MEETING NOTICE

DULUTH-SUPERIOR MIC POLICY BOARD

Wednesday, October 18, 2017, 6:30 pm
Hermantown Training Center
Hermantown, MN

GUEST SPEAKER: Roberta Dwyer, Project Manager, MnDOT

- **Twin Ports Interchange**

Items for Approval:

- Meeting Summaries of 8.15.17 & 9.20.17
- City of Superior/Proposed Grant APP for STP Urban funds
- 2018 UPWP Budget Approval
- Public Involvement Plan Update – Initiate 45-day Public Comment Period

Items for Approval with Opportunity for Public Comment:

- 2018-2021 Superior Area TIP

Items for Presentation / Discussion / Information

- Director's Report
- 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 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 near 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

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.

Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council - Policy Board

Wednesday, October 18, 2017 6:30 pm

Hermantown Training Center, Hermantown, MN

MEETING AGENDA

1. Introductions / Agenda Review **2. Committee Business** • Meeting Summary of 8.16.17 & 9.20.17 (for approval) • Director's Report ○ Letter of Support – Superior St Reconstruction	*10 min*
3. Guest Speaker: Roberta Dwyer, Project Manager, MnDOT • **Twin Ports Interchange**	*30 min*
4. 2018-2021 Superior Area TIP • *Review for Approval w/opportunity for public comment, Sheldon Johnson*	*10 min*
5. City of Superior/Proposed Grant APP for STP Urban funds • *Review for Approval, Sheldon Johnson*	*10 min*
6. 2018 UPWP & Budget Approval • *Review for Approval, Ron Chicka*	*10 min*
7. 2017 Public Involvement Plan Update/45-day Public Comment Period • *Review for Approval, Rondi Watson*	*10 min*
8. Roundtable Discussion	*10 min*
9. Project Updates • Amendment #1 to the 2018-2021 Duluth Area TIP (Nov. Special Meeting for MIC) • LRTP Update • Duluth-Superior Transportation Association	*5 min*

Upcoming Meetings

NO Meeting in November

Wednesday, December 13, 2017
Douglas County Gov't Center
Room 270
Superior, WI
6:30 pm

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
Jenny VanSickle

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

Policy Board Agenda Topics and Project Updates

October 18, 2017 Meeting

Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

* = *Approval Item*

1. Introductions / Agenda Review

2. Committee Business

- Meeting Summaries of 8.16.17 & 9.19.17 (separate attachment)
- MIC Director's Report
  - AMPO Board Meetings - Washington Update (Federal Bill) – Attending national meetings with my service to the AMPO Board of Director's this week (Wk of Oct 16th). Working with an Ad Hoc Committee made up of MPOs across the country as we detail key legislative points for all MPOs – this will then be used by AMPO staff in Congressional meetings as House and Senate staff detail the federal transportation bill.
  - Duluth Plan Commission – Our Port Land Use Plan and the work of the HTAC was presented at a recent Duluth Plan Commission meeting as we continue to inform key stakeholders of the importance of the planning effort. The Port Plan should be integral to the Duluth Comprehensive Plan process currently underway.
  - Grants – Letters of Support – Recently, several requests have come to me to support grant opportunities. These include:
    a. DTA – MNDOT grant for safe access to transit stops in Miller Hill area.
    b. MNDOT – TIGER grant for the Twin Ports Interchange (federal source).
    c. City of Duluth – 1 letter aimed at Mn Local Road Improvement Program toward funding for Superior Street.
  - Minnesota Freight Advisory Committee – Attendance on this statewide committee as we determine discretionary funds for projects (Mn side). MNDOT has asked for funds to aid in the staging of upgrades for the Twin Ports Interchange; Duluth Port Authority has requested funds to continue expansion of the CN Cargo Connect facility; City of Duluth has an application for road geometric improvements at Garfield and Piedmont. Applicants should be notified within the next 30 days as to project approval.
  - Wisconsin Freight Advisory Committee – As in Minnesota, I am also representing smaller MPOs in Wisconsin on the statewide freight committee as it looks to implement the recently approved freight plan. I provided an update to staff at WISDOT central office as to how the state of Minnesota disseminated their discretionary funds for freight.

3. Guest Speaker: Roberta Dwyer, Project Manager, MnDOT

- **Twin Ports Interchange**

MNDOT Twin Ports Interchange Update

John McDonald (TAC meeting) and Roberta Dwyer (MIC Board) from the DOT office in Duluth will provide a presentation on the status of the Twin Ports Interchange (Can of Worms) project. I was able to attend a presentation of the project on the 9th provided for the Wisconsin DOT and City of Superior staff. Four concepts are currently being considered. Each provides a slightly different level of service for the public and goods movement, in general. There are starting a round of outreach meetings with many constituents; the TAC and MIC and maybe HTAC with respect to the MPO.

4. 2018-2021 Superior Area TIP, *Sheldon Johnson*

The 2018-2021 Superior Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was formally released for public comment on September 1, 2017. After the 30-day required comment period, no formal comments were provided.

Please be advised a new project has been added to the TIP as a result of an amendment to the 2017-2020 Superior Transportation Improvement Program at the September meetings. The amended project is 113-17-019 and can be found on page 12. The project has been added to the 2018-2021 activity as a carryover project.

5. City of Superior/Proposed Grant App for STP Urban Funds, *Sheldon Johnson*

The City of Superior has requested the TAC & MIC to review and approve the attached STP Urban Application. This is not a TIP amendment, rather approval of the proposed grant application for consideration of using STP Urban funds. Application, location map and preliminary drawing are attached. Any questions please contact Sheldon Johnson, sjohnson@nwrpc.com or 715.635.2197.

6. 2018 UPWP Budget Approval, *Ron Chicka*

Federal fund (MN side) requests along with a newly adopted rule on Minnesota dissemination of the federal funding pot for all of the MPOs have forced all of the MPOs to reexamine their budgets. The earlier draft 2018 budget tables sent to you have been re-worked several times to balance available funds, reserve funds and tasks to be conducted with existing staffing levels of the MIC. One big change, at least for the present, is the freight modeling project. It will be put "on hold" until all of the funds can be confirmed. At this point, unlike a month ago, I have been informed that the federal funds potentially targeted to cover 60% of the project costs are now not available. Along with Sheldon Johnson at NWRPC, I will attempt to accumulate the 60% estimated funding amount for the work via other state and local partners.

The federal fund amount from our main source – MN Federal Grant – has decreased from the earlier draft. Via small reductions in a number of budget items, I am able to accommodate the needed work for 2018 and match available revenue streams from the state. Also, you will note that I am putting forth ONLY a Work Program for 2018, not including 2019. I asked MNDOT for this option and was given the OK to forward only a one-year budget. I did this since, undoubtedly, available revenues and costs and the options for augmenting our budget via local partners will certainly remain fluid throughout the course of 2018, therefore impacting any reasonably estimated 2019 budget I would put forth at this time.

For the MIC meeting, I will briefly review the Work Program and answer any funding questions you may have, then I will ask for a motion adopting the 2018 UPWP.

7. 2017 Public Involvement Plan Update/Initiate the 45-day Public Comment Period, *Rondi Watson*

The MIC's Public Involvement Plan (PIP), which identifies steps and strategies for public engagement at each phase of the planning process, was last updated in 2013. The PIP again requires a full review and update by the end of this year to ensure compliance with the federal FAST Act and to serve as a useful and useable reference for MIC staff before the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan gets underway.

Because our Public Involvement Plan itself needs public involvement, at this month's meeting I will be seeking your input, and asking for a motion to approve the start of the mandatory 45-day comment period, effective October 29.

At that time, I will distribute the draft plan to TAC and MIC members as well as state and federal contacts for review and comment.

8. Roundtable Discussion

9. Project Updates

- **Amendment #1 to the 2018-2021 Duluth Area TIP**, *Chris Belden*
  (Nov. Special Meeting for MIC)

  MIC staff are working with MnDOT District 1 for an Amendment to a grouping of 2018 bridge projects (Project Id 6937-102 & 6933-97.) Due to a tight timeline and urgency for the project to move forward with ordering of materials this amendment will need to happen via a special call-in meeting for the MIC Policy Board in November. MIC Policy Board members will receive a message when a date and time are set along with the amendment materials.

- **LRTP Update,** *Mike Wenholz*

  Progress continues to be made in developing the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The MIC Team has held meetings approximately every 2-3 weeks to identify the overall purpose and goals, as well as other important issues to consider. We are currently identifying specific objectives and the data and information that will be needed to support the goals and objectives. All of this will help us determine how best to share information and gather feedback from the public and others moving forward.

- **Duluth-Superior Transportation Association Meeting**, *Mike Wenholz*

  Mike Wenholz will be attending the November DSTA meeting, introducing himself, reminding the group of the MIC, and sharing with them about the Truck Route Study, as it pertains to their members. Additionally, DSTA members will be invited to participate in the Truck Route Study survey. This is a reconnecting of the MIC with this organization. The MIC has been a member but has not participated in DSTA meetings because their monthly meeting is on the same night as MIC Board meetings.