



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

Policy Board

Wednesday, August 19th, 2020 1:30 pm

Virtual MS Teams Meeting

Meeting Summary

Note Taker	Barb Peterson	
	Members Present	
	Ed Anderson	City of Superior – Citizen Rep
WI Co-Chair	Nick Baker	Douglas County Board of Supervisors
	Warren Bender	Superior Common Council
MN Co-Chair	Wayne Boucher	City of Hermantown
	Pete Clark	Douglas County Board of Supervisors
	Earl Elde	St. Louis County Suburban Townships
	Adam Fulton	City of Duluth (Replaced JFW)
	Janet Kennedy	Duluth City Council
	Rosemary Lear	Douglas County Board of Supervisors
	Nick Ledin	Superior City Council
	Sam Pomush	Douglas County Board of Supervisors
	Bob Quade	City of Rice Lake
	Tom Szukis	DTA
	Jenny VanSickle	Superior City Council
	Chad Ward	City of Proctor
	Members Absent	* Excused Absence
	Broc Allen	Douglas County Suburban Townships
	Zack Filipovich*	Duluth City Council
	Keith Musolf	St Louis County Commissioner
Others Present		Others Present
	Ron Chicka	MIC Director
	James Gittemeier	MIC Principal Planner
	Sheldon Johnson	MIC Deputy Director/NWRPC
	Barb Peterson	MIC Admin Asst
	Anna Pierce	MnDOT Central Office
	Mike Wenholz	MIC Senior Planner
Call - In	218.343.2855	
	218.590.4464	
	218.348.4026	



1. Introductions/Agenda Review

Chair Nick Baker called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm. All meeting attendees introduced themselves.

2. Committee Business

- Meeting Summary of 6.24.20 (for Approval)

Motion Discussion and Vote	Warren Bender/Ed Anderson moved to approve the 6.24.20meeting summary. There was no discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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- **Director’s Report**

Ron Chicka briefly discussed the DTA is about to announce their choice of contractor to conduct their COA. The announcement should come at the end of August. He also made note that the work on the Hwy 53 study continues.

- **Opportunity for Public Comment was provided:** there were no comments made

3. 2020-2023 Superior Area TIP Amendment #9 & 10 (for details see attachment pg 4)

Sheldon Johnson described the following:

Amendment #9 is requested for preliminary design work for a future painting project (scheduled for 2021) of the Blatnik Bridge.

Amendment #10 is requested for preliminary design work for future rehabilitation of CTH C from the MN State Line to STH 35. Anticipated future roadway rehabilitation will include reconstruction of CTH C. Preliminary design is scheduled for 2020. Reconstruction is scheduled for 2022.

Motion Discussion and Vote	Sam Pomush/Adam Fulton moved to approve the 2020-2023 Superior Area TIP Amendments #9 & 10. There was no discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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4. DRAFT - 2021-2024 WI Area TIP-Approve Start of 30 day Public Comment Period on August 21, 2020 (see link on pg 5)

Sheldon discussed the new projects that have been added and the 2 Rail projects that have place holders.

Duluth Councilor Janet Kennedy asked about how public involvement was going to be addressed during our current COVID-19 pandemic. Sheldon responded that comments and questions can be directed at the dsmic website, anyone could contact him, and a virtual public meeting will be scheduled.

Motion Discussion and Vote	Ed Anderson/Earl Elde moved to approve the start of the 30 day Public Comment Period for the DRAFT - 2021-2024 WI Area TIP-Approve on August 21, 2020. There was no discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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5. Duluth-Superior Metro Area Pedestrian Plan Update

James Gittemeier provided the preliminary results of the Pedestrian Plan Survey. Main questions being:

#4. Which of these options would make it easier, safer and more comfortable for you to walk ALONG roadways in the Duluth-Superior area?

Top 3 choices: **Clear of obstructions** (snow, sand, overgrown vegetation and deteriorated areas); **Sidewalks or other walkways where none currently exist**; **Streetscaping features** (e.g. shade trees, seating, lighting)

#5. Which of these improvements would make it easier, safer and more comfortable for you walk ACROSS roadways in the Duluth-Superior area?

Top 3 choices: **Improved visibility** between pedestrians and motorists at crosswalk locations; **Increasing yielding by motorist** for people trying to cross in marked and unmarked crosswalks; **A longer "WALK" signal** to provide more time to cross the street.

#6. Which of the following policy ideas do you support the most?

Top 4 choices: **Clearing snow** on sidewalks; **Maintaining** sidewalks in good condition; **Prioritizing** the needs of pedestrians in street design; **Keeping sidewalks clear** of obstacles.

James continued to what makes a space a good environment. Using a picture of the Lincoln Park area with a wide sidewalk, a parklet, a restaurant with a menu in the window, bike rack, trees, a planter box with a bench. He also showed a pic from Canal Park showing a parklet and even a detour for the sidewalk needed for some construction.

Councilor Janet Kennedy commented that the answers seem to be mainly in the downtown. James responded that the analysis had not yet been broken down into zip code areas yet. He will share that info when it is available.

6. Draft 2021-2022 Duluth-Superior MIC Work Program

Ron briefly described that the 2021-2022 Work Program and Budget was still being worked on and was a very rough draft. There is still some discretionary funds available for a couple projects. Currently being considered is the Central Entrance Study prior to reconstruction and the Rice Lake Commercial Corridor Study. Ron has been working with City of Superior staff to define a project there, but discussion continue. There is also some discussion about some type of a multi-modal transportation study in Medical District (2nd St).

The budget numbers for 2021 are close to accurate but still working on 2022.



7. Proctor Transportation Plan

James Gittemeier gave an update on the project being led by our consultant, Bolton-Menk. So far, the stakeholder group has developed a vision, goals and performance measures. A Demonstration project will be taking place at N 5th Ave/CR 11 and 2nd St with temporary bump outs and also at US Hwy 2 and 2nd St.

8. Round Table

there were no comments

Opportunity for public comment: no comments

9. Project Updates: Please see details in the meeting materials

- 2020-2023 Duluth Area TIP Administrative Modification #20 (see details pg 5)
- Bike & Ped Planning Update
- Erie Pier Management Plan

10. Adjourn: With no further agenda items, discussions or announcements, Chair Baker adjourned the meeting at 5:14 pm.

ATTACHMENTS:

➤ **2020-2023 Superior Area TIP Amendments #9 & 10**

TIP AMENDMENT #9

A TIP amendment has been requested for preliminary design work for a future painting project (scheduled for 2021) of the Blatnik Bridge. Preliminary design is scheduled for 2020.

2020 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources			
			Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT 113-20-010 Amended to TIP in August 2020	IH 535 Superior-Duluth Blatnik Bridge – Bridge Painting MnDOT Lead 1199-00-04	PE ROW CONST TOTAL		\$40		\$40
				\$40		\$40



TIP AMENDMENT #10

A TIP amendment has been requested for preliminary design work for future rehabilitation of CTH C from the MN State Line to STH 35. Anticipated future roadway rehabilitation will include reconstruction of CTH C. Preliminary design is scheduled for 2020. Reconstruction is scheduled for 2022.

2020 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources			
			Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
Douglas County 113-20-011	CTH C MN State Line – STH 35 Preliminary Design	PE ROW CONST			\$10	\$10
Amended to TIP in August 2020	STBG-R 8758-00-02	TOTAL			\$10	\$10

If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact me at 715-635-2197 or by email at sjohnson@nwrpc.com.

- **2021-2024 Draft Superior Area TIP** can be found here: [2021-2024 DRAFT Superior Area TIP](#)
- **2020-2023 Duluth Area TIP Administrative Modification #20**

MnDOT requested a correction to the funding amounts and funding category placement errors for the 2nd phase of the Twin Ports Interchange project. There is no project scope change. There is a \$10,000 cost increase. Based on the adopted MIC Public Involvement Plan (2018), the proposed change conforms to Administrative Modification guidelines. It does not reach the minimum 10% total project cost increase for a \$100 million + total project cost and therefore does not reach the financial threshold to require a formal amendment.

Admin Mod #	Project # Jurisdiction	Description	Year	Federal \$	State TH or Bond \$	Total \$
20	6982-322 WP2 MnDOT	I-35 in Duluth Second Phase of Twin Ports Interchange Construction. Construct bridges, retaining walls, & drainage improvements.	2021	\$34,400,000 \$144,000,000	\$89,200,000 \$36,010,000	\$180,000,000 \$180,010,000