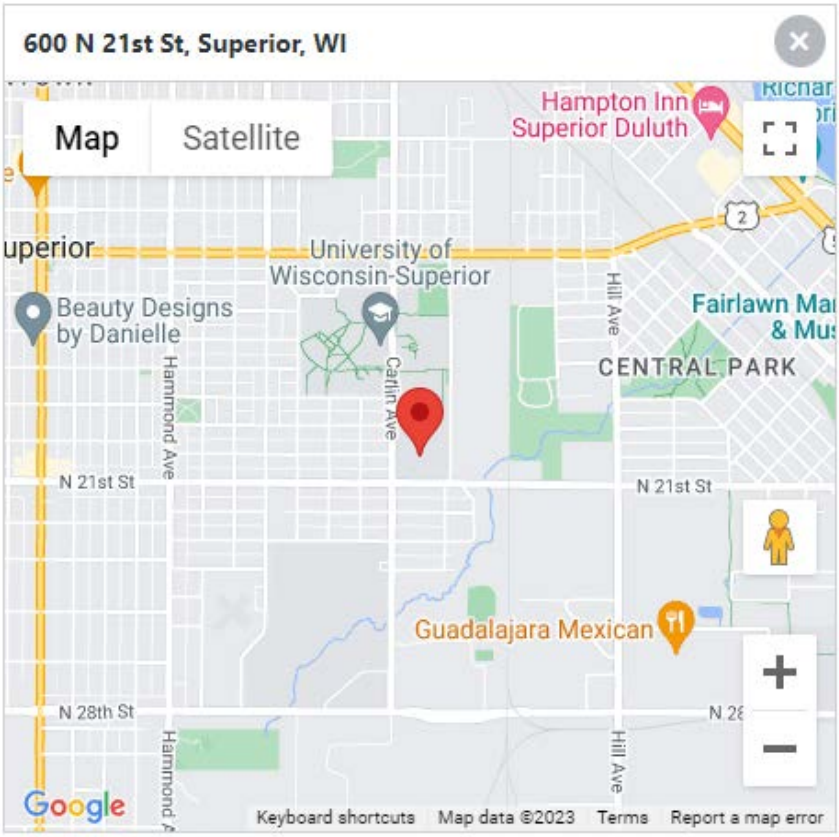
If you are NOT able to attend, or expect to arrive late to the meeting, please notify Tari Aanonsen at taanonsen@ardc.org or 218-529-7541 to ensure a quorum will be present for voting items on the agenda.

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.

Northwoods Technical College
600 N 21st Street
Superior, WI 54880



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



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, October 21, 2026 at 6:00 pm
Meeting Agenda
REVISED

1. Introductions/Agenda Review **2. Committee Business** • *Meeting Summary of 9.16.26 (for Approval)* • *ARDC/NWRPC Executive Directors' Report* • *MN MIC Policy Board Member Nominated to ARDC Board (Consider Action)* • *Director's Report* "Open Public Comment Period"	*20 min*
3. Final 2027-2030 Duluth Area TIP – Revised Resolution *(Roll Call Vote)* • *Recommended for Adoption, Eli Norlander*	*10 min*
4. Final 2027-2030 Superior Area TIP *(Roll Call Vote)* • *Recommended for Adoption, Sheldon Johnson*	*15 min*
5. Resolution #26-15 (Roll Call Vote) • Acknowledging the Role of the MIC Policy Board as the Metropolitan Planning Organization and Providing for Coordination, Staffing, and Fiscal Responsibilities Agreements, *Sheldon Johnson and Ron Chicka*	*10 min*
6. Resolution #26-16 (Roll Call Vote) • The Metropolitan Interstate Council Policy Board Request for Matching Funds from Arrowhead Regional Development Commission and Northwest Regional Planning Commission for the 2027 Unified Planning Work Program, *Sheldon Johnson and Ron Chicka*	*10 min*
7. Proposed MIC Meeting Resolution #26-17 • Resolution that the MIC perform a post-construction Road Safety Audit of the 26th Ave. East Roundabout at London Rd in Duluth (Submitted by MIC Member Libby Bent)	*15 min*
8. Nominating Committee – MIC Board Co-Chairs • *Establish Nominating Committees (MN & WI)*	*15 min*
9. Apprise from MIC Board Members • Proposed resolution of the Duluth Superior MIC (Presented for discussion by Board Member *Jenny VanSickle*)	*10 min*
10. Adjourn	

Next Meeting
Wednesday, December 9, 2026
Location: Northwood Technical College
Time: 6:00 pm

10/15/26
1 hr, 45 min.

DULUTH-SUPERIOR
Metropolitan
Interstate Council

REVISED

MIC Policy Board
October 21, 2026
Agenda Item Descriptions

* = *Presented for Approval or Adoption*

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

- Meeting Summary of 9.16.26*
- ARDC/NWRPC Executive Directors' Report

  "MPO next steps MEMO - 10-21-26"
- MN MIC Policy Board Member Nominated to ARDC Board (Consider Action)
- 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 Open Decision-Making subgroup.

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 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).

- Open Public Comment Period

3. Final 2027-2030 Duluth Area TIP Resolution (Revised)* *(Roll Call Vote)*

Following recent FHWA guidance, the resolution for adopting the 2027-2030 Duluth Area TIP (#26-12) has been revised to reflect FHWA's communication regarding the MIC and the MPO. MIC staff will present both the original and the revised version (#26-13) and will request approval to replace the original with the revised resolution in the TIP.

(Note, the asterisk in the title signifies that it's an approval item)

4. Final 2027-2030 Superior Area TIP* *(Roll Call Vote)*

The Final 2027-2030 Superior Area TIP is nearing completion and will be posted on the MIC website for review by the MIC Board members on Wednesday, October 14th. Staff will provide an overview of changes made since the draft stage at the October 21st Policy Board meeting. Included in the overview will be a description of any comments from the 30-day public comment period. Staff will also inform the MIC Board about the next steps for the Final 2027-2030 Superior Area TIP if approved by the board. The MIC members and public attending the meeting will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide comments and there will be a roll call vote for approval of the Final TIP document.

Policy Board members are encouraged to review the document and submit questions to Sheldon Johnson sjohnson@nwrpc.com before the meeting.

(Note, the asterisk in the title signifies that it's an approval item)

5. Resolution #26-15* *(Roll Call Vote)*

Acknowledging the Role of the MIC Policy Board as the Metropolitan Planning Organization and Providing for Coordination, Staffing, and Fiscal Responsibilities Agreements

(Note, the asterisk in the title signifies that it's an approval item)

6. Resolution #26-16* *(Roll Call Vote)*

The Metropolitan Interstate Council Policy Board Request for Matching Funds from Arrowhead Regional Development Commission and Northwest Regional Planning Commission for the 2027 Unified Planning Work Program

For comparison purposes the 2026 UPWP resolution, approved by the MIC Board, is also attached.

(Note, the asterisk in the title signifies that it's an approval item)

7. Proposed MIC Meeting Resolution #26-17

Resolution that the MIC perform a post-construction Road Safety Audit of the 26th Ave. East Roundabout at London Rd in Duluth (Submitted by MIC Member Libby Bent)

8. Nominating Committee – MIC Board Co-Chairs

As the MIC Policy Board Bylaws state:

Article VI: Officers

The officers of this Council must be selected from duly appointed members nominated by a Subcommittee of the MIC.*

The Council will elect as its officers a Minnesota Co-Chair, a Wisconsin Co-Chair and a Secretary to serve for a term of two years. Officers will be elected at the December meeting of the Council in even numbered years.

*This action typically occurs at the October meeting in even numbered years.

9. Apprise from MIC Board Members

Proposed resolution of the Duluth Superior MIC (Presented for discussion by Board Member Jenny VanSickle)

10. Adjourn