



MIC Policy Board
 April 17, 2019 Meeting Summary
 Hermantown Training Center, Hermantown, MN

Note Taker(s)	Barb Peterson	
Members Present		
	Broc Allen	Douglas County Suburban Townships
	Ed Anderson	City of Superior – Citizen Rep
WI Co-Chair	Nick Baker	Douglas County Board of Supervisors
	Warren Bender	City of Superior Common Council
	Wayne Boucher	City of Hermantown
	Pete Clark	Douglas County Board of Supervisors
MN Co-Chair	Frank Jewell	St Louis County Board
	Rosemary Lear	Douglas County Board of Supervisors
	Dan Olson	Superior Common Council
	Sam Pomush	Douglas County Board of Supervisors
	Chad Ward	City of Proctor
	Jim Filby Williams	City of Duluth
Members Absent		* Excused Absence
	Earl Elde	St. Louis County Suburban Townships
	Bob Quade	City of Rice Lake
	Barb Russ	Duluth City Council
	Renee VanNett	Duluth City Council
	Jenny VanSickle	City of Superior Common Council
Others Present		
	Ron Chicka	MIC Director
	Sheldon Johnson	MIC Deputy Director/Exec Dir NWRPC
	Barb Peterson	MIC Admin Asst
	Mike Wenholz	MIC Sr Planner



1. Introductions/Agenda Review

Chair Frank Jewell called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. All meeting attendees introduced themselves.

2. Committee Business

- Meeting Summary of 3.20.19 (for Approval)

Motion Discussion and Vote	Sam Pomush/Broc Allen moved to approve the 3.20.19 meeting summary as presented. There was no discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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- **Director's Report**

Ron shared a brief review of the items included in the agenda item descriptions which included a study to determine the potential of converting 1st St into a two-way street. The kick-off of the Active Transportation Plan in Superior with Toole Design assisting as a consultant and finally notice of WisDOT and a Future of Transportation Summit coming up later this month in Milwaukee.

3. 2019-2022 Superior Area TIP Amendment #6

Sheldon briefly explained that these flood projects from 2018 have been completed using State dollars and the amendment replaces them with Federal dollars.

Motion Discussion and Vote	Nick Baker/Sam Pomush moved to approve Amendment #6 of the 2019-2022 Superior Area TIP as presented. There was no discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.
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4. Legislative Update on the Upcoming Federal Transportation Bill

Ron presented a Legislative Update on the Federal Transportation Reauthorization. Some of the key points included:

- Infrastructure legislation could be the only bipartisan legislation Congress and the White House could agree on
- FAST Act expires September 2020
- ✓ Highway Trust Fund has enough revenue to meet obligations till spring/summer 2021.
- Paying for the legislation is a primary issue that remains unresolved
- Congress will need to act on FAST Act/Infrastructure bill before the August Congressional recess or the momentum will fade as the 2020 elections take over.
- In a divided government both sides will need compromise to pass any significant infrastructure bill.



- **MPO Priorities:**
- Fix the Highway Trust Fund
- Increase federal investment in transportation
- Increase planning funds for MPOs
 - *With the 2020 Census, more MPOs will be created; without new revenue for metropolitan planning, each MPO receives less funding to perform planning functions.*
- Increase the population threshold for the designation of new MPOs to 100,000
- Improve project selection authority of MPO boards.
- Support continued development of multi-modal national freight network with dedicated funding.
to name a few.

For more details or copy of the presentation please let us know.

5. Sustainable Choices 2045 – LRTP Committee

Mike presented an update as to where we are at in the development of our LRTP. He explained that there is an updated order for some chapters and appendices order that makes more sense. Mike briefly reviewed a draft version of Appendix F which includes a summary of TDM results and showed the updated Level of Service Maps.

Mike continued with a review of the draft Chapter 3 which includes primary data sources identified & explained; shared a list key data & results and finished with 13 Key Take-Away Points.

He then announced the upcoming Jurisdictional Consultations and Next Steps.

6. I-35/Bayfront Project Update

Ron gave a summary of the observed issues which included:

- **Traffic congestion** due to circulation and processing time at parking entrances
- **Coordination difficulty** among independent parking operations
- **Lack of advanced and real-time parking information**
- **Lack of information about alternative transportation options and wayfinding** (pedestrian, bicycle, transit)

The key strategies included:

- **Strategy Group 1: Outreach and Minimal Traffic Management**
 - *Marketing; pedestrian improvements; wayfinding signage*
- **Strategy Group 2: Parking and Traffic Circulation Management**
 - *Integrated management; multiple entrances; downtown and assigned parking*
- **Strategy Group 3: Traffic Operation Improvement**
 - *Signal timing; separate NB/EB traffic on 5th Avenue ramp*



- **Strategy Group 4: Circulation Improvement**
 - *Change Harbor Drive to 1-way; create Lake Ave/Canal Park Drive 1-way pair*
- **Strategy Group 5: Roadway or Network Improvement**
 - *Reconstruct 5th Ave W. roadway/sidewalk; add roadway capacity to Railroad St*
- **Strategy Group 6: Transit/Railway Improvement**
 - *Add dedicated bus lane via 5th Ave W/Harbor Dr; add P&R shuttle option*
- **Strategy Group 7: System or Capacity Improvement**
 - *Construct a parking ramp near the power plant; utilize apps for traffic & parking info*

Much of this data was evaluated by degree of improvement combined with financial feasibility and implementation viability. The strategies were listed in tables and evaluated on their favorability and feasibility.

Next Steps:

- **Final Stakeholder Meeting – April 24**
 - Review/input into final recommendations
- **Public Meeting – Wed, May 22, 5:00 pm**
DECC French River Room
 - Summary of recommended improvements
 - Short term event management plan
 - Long term infrastructure plan
- **Project Implementation**
 - Summer 2019

For more information please or if you would like a pdf of the presentation please let us know.

7. Harbor Planning Update

Mike gave an overview of the agenda items covered at the March HTAC meeting which included an update to the goings on at the Duluth Seaway Port Authority. Deb Deluca reviewed the new faces that are new to the Port Authority and that in the Spring of 2020 they will be moving into their new home in the Seaway Building on Garfield. Deb also shared the expansion of the Intermodal Container Terminal, new 82,000 sf warehouse added to the Clure Expansion; an update of the Duluth Cargo Connect project which has reduced supply chain cost by up to 30% and she reviewed a study concerning the “Foundations For Growth – Shaping Duluth’s Industrial Economy” that they had commissioned from Initiative for a Competitive Inner City.

Other presentations included, an update of AOC work planned for 2019 the information needed for the future at the AOC sites. Where will it be housed, and will the right people be able to access it easily by Barb Huberty, MN PCA. An update on the Environmental Windows from Anna Hess, MN DNR and an overview of the MnDOT District 1 Freight Plan from Andrew Andrusko, MnDOT.



8. Project Updates (see the meeting packet for details.)

- 2019-2022 Duluth Area TIP Administrative Modification #4
- Campus Connector Trail, *James Gittemeier*
- Bus, Bike Walk Month, *James Gittemeier*

9. Adjourn: With no further agenda items, discussions or announcements, Chair Jewell adjourned the meeting at 8:05 pm.



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