



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council  
**Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)**

Tuesday, June 18, 2019 1:30 pm

Duluth International Airport

Duluth, MN

**MEETING NOTICE**

**Presentation: State of the Airport**

- Tom Werner, Executive Director

**Items for Approval:**

- Meeting Summary of 5.14.19
- Sustainable Choices 2045 – Approval for the Release for a 30-Day Public Comment Period to open July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Item for Approval w/opportunity for Public Comment**

- Approval 2020-2023 Duluth Area TIP
- 2019-2022 Superior Area TIP Amendment #7
- 2019-2022 Duluth Area TIP Amendment #3

**Items for Presentation and Discussion**

- Sustainable Choices 2045 – LRTP Committee
- Bayfront Project Recommendations
- 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 and Parking**

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 • [www.dsmic.org](http://www.dsmic.org)

# Directions to Duluth Airport Conference Room



-The Conference Room is located on the 3rd floor of the airport terminal. Take the elevator, located toward the back of the building (near the restrooms on the 2nd (skywalk) level, or between the baggage claim carousels on the ground floor).

**TRANSPORTATION  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
(TAC)**

**MEMBERS**

**Airport**

Tom Werner

**Active Transportation**

Shawna Mullen

**City of Duluth**

Cari Pedersen  
Cindy Voigt  
Jenn Moses  
Chris Lee

**City of Hermantown**

David Bolf  
John Mulder  
(alternate)

**City of Proctor**

Mark Casey

**City of Superior**

Todd Janigo  
Jason Serck

**Douglas County**

Jason Jackman

**Duluth Transit Authority**

Chris Belden  
Phil Pumphrey  
(alternate)

**Economic Development**

Karl Schuettler

**MnDOT**

Bryan Anderson  
John McDonald, *Chair*  
Maren Webb  
(alternate)

**Mobility Challenged**

Vacant

**Port/Harbor**

Kate Ferguson

**St. Louis County**

Jim Foldesi  
Matt Hemmila  
(alternate)

**WisDOT NW Region**

Dena Ryan, *Vice-Chair*



Metropolitan Interstate Council Policy Board

**Transportation Advisory Committee**

**Tuesday, June 18th, 2019 1:30 pm**

Duluth International Airport

Duluth, MN

**MEETING AGENDA**

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| <b>1. Introductions/Agenda Review</b>  |        |
| <b>2. Committee Business</b>   | 5 min  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting Summary of 5.14.19 (for Approval)</li> <li>Director's Report</li> </ul>   |        |
| <b>3. Presentation: State of the Airport</b>   | 25 min |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tom Werner, <i>Duluth International Airport</i></li> </ul>  |        |
| <b>4. Approval 2020-2023 Duluth Area TIP</b>   | 10 min |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review for Approval w/opportunity for public comment, James Gittemeier</li> </ul>   |        |
| <b>5. 2019-2022 Superior Area TIP Amendment #7</b>   | 5 min  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review for approval w/opportunity for public comment, Sheldon Johnson</li> </ul>  |        |
| <b>6. 2019-2022 Duluth Area TIP Amendment #2</b>   | 5 min  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review for Approval w/opportunity for public comment, James Gittemeier</li> </ul>   |        |
| <b>7. Sustainable Choices 2045 - Draft</b>   | 10 min |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review for Approval to the Release for a 30-Day Public Comment Period to open July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Mike Wenholz</li> </ul> |        |
| <b>8. Sustainable Choices 2045 – LRTP Committee</b>  | 45 min |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation and Discussion, Mike Wenholz</li> </ul>  |        |
| <b>9. Bayfront Project Recommendations</b>   | 10 min |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation and Discussion, Rondi Watson</li> </ul>  |        |
| <b>10. Roundtable Discussion</b>   | 5 min  |
| <b>11. Project Updates</b>   | 5 min  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Campus Connector Trail</li> <li>Bike Facilities Tour</li> </ul>   |        |

*Annual Appreciation Dinner*

**Wednesday, July 24, 2019**

**Park Point Boat House**

**Duluth, MN**

*Next Meeting*

**Tuesday, August 20, 2019**

**UWS/Sea Grant Estuarium**

**Superior, WI**

**1:30 pm**



## TAC Agenda Topics and Project Updates

June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Meeting

### Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

\* = *Approval Item*

#### 1. INTRODUCTIONS / AGENDA REVIEW

#### 2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- **Meeting Summary of 5.14.19**
- **MIC Director's Report**

**Duluth (DLH) Airport Master Plan Committee** – The Airport is starting up an update of its Master Plan for growth and has assembled a steering committee to assist. The MIC has been asked to serve and provide input. The study is expected to take two to three years to conclude. The members of the committee will participate on topic-specific working groups and there will also be a project website, open houses and other forms of public interaction.

**I-35 Bayfront Area Traffic Modeling and Special Event Traffic Control Plan** – The MIC and our engineering consultant Alliant just wrapped up a very successful and landmark study for this area and our committee members. The press showed up for our final group meeting and reported on our accomplishments. For the first time, we now have a long list of possible strategies that address multimodal transportation needs in the Bayfront/DECC area of Duluth. Pedestrian, biking, trucking, transit, parking and general roadway options are all laid out to consider for the near term and 5 to 10 years out. The City, the DOT and the Port Authority were key players in the document and paid for this study. Most satisfying is that the group wanted to keep the momentum going with this effort and we are now leading an ancillary work item whereby the group is continuing to meet to conduct an Implementation Plan for the work piece.

**Letter of Support for Twin Ports Interchange – Federal BUILD Grant** – As we've done in the recent past, the MIC provided a support letter to MnDOT for gaining further funding for the TPI project via the federal Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) program. The competitive federal fund considers projects that address transportation needs with a focus on those that generate national/regional economic, safety and mobility benefits.

**Long Range Transportation Plan – Bridge Model Scenario Project** – We're underway with our modeling consultant, SRF, to undertake a full look at various scenarios concerning the two main bridges (Blatnik and Bong) and impacts on traffic with different closures attributed to each; such as one-direction closed, one lane closed or fully closed. The goal is to better inform both DOTs on both general vehicular and truck traffic impacts under each scenario. In particular, the freight model component is capable of indicating user costs (in terms of added time) that is important to shippers in goods movement.

**Superior Active Transportation Plan Kick-off** – The City's plan kicked off this month with a first steering committee meeting and open house at the Superior Public Library. The MIC has already provided to the City and its consultant, Toole Design out of Madison, a number of our own documents and plans related to this current endeavor. Our recently completed Bike Plan for the MIC area will get updated, to a greater degree, upon completion of this plan. Schedule is over the next 12 to 18 months. MIC staff, and possibly the lead consultant, will be updating all on the progress of this study.



## TAC Agenda Topics and Project Updates

June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Meeting

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#### 3. GUEST SPEAKER: STATE OF THE AIRPORT

- Tom Werner, Executive Director, Duluth International Airport

#### 4. 2020-2023 DULUTH AREA TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

- Review for Approval w/opportunity for public comment, James Gittlemeier

The 2020-2023 Duluth Area TIP will be considered for approval at the June meetings. MIC staff will provide an overview of the public input received. Minor editing to the plan narrative was completed to align with changes and additions.

#### 5. 2019-2022 SUPERIOR AREA TIP AMENDMENT #7

- Review for Approval w/opportunity for public comment, Dena Ryan

WisDOT has requested a TIP amendment for preliminary design work for a bridge rehabilitation project. STH 13 bridge B-16-0024, spanning over USH 2/STH 53, is located in the Town of Parkland. Rehabilitation work on the bridge is not planned to begin until CY 2026.

#### 2019 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

| Jurisdiction<br>and Project<br>Number | Project Description  |                    | Estimated Costs & Funding Sources |       |       |       |
|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
|                                       |  |                    | Thousands                         |       |       |       |
|                                       |  |                    | Federal                           | State | Local | Total |
| WisDOT<br><br>113-19-012              | USH 002, Douglas<br>Co.<br><br>STH 13 Bridge<br>B-16-0024,<br>Rehabilitation<br>Design | PE<br>ROW<br>CONST | \$140                             | \$30  |       | \$175 |
| Amended to<br>TIP in June<br>2019     | Federal NHPP<br>funding<br>1195-03-00  | TOTAL              | \$140                             | \$30  |       | \$175 |

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

#### 6. 2019-2022 DULUTH AREA TIP AMENDMENT #3

- Review for Approval w/opportunity for public comment, James Gittlemeier

St. Louis County is requesting an amendment to the French River Wayside Rehabilitation Project. This amendment increases the total funding and moves the project up from 2022 to 2020. The federal funding would continue to be paid back in 2022, as originally programmed. The reason for the change is that St. Louis County was in the planning process of replacing the French River Bridge when awarded the Transportation Alternatives (TA) funds for the wayside project. As the



## TAC Agenda Topics and Project Updates

June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Meeting

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process has moved forward it was determined that the bridge project is going to slightly increase the elevation of the road. Therefore, it was determined to do both projects together rather than spend money trying to tie the existing wayside into the new road elevation only to redo it in a couple of years. These changes are noted below. RED text indicates proposed changes from the original project listing.

#### Proposed Changes - 2019-2022 Duluth Area TIP (Amendment #3)

| Project           | Description                                 | Est. Length (Miles) | Year | Federal   | State/Local | Total          |
|-------------------|---|---------------------|------|-----------|-------------|----------------|
| 069-060-002       | French River Wayside Rehabilitation Project | NA                  | 2022 | \$480,000 | \$120,000   | \$600,000      |
|                   |   |                     | 2020 | \$0       | \$2,985,433 | \$3,465,433    |
|                   |   |                     |      |           |             | (AC \$480,000) |
| 069-060-002<br>AC | French River Wayside Rehabilitation Project | NA                  | 2022 | \$480,000 |             |                |

#### 7. SUSTAINABLE CHOICES 2045 – DRAFT

- Review for Approval to the Release for a 30-Day Public Comment Period to Begin July 25th, 2019, Mike Wenholz

MIC staff is seeking approval for the release of the draft Duluth-Superior Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), Sustainable Choices 2045, for the required 30-day public comment period beginning July 25. This request is being made at the June meeting as there is no Board meeting in July.

#### 8. SUSTAINABLE CHOICES 2045 – LRTP COMMITTEE MEETING

- Presentation and Discussion, Mike Wenholz

Progress continues to be made in developing the Duluth-Superior Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), Sustainable Choices 2045. MIC staff have facilitated jurisdictional consultations and continue to conduct final data organization and analysis, summarize results, draft LRTP chapters, and prepare for stakeholder meetings. Mike will provide a summary update on the progress of work towards its completion. James Gittemeier will present a summary of DRAFT chapters 4 and 5 (Projects & Funding and MIC Area Multimodal Transportation Network).

As a reminder, the is the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) is serving as the Sustainable Choices 2045 (LRTP) Committee. Moving forward, through the September 2019 meeting, this

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LRTP Committee will meet as a segment of regular TAC meetings. The purpose of these LRTP Committee meetings is to share relevant and pertinent details of the draft chapters to help prepare the TAC members to best be able to review them. It is also an important way for MIC staff to receive input to assist in developing the LRTP. Time will be built into the meetings to allow for input and discussion, as well as potentially an occasional interactive activity, as appropriate.

To facilitate best use of our limited time and generate more useful discussion and input, please review, in advance of the meeting, the materials provided in the packet you will receive from Mike Wenzholz. Regarding the June meeting:

- The draft Future Transportation Projects List and Ideas for Further Study, as well as how they would address LRTP goals, will be shared and discussed.
- A short interactive activity may be facilitated to generate ideas.
- Time will allow for committee members to ask questions and provide input.

#### 9. I-35/BAYFRONT TRAFFIC CONTROL PROJECT: RECOMMENDATIONS OVERVIEW

- **Presentation and Discussion, Rondi Watson**

The MIC and consulting firm Alliant Engineering have led a planning endeavor since September 2018 to involve key stakeholders in assessing parking, traffic and wayfinding during large-scale and multiple events in the Bayfront/DECC/Canal Park area, and to identify strategies to address or alleviate these issues.

The [I35/Bayfront Area Traffic Circulation Modeling and Special Event Traffic Control Plan](#) has now been completed, and its recommendations include a mix of parking management, wayfinding, pedestrian and transit improvements as well as truck traffic considerations, and have short-, medium- and long-term timeframes for implementation.

A public meeting was held on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at the DECC which received [good media coverage](#) and had about 20 attendees. We will give the consultant's presentation from that meeting at the June TAC and MIC meetings.

#### 10. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

#### 11. PROJECT UPDATES

- **Campus Connector Trail**

An initial series of input sessions, including with the steering committee, the general public, as well as community groups has taken place. A public survey has concluded as well. Work to determine the final planned trail alignment and the intersection treatments is underway. A draft plan is scheduled to be developed by August.

- **Bike Facilities Tour**

Planning is still underway for a bike riding tour of bike facilities installed in Minneapolis or St. Paul. Date is still undetermined.