



Sustainable Choices 2045



Duluth-Superior Long-Range Transportation Plan



L RTP Update & Summary to the TAC & MIC Board
September 17-18, 2019

outline

Key Current Conditions

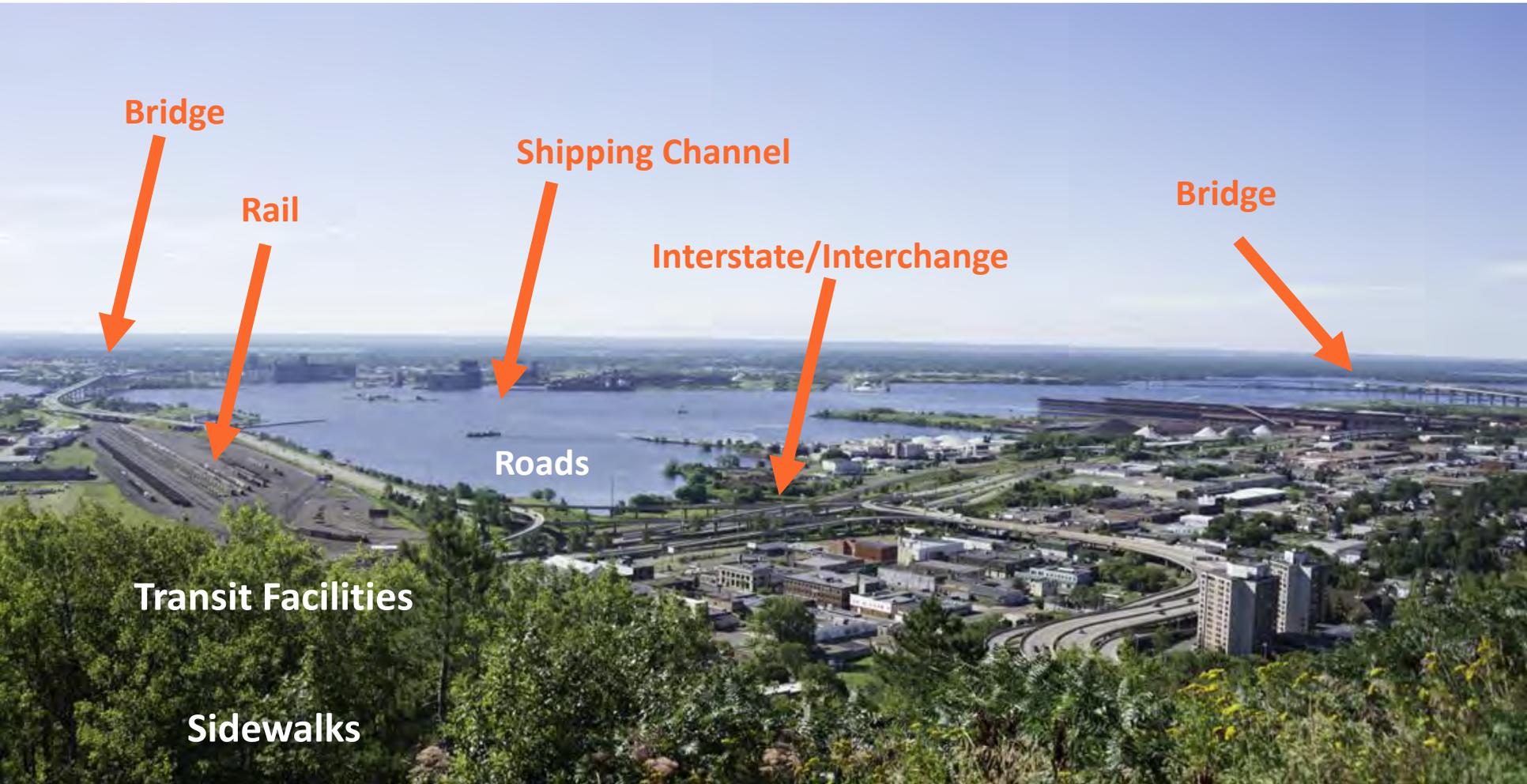
A New Direction

Moving Forward

Key Current Conditions

SETTING THE STAGE

Our Many Transportation Assets



Infrastructure Costs Continue to Rise

“... highway construction costs rose 66% between 2003 and 2016.” *

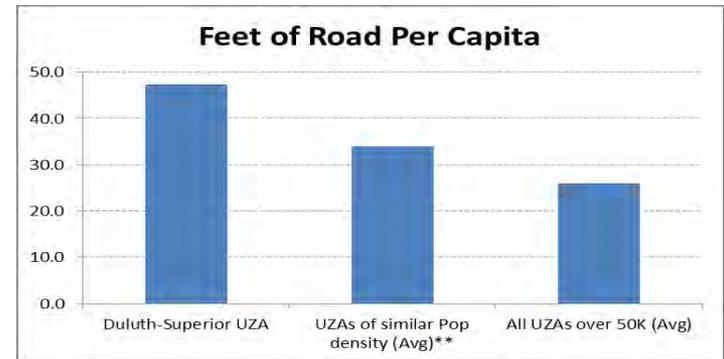
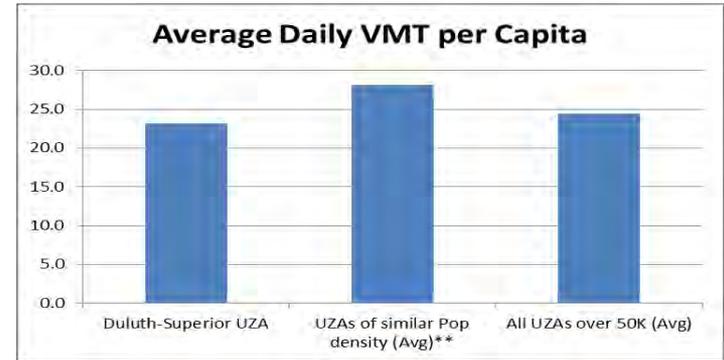
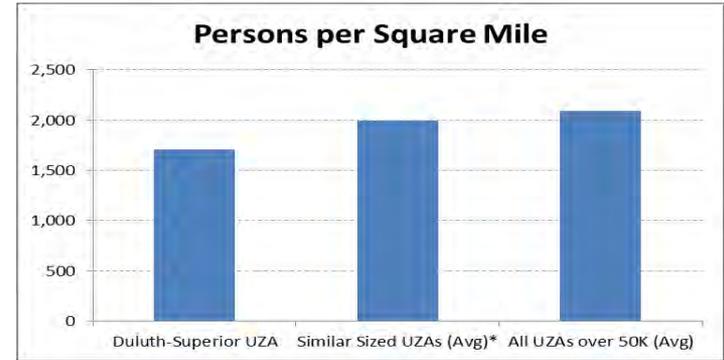
* = Long, Elliott. 2017. *Soaring Construction Costs Threaten Infrastructure Push*. Progressive Policy Institute, Washington DC. 13 pp

Compared to Similarly-Sized Cities We ...

have fewer people,

drive less,

but have much more road.



We Have Limited Traffic Congestion

Majority of roads operate well below capacity

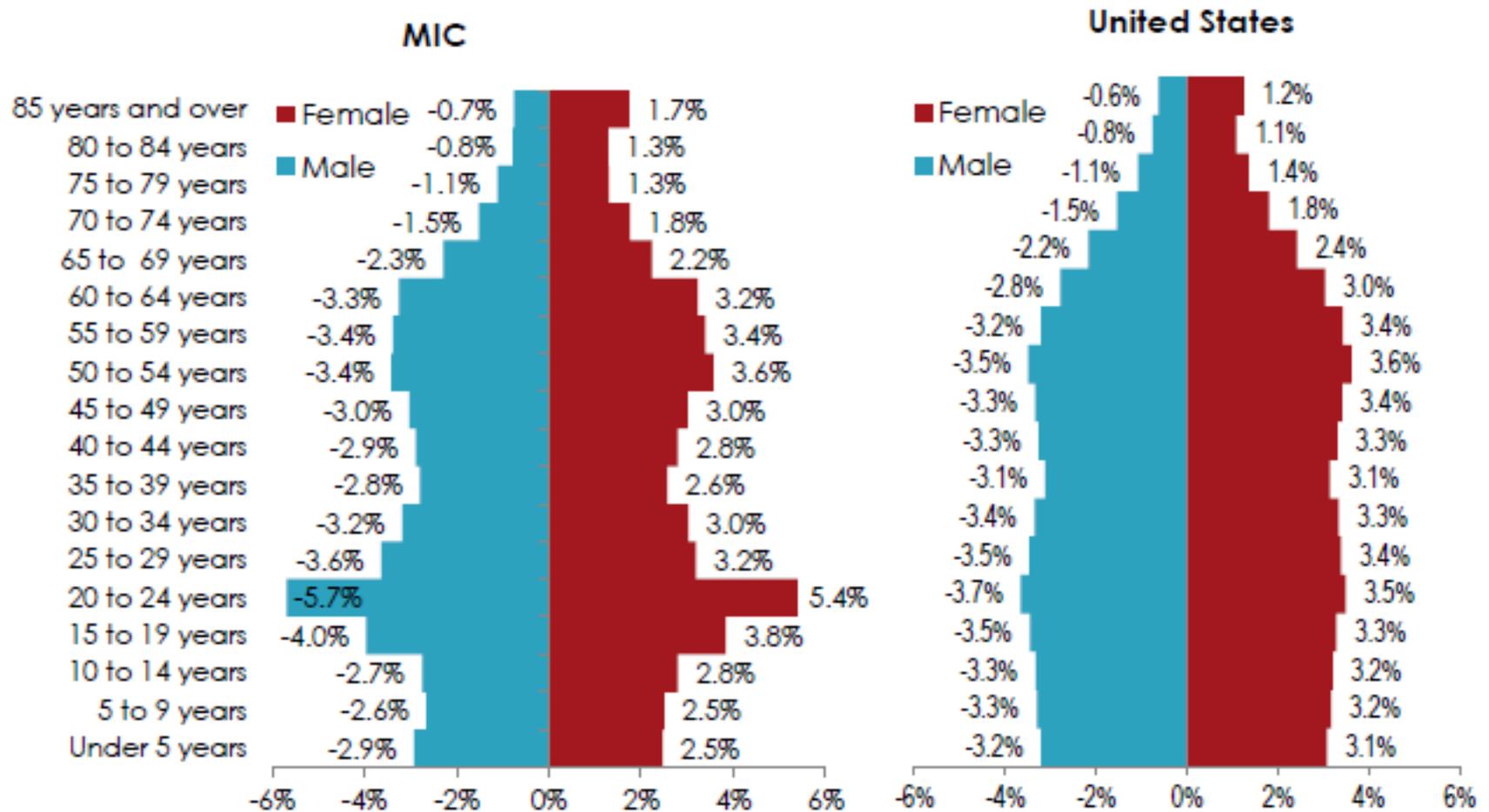
Congestion on a few corridors & intersections

Some congestion during peak hours & events

Population Not Growing



Aging Population



Source: ACS (2015).

Poverty is a Real Issue & Concern

18% of the total MIC area
population is below poverty

Summary – The Issues

Decreasing Tax Base

Sustainable Funding Problem

Likely Shift in Transportation Needs & Options

Bottom Line

There are many needs & wants, but limited resources.

We must make wise, sustainable choices.

A New Direction

Previous LRTP Framework

Largely framed by:

Mode

&

Federal Planning Factors
(23 CFR 450.306(b))

DIRECTIONS 2035

The Duluth-Superior Long Range Transportation Plan

CONNECTIONS

2040

The Duluth-Superior Long Range Transportation Plan



Pedestrian



Harbor/Port



Highway



Transit



Rail



Local Roadway



Bicycle



Av

Presented for Approval
October 15, 2014

Sustainable Choices 2045



Duluth-Superior Long-Range Transportation Plan

New LRTP Framework

More Integrated, Holistic View

Big Picture

Bottom Line

There are many needs & wants, but limited resources.

We must make wise, sustainable choices.

Sustainable?

Financially

Socially

Environmentally

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

Planning Perspectives

Moving People & Goods

Supporting Economic Vitality

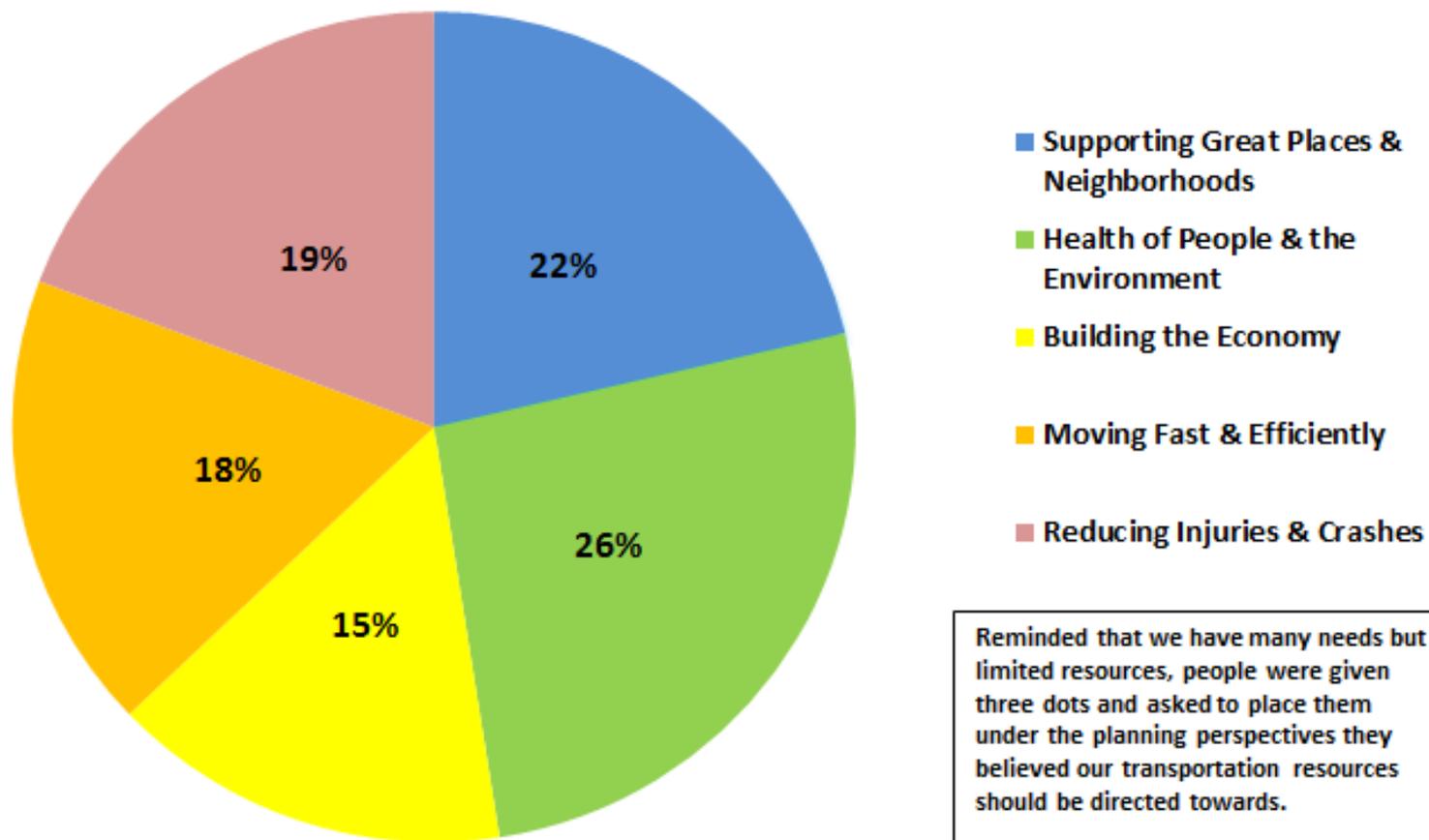
Creating Livable & Equitable Communities

Protecting the Environment & Promoting Public Health

Improving Safety

Balance Is Desired

What Transportation Issues Matter Most?



Results of Dot Surveys at 5 public events in 2018 (n = 843)
and 2018 MetroQuest Phase 2 survey results (n = 748)

Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council (MIC)
January, 2019

Plan Goals

Based on 5 Planning Perspectives

Health of People & the Environment

Livable Communities & Equity

Safety

Moving People & Goods

Economic Vitality

Plan Goals

Goal 1

Promote public health and energy conservation, and protect and enhance the environment through responsible Duluth-Superior area transportation system policies and design

(3 Objectives)

Goal 2

Ensure the Duluth-Superior area transportation system supports the development and maintenance of a safe, healthy, and connected community that provides opportunities and choices for people of all ages, incomes, and abilities

(6 Objectives)

Goal 3

Ensure the safety and security of the Duluth-Superior area transportation system for all users and modes, including being prepared to handle emergencies and disasters

(6 Objectives)

Goal 4

Ensure the Duluth-Superior area transportation system is an integrated multimodal network that supports people and goods getting to where they need to go in an efficient manner

(6 Objectives)

Goal 5

Develop and maintain the Duluth-Superior area transportation system to support economic productivity and competitiveness, including tourism

(6 Objectives)

TRADEOFFS

STRIVE TO
MAXIMIZE
BENEFITS

AND

ACHIEVE A
BALANCE OF
ALL 5 GOALS



New LRTP Framework

Framed by:

Sustainable Choices 2045



Duluth-Superior Long-Range Transportation Plan

DRAFT PLAN

for Public Review and Comment

July 29—August 30, 2019

5 Planning Perspectives/Goals
(that meet the Federal Planning Factors)

&

**A Continuous Implementation
Strategy Approach**



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Direct comments to:
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All Based on More Direct Public Input

Sustainable Choices 2045



Duluth-Superior Long-Range Transportation Plan

Increased Public Input & Involvement

77 public engagements to date (committee and board meetings, consultations, stakeholder meetings, open houses, public events)

262 comments from stakeholder meetings and consultations

Nearly 1600 responses to the dot surveys

542 participants in MetroQuest phase 1

275 participants in MetroQuest phase 2

299 open comments from MQ phase 1 page 3

909 markers and 623 comments on the MQ phase 1 interactive map







New LRTP Framework 1

Achieve a holistic balance of transportation-related planning factors beyond just safety and efficient movement of vehicles.

New LRTP Framework 2

Greater emphasis on sustainability in the development and maintenance of our transportation system – with the ultimate goal of a fully sustainable transportation system.

New LRTP Framework 3

Development of an ongoing, incremental implementation strategy – that includes an annual evaluation of progress towards meeting the plan’s goals & objectives.

New LRTP Framework 4

**Adopted performance measures
are incorporated.**

Moving Forward

Significant Comments

Address & clarify fiscal constraint concerns

Blatnik Bridge details

Include baseline values for the Performance Measures

Include additional detail regarding DTA/transit

Pedestrian options

Alternatives to what exists

Make revisions & finalize the document

Ask for approval at October meeting

Comments? Questions?



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Duluth-Superior Long-Range Transportation Plan



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dsmic.org/planning/long-range