



**MEETING NOTICE**  
**Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council**  
**POLICY BOARD**

**Wednesday, June 21, 2017, 6:30 pm**  
**Douglas County Gov't Center/Rm 270**  
**Superior, WI**

**Items for Approval:**

- Meeting Summary of 5.17.17
- 2018-2021 Duluth Area TIP/Start of 30-Day Public Comment Period
- LRTP 2045 – Scope of Work
- 2017-2018 UPWP Amendment

**Items for Approval with Opportunity for Public Comment:**

- 2017-2020 Superior Urbanized Area TIP Amendments #6 & #7

**Items for Presentation / Discussion / Information**

- MIC Director's Report
- New Trolley Map
- HTAC Update
- Project Updates

**Attendance / Meeting Quorum**

If you are NOT able to attend, or expect to arrive late to the meeting, **please contact Barb Peterson at [bpeterson@ardc.org](mailto:bpeterson@ardc.org) or 218-529-7541** to ensure a quorum will be present for voting items on the agenda.

**Driving Directions & Parking Information**

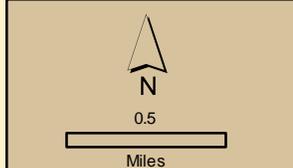
See map on reverse. This facility is ADA accessible.

This facility is on a DTA bus route.

**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 • Fax 218/529-7592 • [www.dsmic.org](http://www.dsmic.org)**



**City-County Government Center**  
1316 N. 14th Street - Superior, WI





## Metropolitan Interstate Council Policy Board Meeting

Metropolitan Interstate Council Policy Board  
 Wednesday, June 21, 2017 6:30 pm  
 Douglas County Gov't Center/Rm 270, Superior, WI  
**MEETING AGENDA**

### Minnesota Members

**City of Duluth**

Barb Russ  
 Noah Hobbs

**City of Duluth  
 Citizen Rep**

David Montgomery

**City of Hermantown**

Wayne Boucher

**City of Proctor**

Phil Larson

**City of Rice Lake**

Bob Quade

**Duluth Transit Authority**

Mike Casey  
 Wayne Nelson (*Alternate*)

**St. Louis County**

Frank Jewell  
 MN Co-Chair

**St. Louis County  
 Suburban Townships**

Earl Elde

### Wisconsin Members

**City of Superior**

Warren Bender  
 Dan Olson  
 (awaiting new appt)

**City of Superior  
 Citizen Rep**

Ed Anderson

**Douglas County**

Nick Baker  
 WI Co-Chair  
 Rosemary L. Lear  
 Sam Pomush  
 Pete Clark

**Douglas County  
 Suburban Townships**

Broc Allen  
 (*alternate*)

<b>1. Introductions / Agenda Review</b>	
<b>2. Committee Business</b>	10 min
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting Summary of 5.17.17 (for approval)</li> <li>• MIC Director's Report</li> </ul>	
<b>3. 2018-2021 Duluth Area TIP – Approval for start of the 30-Day Public Comment Period</b>	20 min
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Review for approval, Chris Belden</i></li> </ul>	
<b>4. LRTP 2045 – Scope of Work</b>	10 min
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Review for Approval, Mike Wenzholz</i></li> </ul>	
<b>5. 2017-2018 UPWP Amendment</b>	5 min
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Review for Contingent Approval, Ron Chicka</i></li> </ul>	
<b>6. 2017-2020 Superior Urbanized Area TIP Amendments #6 &amp; #7</b>	5 min
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Review for Approval w/opportunity for Public Comment, Sheldon Johnson</i></li> </ul>	
<b>7. New Trolley Map</b>	10 min
<i>Presentation and Discussion, Eric Miller</i>	
<b>8. HTAC Update</b>	15 min
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Presentation and Discussion, Mike Wenzholz</i></li> </ul>	
<b>9. Roundtable Discussion</b>	5 min
<b>10. Project Updates</b>	5 min
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2017-2020 Duluth Area TIP/City of Duluth Administrative Modification, <i>Chris Belden</i></li> <li>• Michigan Street Protected Bikeways Demonstration, <i>Rondi/James</i></li> <li>• Truck Route Study, <i>Mike Wenzholz</i></li> </ul>	

*Upcoming Events/Meetings*  
**Annual Appreciation Dinner**  
*July 12, 2017 @ 5pm*  
**Michigan St Walking Workshop**  
*July 18, 2017 @ 1:30 pm*

Wednesday, August 16, 2017  
 Duluth International Airport  
 Duluth, MN  
 6:30 pm



## MIC Agenda Topics and Project Updates

June 21, 2017 Meeting

### Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

*\* = Approval Item*

#### 1. INTRODUCTIONS / AGENDA REVIEW

#### 2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Meeting Summary of 5.17.17 (separate attachment)

#### MIC Director Report

- Washington Update – The President's first budget has been sent to Congress with various components involving transportation that are not entirely clear, nor may ever be fully realized. It does discuss a \$200 Billion investment, over a ten year timeframe (the \$1T initiative), but it does not indicate funding sources. A combination of new federal funding (not detailed) incentivized non-federal funding and expedited projects that would not have happened but for the new Administration (Keystone Pipeline) are mentioned as the funding mechanisms. Whether this latter issue counts toward the "\$1T amount" is unclear. Contract authority per the federal FAST Act is attained, but emphasis areas are altered – such as federal transit dollars becoming more discretionary and subject to spending caps. Also, the TIGER grant program is zeroed out completely. The Army Corps of Engineers budget is cut by more than 16% potentially impacting maritime movements. These are just some quick "highlights"; Congress may or may not agree with these budget components.
- Wisconsin DOT Secretary's Office – Superior Port Tour – A very pleasant and informative time was had by all our visiting Madison DOT staff (Sec Dave Ross and Deputy Sec Bob Seitz – plus others) on June 7<sup>th</sup> as we toured three industries on the Superior side of the harbor. Prior to the tour arranged by Jason Serck (City Planning/Port Dir) the Secretary and a large group of DOT staff out of the Planning and Harbor/Rail division of the central office also attended our HTAC meeting at the Duluth Airport. Both Sec. Ross and the Bob Seitz spoke to the group. After lunch, a group of about 25 – including Mayor Paine and a few members from the MIC Board (Warren Bender, Ed Anderson and Sam Pomush) gathered to see firsthand the operations at Hallet Dock, MERC (coal facility) and Fraser Shipyards. We de-boarded our DTA bus at each locale for a narrated tour by from a person at each business. I think our Madison contingent – those not familiar with the goods moved here – came away quite impressed with the scale of each operation and could see the importance of maritime goods movement to the local economy and understand the need to fund infrastructure (dock walls for example) that makes this movement possible.
- Duluth – Superior Port Land Use Plan – The MIC's unique port plan will be getting quite a bit of "air time" over the next 30 days as we are set to present it to the Superior City Council and two



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national maritime/port associations. Mike Wenzholz and I will present to the City Council in June. I will be presenting the plan along with the equally unique work/setup of the entire HTAC in July to the American Great Lakes Port Association Board plus a larger national audience of the Transportation Research Board – Natural Resources, Sustainability and Intermodal Connections committee. This national group is having its annual workshop in Duluth with a focus on our port and the many planning and environmental groups that are active locally.

- DOT and Federal Staff Mid-Year Review of the MIC – July 12<sup>th</sup> will be our annual review of many aspects of the MIC with federal and state agencies – such as the Long Range Plan, TIP and the Work Program/Budget.

### **3. 2018-2021 Duluth Area TIP-Approval for Start of the 30-Day Public Comment Period, *Chris Belden* (To Begin 7/10 through 8/10, 2017)**

We will be seeking approval for the start of the required 30 day Public Comment Period of the Draft 2018-2021 TIP beginning July 10<sup>st</sup> and running until August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 (A copy to be distributed to members prior to the start). The draft 2018-2021 TIP includes additions and modifications to the 4-year program of federally-funded projects scheduled to occur within the Minnesota side of the MIC planning area. It includes new projects being programmed for fiscal year 2021. The TIP also includes assessments of the potential impacts that such projects may have on low-income or minority neighborhoods.

The MIC will be seeking public comment during the 30-day comment period via its website and social media tools. It will also be advertising two open houses planned for August 8<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM and August 10<sup>th</sup> From 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM during which members of the public are encouraged to visit with MIC staff to discuss the draft TIP and its constituent projects.

### **4. LRTP 2045 – Scope of Work, *Mike Wenzholz***

The update of the Duluth-Superior Long Range Transportation Plan (*Connections 2045*) must be adopted by the MIC Board no later than October 2019. The MIC has already started preparations to begin work on this effort. The first substantial work product is the preparation of the *Connections 2045* Scope of Work, which is being presented during these June meetings. The *Connections 2045* Scope of Work includes the list of planning factors required under 23 CFR 450.306(b) that will be addressed in the LRTP, a general list of planned work activities, estimated timeline for completing the work, deliverables, and proposed budget. The MIC is seeking MIC Board approval of the *Connections 2045* Scope of Work.



## 5. 2017-2018 UPWP Amendment, *Ron Chicka*

I am putting before the TAC and MIC a request to amend the current Work Program to add an estimated \$100,000 to add a freight component to our current travel demand model that covers the entire MIC area. The funding sources – also an estimate – are for an added \$60,000 in federal planning funds (CPG) to be accompanied by \$40,000 in State (MN) dollars. It needs to be noted, that this approval from the MIC is completely on a contingent basis. Forms and approvals will move forward from both the MIC, FHWA and the State seeking these funds and gaining approval for the entire RFP and consultant selection process. I am asking for approval at this time in order to keep this item moving along at some reasonable pace; in particular, due to the fact that the MIC does not meet formally again for two months, and that time could be valuable in the approval process for all concerned. Given the complexity of this modeling effort, I expect the work to start in 2017 and carry into 2018 as well (estimate through the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of next year). (NOTE: No ARDC funds as a match are anticipated at this time.)

This work item has been discussed with key members to date in gaining their desire to move ahead with the detailed freight modeling work – focused in on the Rice's Point area of the port on the Duluth side. These key members include the District DOT, Seaway Port Authority staff and City of Duluth Engineering staff. We will be looking at the potential new and increasing truck volumes out of the port as a result of the new train to truck intermodal terminal start-up (Duluth Cargo Connect). This will have a large impact on traffic flows in the port area impacting not only I-35/I-535, but also nearby locally owned roadways. Our model, with very detailed data and analysis, will document roadway needs now and into the future.

## 6. 2017-2020 Superior Urbanized Area TIP Amendments #6 & 7, *Sheldon Johnson*

**PROPOSED 2017-2020  
SUPERIOR URBANIZED AREA  
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM  
PROJECT(S) AMENDMENT**

### **TIP Administrative Amendment and TIP Amendment #6 & #7**

WisDOT has requested to split TIP projects 113-16-002 and 113-16-013 found in the 2017-2020 Superior TIP for preliminary engineering (2017) and construction repairs (2020) to USH 2/USH

53 from 53<sup>rd</sup> Avenue E to 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue E. Due to the length of the project and extent of repairs, it has been determined the project should be split for constructability. As a result, the north project will have construction limits of 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue E to 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue E and is now scheduled for construction in 2019 and the southern project limits will be 53<sup>rd</sup>

Avenue E to 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue E and scheduled for preliminary engineering in 2017 and construction in 2021.

In order to split the project, the following is recommended.



**Administrative Amendment**

WisDOT 113-16-013 Change project limits to 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue E to 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue E.

WisDOT 113-16-002 Change project limits to 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue E to 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue E, advance project work from 2020 to 2019, and lower budget line to \$7,096,000 (\$5,254,000 federal and \$1,842,000 state funding).

**New Project TIP Amendment #6**

**2017 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)**

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources (Thousands)			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT 113-17-017  Amended to TIP in June 2017	USH 2/USH 53 53 <sup>rd</sup> Ave E - 31 <sup>st</sup> Ave E  1198-03-08 (PE)	PE	280	70		350
		ROW				
		CONST				
		TOTAL	280	70		350

**New Project TIP Amendment #7**

**2021 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway-Illustrative)**

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources (Thousands)			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT 113-17-018  Amended to TIP in February 2017	USH 2/USH 53 53 <sup>rd</sup> Ave E - 31 <sup>st</sup> Ave E  1198-03-78 (CONST)	PE				
		ROW	4,782	1,195		5,977
		CONST				
		TOTAL	4,782	1,195		5,977

If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact me at 715-635-2197 or by email at [sjohnson@nwrpc.com](mailto:sjohnson@nwrpc.com).

**7. HTAC Update, Mike Wenholz**

The Harbor Technical Advisory Committee held its most recent meeting on June 7, with a very full agenda. WisDOT Secretary Dave Ross and several other top ranking WisDOT officials introduced themselves and participated in the meeting. Other highlights of the meeting included presentations regarding:

- Seeking national water trail designation on portions of the St Louis River upstream of the Highway 2, Bong Bridge
- An introduction to and overview of Duluth Cargo Connect – the new CN intermodal operation on Rice’s Point



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

- An update of the plans and construction at Sky Harbor Airport
- An update on St Lawrence Seaway and Great Lakes shipping construction and trade issues
- An introduction to and overview of the American Society of Civil Engineers national 2017 Infrastructure Report Card
- An introduction to the Port Land Use Plan Recommendations implementation strategy
- St Louis River Estuary AOC updates from both Minnesota and Wisconsin

Following the meeting, approximately 20 people, including Secretary Ross and his staff, participated in a bus tour of three significant City of Superior port businesses: Hallett Dock #8, Midwest Energy Resources Company, and Fraser Shipyard/Lake Assault Boats LLC.

**8. New Trolley Map, Eric Miller**

Starting on June 4<sup>th</sup>, the Duluth Transit Authority started operating an expanded Port Town Trolley route that now runs between Canal Park, Bayfront, The Historic Arts & Theater District, Fitger's and Downtown that will run through Labor Day. This service expansion led to a need for a map of the route. MIC GIS staff created the Port Town Trolley service map which features a 3-D oblique view of Canal Park to assist those unfamiliar with the area in wayfinding to popular destinations.

**9. Roundtable Discussion**

**10. Project Updates**

- **2017-2020 Duluth Area TIP Administrative Modification #7 (City of Duluth), Chris Belden**

The City of Duluth has requested that Project #118-090-018 (Cross City Trail - Phase 2) – modify its project year to 2018.

The City of Duluth has requested that Project #118-090-019 (Cross City Trail) – modify its project year to 2018.

Changes are shown in **RED**.

Project	Description	Year	Federal	LOCAL	Total
SP 118-090-018	<b>Cross City Trail:</b> **MN146** Cross City Trail Phase 2: Construct trail from Kingsbury Creek to Munger Trail. 2 miles.	2017 <b>2018</b>	\$1,030,551	\$561,934	\$1,592,485
SP 118-090-019	<b>Cross City Trail:</b> **MN146** Cross City Trail: Construct trail and rehab 2 bridges from Duluth Zoo to Knowlton Creek. 1.2 miles.	2017 <b>2018</b>	\$334,400	\$200,000	\$534,400



## MIC Agenda Topics and Project Updates

June 21, 2017 Meeting

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### Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

- **Truck Route Study Update, Mike Wenholz**

An update of the Duluth-Superior Area Truck Route Study has begun. The first meeting of the newly-formed study committee was held May 4, with 14 participants. Several members could not attend the meeting. The committee is comprised of members that represent a diversity of stakeholders, including State, County, and City governments; many different types of trucking companies; the Port, and community advocacy. In summary, following an introductory portion of the meeting that included sharing primary concerns, the committee members provided input on a list of topics to work through and then started addressing some of those topics. Key discussion points included:

- finalizing the study area to be the entire MIC boundary
- collecting and using as much truck count data as feasible, and considering which road segments to use for this
- identifying primary truck regulations in each jurisdiction within the MIC area and considering ways to streamline them, as necessary for efficiency and consistency
- ensuring oversize/heavy haul and hazardous materials hauling routes are identified and considered in this study
- considering whether or not a survey would be valuable to help guide this study, and issues related to this.

Numerous action items from the first meeting are currently being worked on. The second of **three** planned meetings is tentatively planned for some time in July.

- **Michigan St Protected Bikeways Demonstration, James Gittemeier**

The protected bike lane demonstration project on Michigan Street is moving quickly towards implementation. The design layout has been determined, business and property owner/manager outreach is taking place, and materials are being purchased. Please look for further information on events and activities that will taking place throughout the duration of the project.