



HTAC Voting Members Present

Name	Organization	Sector Representing
Ed Anderson	MIC Policy Board	Regional
Dan Belden (<i>alternate</i>)	Western Lake Superior Sanitary District	Regional
Dale Bergeron	MN Sea Grant	State
Brian Boder	St. Louis County	County
Steve Brossart	US Army Corps of Engineers	Federal
Gene Clark	WI Sea Grant	State
Deb DeLuca (<i>Chair</i>)	Duluth Seaway Port Authority	Regional
LCDR Pat Drayer (<i>alternate</i>)	US Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit	Federal
Nelson French	MN Pollution Control Agency	State
Gary Glass	Izaak Walton League	Citizen Group
Anna Hess	MN Department of Natural Resources	State
Joel Johnson		Industry – Recreation
Bob Libby		Industry – Vessel Operations
Bill Majewski	St. Louis River Alliance	Citizen Group
Ed Montgomery		Industry – Harbor Services
Patrick Phenow	MN Department of Transportation	State
Dan Rau	Save Lake Superior Association	Citizen Group
Steven Robertson	City of Duluth	City
Dena Ryan	WI Department of Transportation	State
Jason Serck (<i>Vice Chair</i>)	City of Superior	City
Jim Sharrow (<i>alternate</i>)	Duluth Seaway Port Authority	Regional
Ted Smith	Marine Tech	Industry – Harbor Engineering
Dave Warburton	US Fish and Wildlife Service	Federal

HTAC Voting Members Absent

Name	Organization	Sector Representing
Cameron Bertsch	Douglas County	County
Marshall Elder	Midwest Energy Resources	Industry - Coal
Jack Ezell	Western Lake Superior Sanitary District	Regional
Cheri Hagen	WI Department of Natural Resources	State
Chad Hewitt		Industry – Ore Transport
Lance Hunt (<i>alternate</i>)		Industry – Ore Transport
Pete Kramer	Duluth Cargo Connect	Industry – General Cargo
Jonathon Lamb (<i>alternate</i>)		Industry – General Cargo
Jason Laumann	Northwest Regional Planning Commission	Regional
Mike McCoshen	Hallett Dock Company	Industry – General Bulk
CDR Erin Williams	US Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit	Federal
Vacant	Natural Resources Conservation Service	Federal
Vacant		Industry - Grain



Others Present

Name	Organization	Name	Organization
Hannah Alstead	Congressman Nolan	Kris McNeal	The Duluth Experience
David Bolgrien	US EPA - ORD	Chris Morris	MN DOT
Dan Breneman	MPCA	Eric Oberhart	CPCS Transcom
Lynette Carney	Barr Engineering	Guy Partch	Barr Engineering
Ron Chicka	MIC	Marsha Patelke	NRRI
Jason DiPiazza	MSA	Nick Patterson	MarineTech
Josh Dumke	NRRI	Jason Paulson	DSPA
Kris Eilers	St. Louis River Alliance	Daniel Rust	UW-Superior
Steve Eliason	CBP	Jim Shoberg	City of Duluth
Jeff Emerson	WISDOT	Ted R. Smith	AMI
Patty Fowler	MN DNR	Richard Stewart	UW-Superior
Ken Gerasimos	Key Lakes/Great Lakes Fleet	Erika Washburn	LSNERR
Mike Goettel	WI DNR	Mike Wenzholz	MIC
Lisa Luokkala	City of Duluth	Adele Yorde	DSPA

Introductions / Agenda Review / Committee Business

HTAC Chair Deb DeLuca called the meeting to order at approximately 9:10 am. All in attendance introduced themselves.

Sept 6, 2017 Meeting Summary

Chair DeLuca asked if there were changes to the Sept 6, 2017 Meeting Summary, hearing none she asked for a motion to approve.

- Ed Anderson moved to approve the 9.6.2017 HTAC Meeting Summary. Dale Bergeron seconded.
- There was no discussion.
- **The motion to approve carried unanimously.**

Recreational Boating Safety Within Harbors, Dale Bergeron, MN Sea Grant

- USCG is a significant partner in this effort. USCG regulations and manuals are very detailed/ They are working to reduce some of these details to aid in reaching and working with the intended audience.
- Areas 1-4 of the harbor are approximately 60% industrial or commercial.
- Sail boats are the most common recreational user of the harbor.
- Admits it is likely the effort to date is missing the transient weekend recreational user.
- The goal of this effort is not to “stay away”, it is “stay smart and alert”.
- The results of the survey associated with this effort are being finalized, and will be made available.
- The final product is still being worked on, but the overall look, messaging, and distribution strategy is being finalized.
- Dale’s presentation is posted on the MIC’s HTAC web page.



Port Land Use Plan Implementation Updates, Mike Wenholtz, MIC, et al

- In keeping with the Port Land Use Plan Implementation Strategy to share updates on what recommendations have been implemented during quarterly HTAC meetings, Mike Wenholtz and Deb DeLuca shared some examples.
- MW noted that some aspects of recommendations 3, 6, 11, 12, and 22 (obviously) have been implemented.
- DD shared details of progress made on implementing two recommendations.
- Nelson French suggested that we provide a status update of each of the 26 recommendations at the next HTAC meeting. MW reminded everyone that this is the plan, as per the Implementation Strategy.

St Louis River National Water Trail Designation Update, Kris Eilers, SLRA

- Kris Eilers briefly described what a national water trail is and identified numerous benefits of a national water trail designation – both generally, and specifically in regard to the St Louis River.
- There is a fairly long list of partners and stakeholders involved with this effort, from both Minnesota and Wisconsin.
- KE then shared details of the plan itself. The plan includes numerous water trail loops mapped, with an accompanying table to aid a user in knowing what loops are appropriate for their skill level and interest.
- The plan includes an implementation matrix for near-term and longer-term actions.
- The plan has been submitted to the federal government with a nomination for national water trail designation, and is awaiting final approval.
- Kris' presentation is posted on the MIC's HTAC web page.

Twin Ports Interchange Project Update, Chris Morris, MnDOT Dist 1

- Chris provided a thorough update of the proposed reconstruction of the Twin Ports Interchange and related segments (i.e. proposed project).
- The current interchange has numerous roadway deficiencies and safety issues, load restrictions and other freight mobility problems, and stormwater concerns. The public has voiced other concerns related to the interchange, as well. The proposed project aims to address these problems and concerns.
- Plans include creating an extension of Courtland Street to Garfield Avenue and reconstructing a portion of the I535 and Garfield Avenue interchange.
- Chris described four primary concepts/options for reconfiguring and reconstructing the interchange, including providing cost estimates. He also shared some possible concepts for other aspects of the proposed project. All options include bringing all sections of I35 within the project area to grade, removing the many bridges that currently exist.
- Approximately half of the estimated necessary funding has been secured, and Chris felt good about securing the remainder of the funding. MN DOT has applied for several grants. Part of the reason he feels the funding will be secured is because it is the highest priority project in the state, and it must be completed prior to the Blatnik Bridge reconstruction.
- The proposed timeline is 2019-2021.
- Dale Bergeron asked some stormwater-related questions. Chris agreed that additional study is needed to address stormwater concerns.
- Chris' presentation is posted on the MIC's HTAC web page.



City of Duluth Comprehensive Plan Update, Steven Robertson, City of Duluth

- Steve discussed the status and highlights of the Economic Development portion of the City of Duluth Comprehensive Plan (Imagine Duluth 2035 – Forward Together) update.
- Steve described each of the plan's five primary economic development policies, including highlighting a handful of specific details under each policy.
- There was a good discussion between Steve and some meeting attendees about the importance of finding balance between changing/shifting local economies and the cyclical nature of some historic portions of our local economy, specifically maritime and maritime-industrial activities. Part of the discussion included issues that should be considered when making the decisions to find this balance.
- Steve's presentation is posted on the MIC's HTAC web page.

USFS – Funded Project at DWP, Jim Shoberg, City of Duluth

- Jim provided an overview of a recently-completed USFS-funded project at the Duluth, Winnipeg, and Pacific Roundhouse (DWP) site that included some capping with dredge fines, the removal of invasive species, and the planting of over 11,000 trees and tubings. This is the latest in a long history of remedial actions at this formally heavily contaminated industrial site.
- The purpose of the restoration project is to protect water quality in the streams that flow into the St Louis River by enhancing soils in the DWP area, then restoring native vegetation on the site.
- A significant part of the project was to remove as many terrestrial invasive species (buckthorn, honeysuckle, and tansy) over 40+ acres as possible, especially focused within specific target areas or pockets chosen to prevent serious economic problems.
- Two acres of contaminated lands were capped using clean fill from dredge operations in the Duluth harbor. Following placement of soil, the site was seeded and the trees were planted.
- Additional details of the project can be read at: <http://duluthmn.gov/parks/parks-planning/dwp-roundhouse-restoration/>

Summary & Highlights of the 2017 Shipping Season, Ken Gerasimos, Key Lakes

- 2017 has been a great shipping season. Most cargoes are up significantly from the past 10 years.
- Forecasts are looking good for 2018.
- Higher water levels in the Great Lakes are a direct influence on the larger cargo loads.
- Steel dumping internationally remains a real issue and problem.
- US Coast Guard has approved six ballast water treatment systems. Laker ships are trying to figure out how to implement these approvals.
- Poe Lock at Sioux Ste. Marie remains a big deal – a very real concern and potential massive problem. Jobs and tax base will be hurt and lost without shipping through it.

Roundtable

- Richard Stewart mentioned that using clean dredge fill from the harbor has had a cost savings of \$1 million on local projects.
- The St Louis River Summit will be held March 13-14, 2018, at UW-Superior.
- The National Estuarine System Meeting will be held November 4-9, 2018, at the DECC in Duluth.

With no other items brought forward, Chair DeLuca adjourned the meeting shortly before noon.