



# Sustainable Choices 2045



## Duluth-Superior Long-Range Transportation Plan



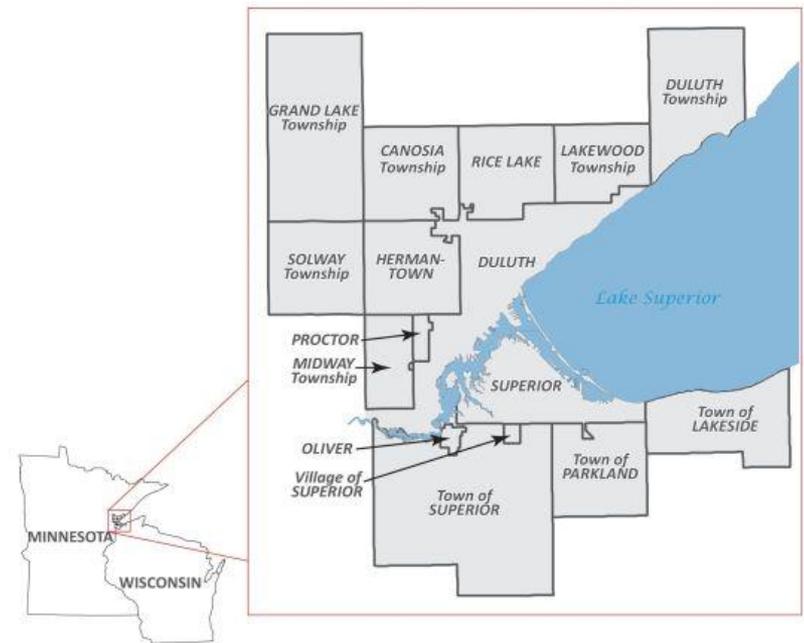
TAC and MIC Board Meetings  
May 15 & 16, 2018

# What is the MIC?

Metropolitan Interstate Council

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Duluth-Superior area

- Federally designated
- 641 square mile area



# What is the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)?

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- A vision for the future transportation network, within the constraints of funding the region can reasonably expect to receive.
- A plan for a multi-modal system that is well-maintained, well-integrated and serves all users.

# What is the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)?

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## Federal Requirement for MPOs

- Provide policy guidance, goals and strategies for MIC area jurisdictions to safely and efficiently move people and freight
- Covers a 20+ year planning horizon
- Updated every 5 years

# Foundation for the MIC's Work

## L RTP

- Vision, goals and strategies for multiple modes of travel
- Updated every 5 years



## Sustainable Choices 2045



Duluth-Superior Long-Range Transportation Plan



## TIP

- 4 Year Federally-funded projects
- Consistent with LRTP
- Reflects LRTP investment priorities
- Updated annually



## Work Program

- Short-term and local
- Reflects LRTP priorities
- Updated every year

# Demographics

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# Stagnant Population

MN Department of Employment and Economic Development...

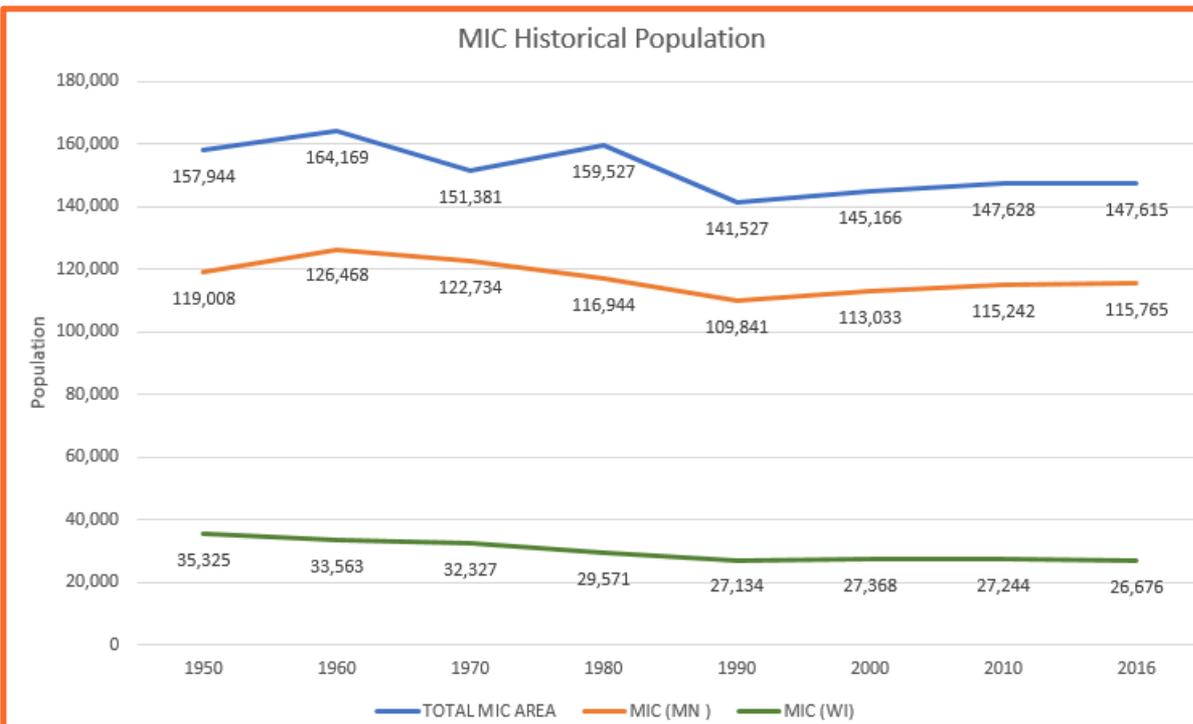
“Arrowhead region is lagging behind in attracting and retaining residents.” –

“In the Arrowhead region, there were nearly 2,000 more deaths than births since 2010.”

## Pop Change Since 2010

Arrowhead -0.4%

State of MN +5.1%



# Aging Population and growing “20-somethings”

In 2010, over 25% of people living in Duluth, Superior and the surrounding townships was age 55 or older. This is projected to increase to **37%** of the population by the year 2040

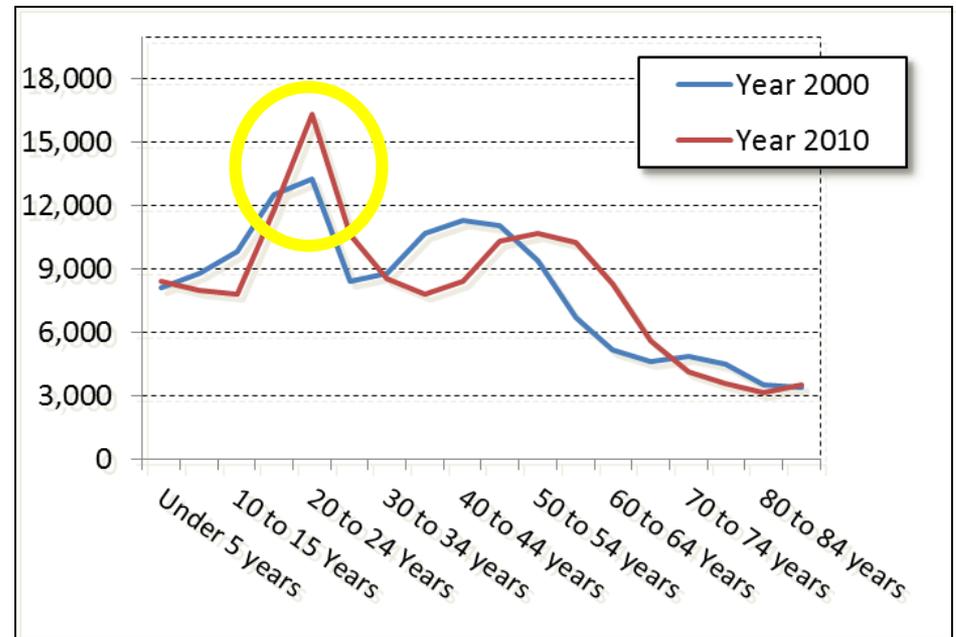
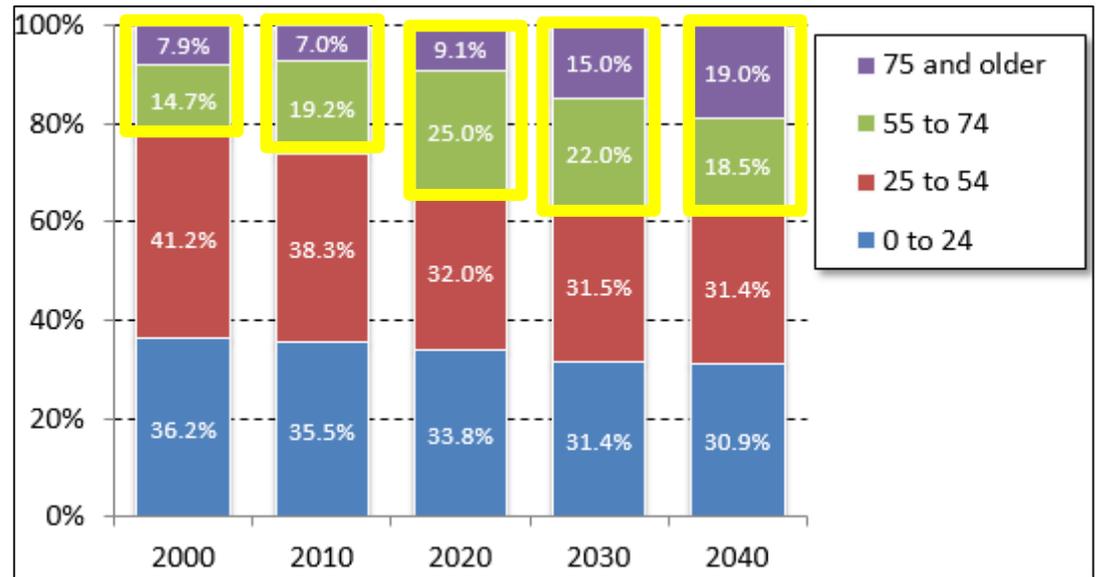
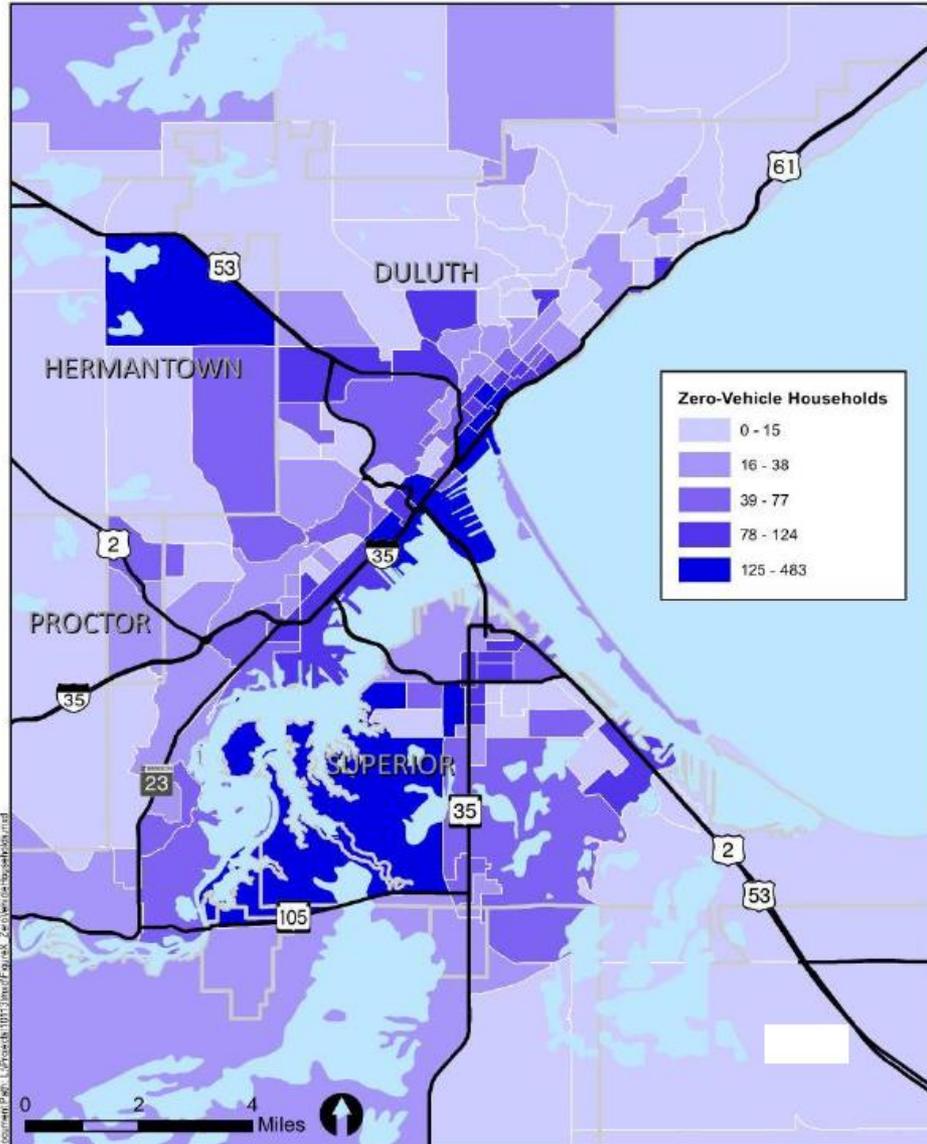


Figure 5: Zero Vehicle Households

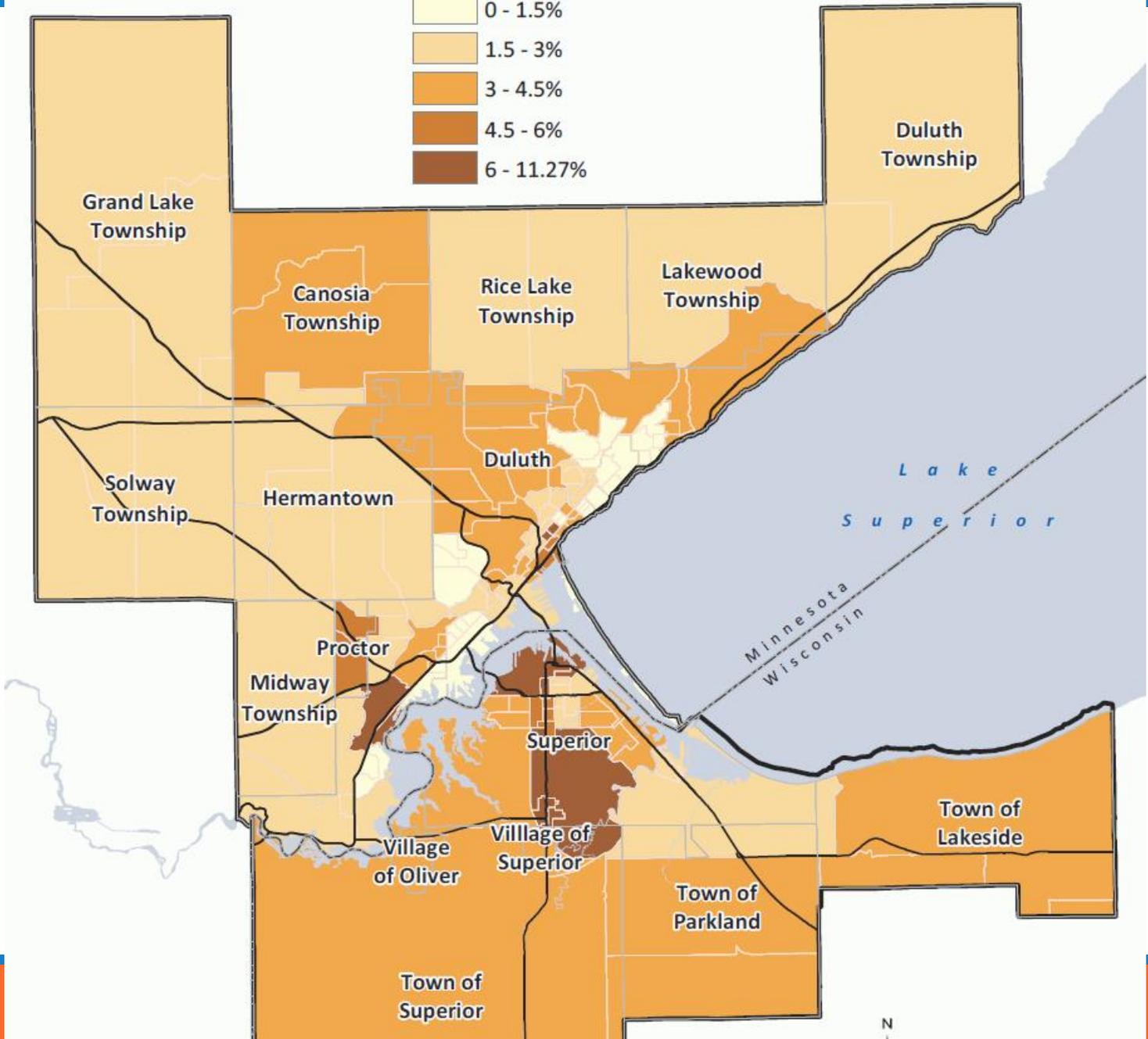
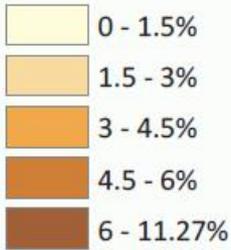


# Needs and Wants

A significant number of people who live here don't drive for a variety of reasons. Some don't have access to a reliable vehicle (up to 39% in some neighborhoods), some are unable to drive, and others choose not to drive.

"According to ACS 2015 – 5 year estimates, 23.6 percent of the Duluth MSA's population was under 18 years of age."

Population with Ambulatory Difficulty

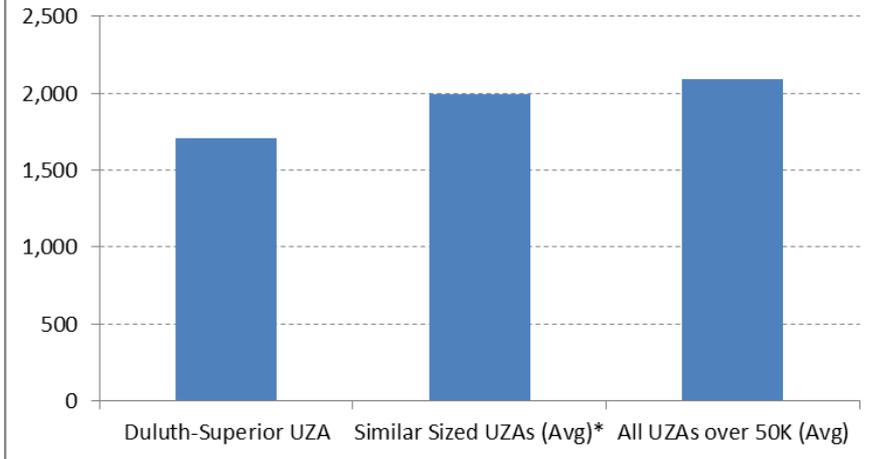


# Current Conditions

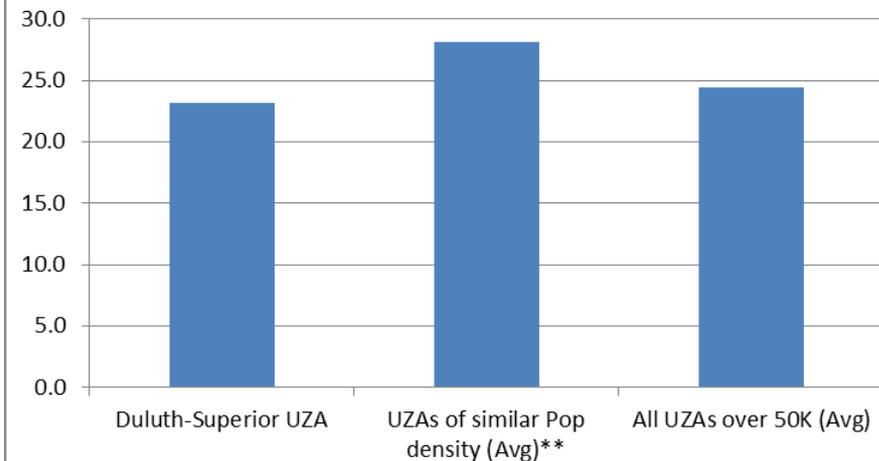
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# A lot of infrastructure

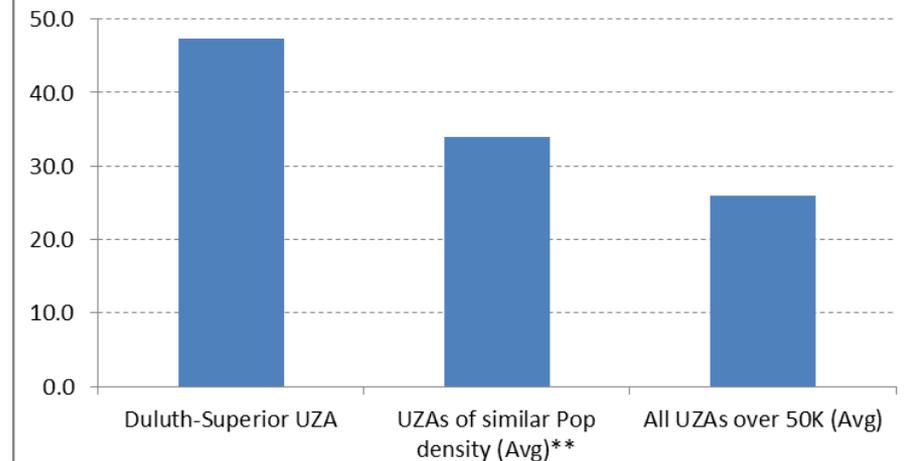
### Persons per Square Mile



### Average Daily VMT per Capita



### Feet of Road Per Capita





Bridge

Rail

Shipping Channel

Interstate/Interchange

Bridge

Local Roads & Cross City Trail





# Right-Sizing

- College Street
- Glenwood
- Hwy 23 ( Fond du Lac)





# POTHOLES!

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# Infrastructure Condition

## TWIN PORTS AREA GRADE



**B-**  
Aviation



**B-**  
Bridges



**D**  
Drinking  
Water



**C+**  
Ports



**D+**  
Roads



**C+**  
Solid Waste



**C+**  
Wastewater



**G.P.A.**

2018

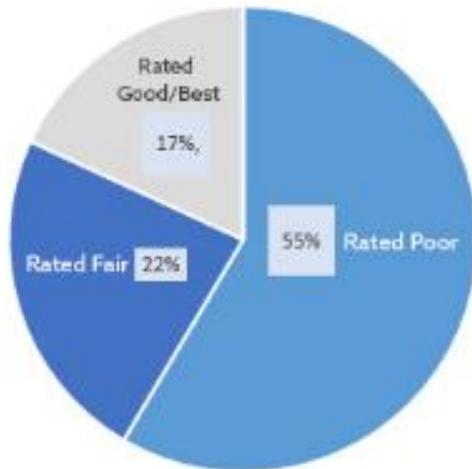


REPORT CARD FOR THE  
TWIN PORTS AREA'S  
INFRASTRUCTURE

# ASCE

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

City of Duluth Pavement Condition Ratings



**ROADS**

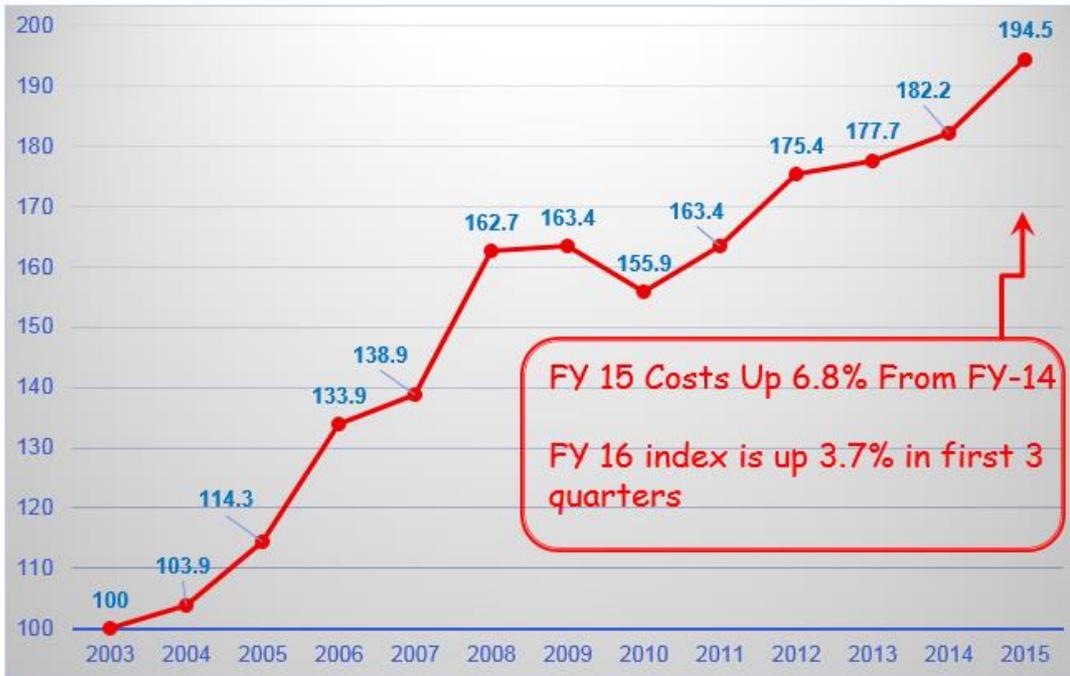


The roads of the Twin Ports region have sufficient capacity and public safety is a high priority. However, condition of roadway pavement, particularly in the City of Duluth, are cause for concern. Recent local funding initiatives authorized through the Greater Minnesota Transportation Sales Tax program, such as the recent Saint Louis County Transportation 0.5% sales tax, are an attempt to close the funding gap and are reasons for optimism. A similar initiative by the City of Duluth would help improve roadway conditions in the largest city in the Twin Ports area. However, available funding continues to be insufficient to comprehensively address the region's road needs.

“The overarching conclusion is that our region’s infrastructure is currently slightly better than the national average, but backsliding will occur in the next 5-10 years if infrastructure funding issues do not continue to be pushed to the forefront.”

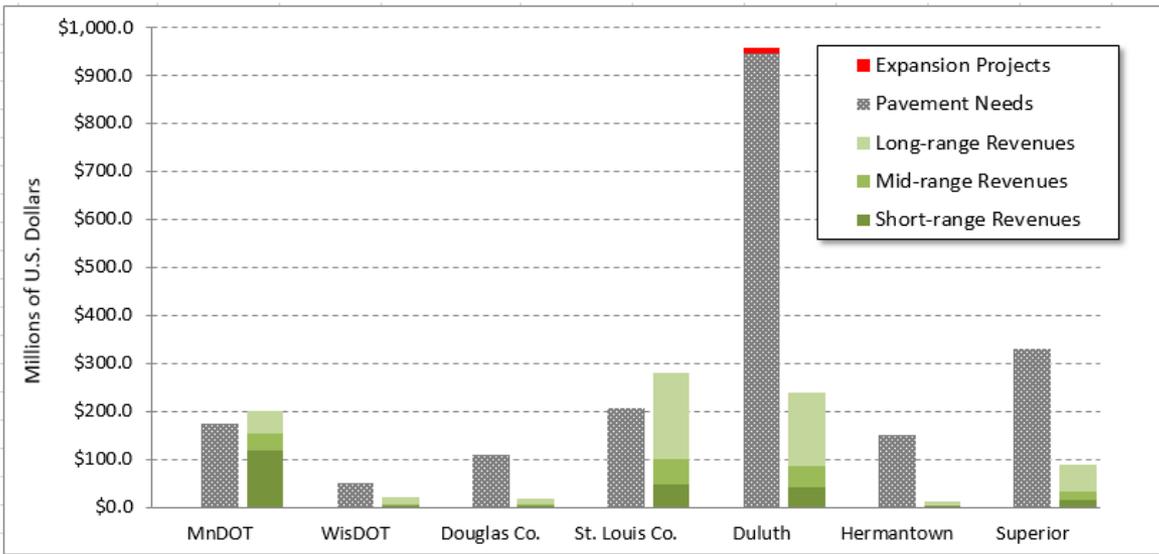
## Construction Cost Index

2003 = 100



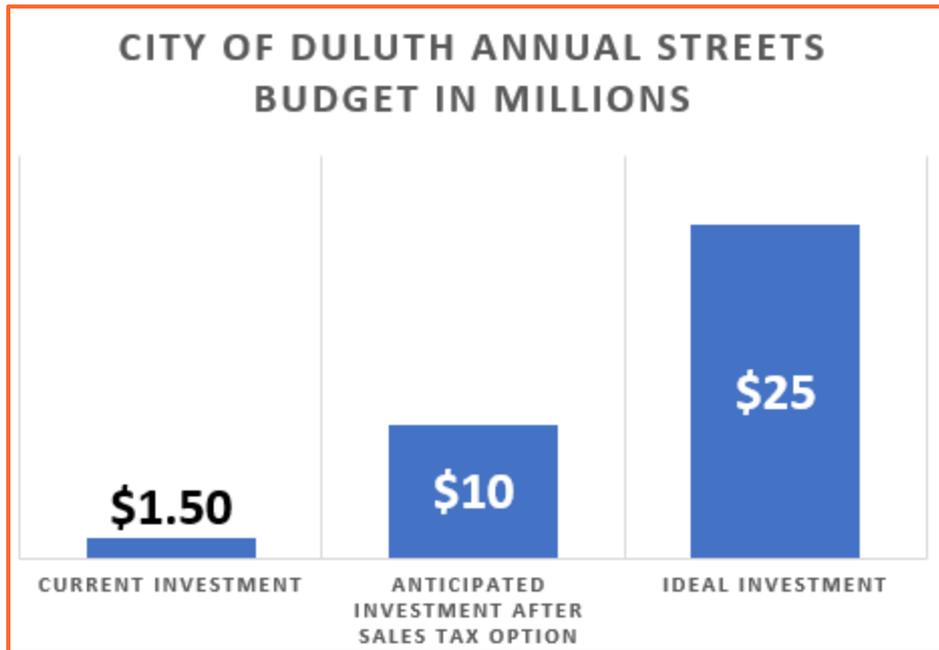
# Rising Costs

Costs of building and maintaining transportation infrastructure are rising every year. Between 2003 and 2016 construction costs increased nationally by 68%.



**Local Jurisdictions face up to \$1.2 Billion in unfunded need over the next 25 years**

-Connections 2040



# Modes



## Motor Vehicle



## Bus/Shuttle



## Walk



## Bicycle



# Other

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## Port

- 35 million short tons of cargo and nearly 900 vessel visits each year.
- 20 privately owned and operated docks along 49 miles of waterfront
- Ranked by cargo tonnage among the top 20 ports in the U.S
- **11,510 jobs** in Minnesota and Wisconsin were supported by the cargo moving via the marine terminals
- In 2010, the direct business revenue received by the firms directly dependent upon the cargo handled at the marine terminals located in the Port of Duluth-Superior was **\$1.5 billion.**

## Air

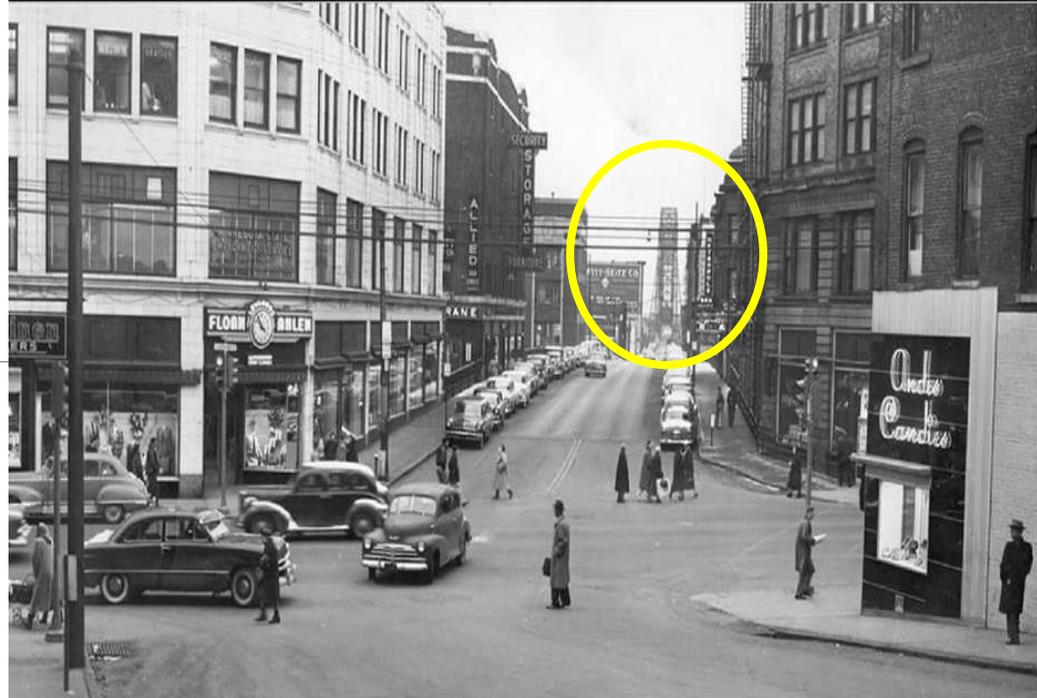
- 123,170 Passengers in 2017 at Duluth International Air Port
- 3,451 direct jobs
- **\$646M** infused into the Duluth-Superior economy
- \$325.2 million in personal income

## Rail

- **Four Class I railroads** - BNSF, CN, CP and UP
- New Duluth Cargo Connect Intermodal Facility
- Potential for **Northern Lights Express passenger rail**
- Two scenic rail outfits
- 4,500-mile freight rail network, which carries 228 million tons of freight in all of MN

# Planning Perspectives

- Moving People and Goods
- Economic Vitality
- Livable Communities and Equity
- Environment and Public Health
- Safety



# What are we facing?

Revenues for transportation shrinking

Public hesitant on raising gas tax

Increased fuel efficiency

Vehicle miles traveled leveling off

Replacement of Post WWII infrastructure is coming due

Poverty is deepening

Population is getting older

Physical inactivity is increasing

Technology is changing our behaviors



# Moving Forward

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# Bottom Line

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**There are many needs & wants, but limited resources.**

**We must make wise, sustainable choices.**

# Sustainable?

**What does a sustainable transportation system look like?**

- Considers & Works for Everyone
- Is Affordable
- Has a Reliable Funding Source
- Right Size – Not Overbuilt
- Creates Wealth
- Supports Economic Vitality
- Safe
- No Environmental Problems
- Supports Livable Neighborhoods

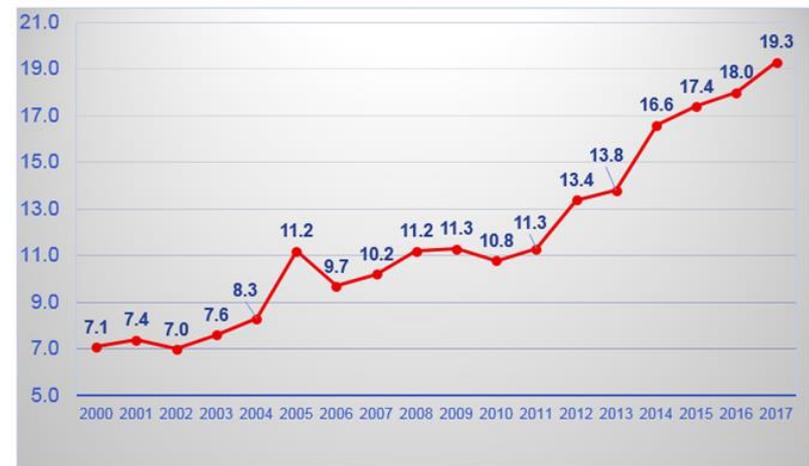
## Gross Transportation Fund Revenue

FY 16 – FY 22 Projection in Millions of Dollars



## Debt Service as Percent of State Revenue

FY 00 – FY 17



# MetroQuest Phase 1 Survey

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You are invited to learn more about *and* help shape our community's vision for our transportation system:

<https://sustainable2045.metroquest.com/>





Comments? Questions?



## Sustainable Choices 2045



Duluth-Superior Long-Range Transportation Plan



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