



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

Tuesday, January 19th, 2021 at 1:30 pm
VIRTUAL MEETING NOTICE

For the protection of the community, all MIC committee meetings will be held online and by telephone during the current Minnesota COVID-19 State of Emergency. Public access and public comment opportunities will be provided as permitted by Minn. Stat. § 13D.021 for local government meetings, allowing the use of communications media technology such as telephone and video conferencing.

Login and call-in information and meeting materials can be viewed on the [meeting web page](#) as well as at the bottom of this page.

Items for Approval:

- Meeting Summary of 12.8.20 (for Approval)

Items for Approval w/opportunity for Public Comment:

- 2021-2024 Duluth Area TIP Amendment #2
- 2021-2024 Superior Area TIP Amendment #1-4
- Proctor Transportation Plan
- MN Performance Measures 1, 2 and 3

Items for Presentation and Discussion

- Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Pedestrian Plan Update
- 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 or 218-461-2666** to ensure a quorum will be present for voting items on the agenda.

Virtual Meeting Log-In/Call-In Information:

Join Microsoft Teams Meeting

+1 218-302-4275 United States, Duluth (Toll)

Conference ID: **152 613 336#**



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

**TRANSPORTATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(TAC)
MEMBERS**

Airport

Tom Werner

Active Transportation

Vacant

City of Duluth

Cari Pedersen
Cindy Voigt
Chris Lee
Kris Liljebblad

City of Hermantown

David Bolf
John Mulder
(alternate)

City of Proctor

Jess Rich

City of Superior

Todd Janigo
Chris Carlson
Jason Serck
(alternate)

Douglas County

Jason Jackman

Duluth Transit Authority

Chris Belden, *Vice-Chair*
Phil Pumphrey
(alternate)

Economic Development

Karl Schuettler

MnDOT

Maren Webb
Krysten Saatela Foster
Bryan Anderson
(alternate)

Mobility Challenged

Vacant

Port/Harbor

Kate Ferguson, *Chair*

St. Louis County

Jim Foldesi
Matt Hemmila
(alternate)

WisDOT NW Region

Dena Ryan



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

Transportation Advisory Committee

Tuesday, January 19th, 2021, 1:30 pm

VIRTUAL MEETING AGENDA

1. Introductions/Agenda Review	
2. Committee Business	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting Summary of 12.8.20 (for Approval) Director's Report <p>*** Opportunity for Public Comment***</p>	10 min
3. 2021-2024 Duluth Area TIP Amendment #2	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval w/opportunity for Public Comment, James Gittemeier 	10 min
4. 2021-2024 Superior Area TIP Amendment #1-4	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval w/opportunity for Public Comment, Sheldon Johnson 	10 min
5. Proctor Transportation Plan	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval w/opportunity for Public Comment, James Gittemeier 	15 min
6. Adoption of MN Performance Measures 1, 2 and 3	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval w/opportunity for Public Comment, Mike Wenholz 	20 min
7. Duluth-Superior Metro Pedestrian Plan Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation & Discussion, James Gittemeier 	10 min
8. Round Table	
<p>*** Opportunity for Public Comment***</p>	5 min
9. Project Updates	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2021-2024 Duluth Area TIP Admin Modification #7 (revised) FY 2025 Duluth Area TIP Project Solicitation Bike & Ped (BPAC) Update 	5 min

Next Meeting

Tuesday, February 16th, 2021

Virtual – MS TEAMS

1:30 pm



TAC Agenda Topics and Project Updates

January 19th, 2021 Meeting

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* = Approval Item

1. INTRODUCTIONS / AGENDA REVIEW

2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- **Meeting Summary of 12.8.20**
- **Welcome New 2021-2023 TAC Officers**
- **MIC Director's Report**
 - Duluth – Central Entrance Request for Proposals (RFP) – The year began with getting this project underway as it has been released for third-party assistance. We have spent the last month refining the scope of work taking into account all components of this very important planning effort we are conducting in conjunction with DOT and City of Duluth staff. Several consultant teams have been inquiring about the project, so we anticipate getting a good number of responses. The conclusion of the MICs project – by year-end – will then be followed by the DOTs design phase of this same corridor and an extensive public engagement process. The proposals are due no later than 5 pm on Feb 4th. The proposals will then be reviewed by a panel including MIC staff, MnDOT and the City of Duluth and a consultant will be chosen.
 - Superior – Comprehensive Plan Kick-Off – The City of Superior has begun an update to its Comprehensive Plan to run through the year. SRF Consulting out of the Twin Cities is the lead consultant. MIC staff participated in a 'virtual' meeting last month where we discussed a number of transportation points within the city, such as freight movement needs, alternative mode (bike, ped, transit) potential, and providing some long-term ideas that might be pursued by the city and could be noted in the plan. Lastly, I have been nominated to serve on the steering committee for the Comp Plan with a wide-ranging member base consisting of business, housing, school board and other pertinent interest groups. I look forward to providing updates to the Board over the coming months.
 - ARDC – MIC – Minnesota DOT (MnDOT) Reporting Requirements – Over the past 30 days, a considerable amount of time has been spent in discussions between the DOT, MIC staff and our ARDC Finance staff targeted at the level of documentation requested by the DOT primarily on how the MIC (ARDC) documents personnel expenses (e.g., personal logging of time). At this time, we are still working through a solution acceptable to both parties without spending an inordinate amount of limited taxpayer resources (funds) on an item that is essentially duplicative and fulfills an unclear objective. Time spent on this reporting item is a disservice to the MICs Work Program and takes away time from essential planning elements as documented in the Work Program and Budget.

3. 2021-2024 DULUTH AREA TIP AMENDMENT #2

A change has been requested to the FY 2021 Morris Thomas Road Project. The total project cost has increased. There is no scope change, nor federal funding change. The cost increase is on the local side and is due to an administrative error made when the Morris Thomas Road projects were combined in December, and not pertaining to anything with the project itself. The only changes to the project itself is



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the addition of “reclamation” in the definition to the resurfacing project. For more details, see table below:

Amdmt #	Project # Jurisdiction	Description	Year	Federal \$	State TH or Bond \$	Local \$	Total \$
2	069-656-018 St. Louis County	CSAH 56 , MORRIS THOMAS RD, IN HERMANTOWN AT JCT US 2 TO HAINES RD. INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AND CONST LEFT TURN LANES, BITUMINOUS RESURFACING & RECLAMATION, CULVERTS & BR#69K85 (ASSOC 6908-69/SLC 069-656-019)	2021	\$1,360,000	\$530,000	\$1,440,000 \$2,860,000	\$3,330,000 \$4,750,000

Based on the adopted MIC Public Involvement Plan (2018), the proposed change requires a formal TIP amendment as the total project cost increase is more than 35% of its originally programmed total.

4. 2021-2024 SUPERIOR AREA TIP AMENDMENTS #1-4

PROPOSED 2021-2024
SUPERIOR URBANIZED AREA
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
PROJECT(S) AMENDMENT

TIP AMENDMENT #1

A TIP amendment has been requested for preliminary design work for a safety improvement project at the intersection of E Street and USH 53/E 2nd Street. Preliminary design is scheduled to begin in 2021.

2021 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT 113-21-010	USH 53/East 2 nd Street E Street Intersection Safety Improvements	PE ROW CONST	\$51.2	\$12.8		\$64
Amended to TIP in January 2021	HSIP 1198-03-10	TOTAL	\$51.2	\$12.8		\$64

TIP AMENDMENT #2

A TIP amendment has been requested for construction work associated with safety improvements at the intersection of E Street and USH 53/E 2nd Street. Anticipated future roadway improvements include full median closure at E Street, with right turn bays on USH 53 and improvements to connecting local city streets to get vehicles on and off USH 53. Construction is scheduled for 2024.



2024 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT 113-21-011	USH 53/East 2 nd Street E Street Intersection Safety Improvements HSIP	PE ROW CONST	\$563.2	\$140.8		\$704
Amended to TIP in January 2021	1198-03-80	TOTAL	\$563.2	\$140.8		\$704

TIP AMENDMENT #3

A TIP amendment has been requested for various locations bus stop improvements in the City of Superior. Improvements include replacing bus shelters, and undertaking concrete pad and adjacent sidewalk repairs to improve safe pedestrian accessibility near the shelters and in the rider loading zone. Preliminary design is scheduled for 2021.

2021 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
City of Superior 113-21-012	Various Locations Replacement of existing bus shelters, concrete pad and adjacent sidewalk repairs.	PE ROW CONST			\$10	\$10
Amended to TIP in January 2021	8998-00-37	TOTAL			\$10	\$10

TIP AMENDMENT #4

A TIP amendment has been requested for various locations bus stop improvements in the City of Superior. Improvements include replacing bus shelters, and undertaking concrete pad and adjacent sidewalk repairs to improve safe pedestrian accessibility near the shelters and in the rider loading zone. Construction is scheduled for 2023.

2023 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
City of Superior 113-21-013	Various Locations Replacement of existing bus shelters, concrete pad and adjacent sidewalk repairs. STBG-TA	PE ROW CONST	\$371.5		\$92.9	\$464.4
Amended to TIP in January 2021	8998-00-38	TOTAL	\$371.5		\$92.9	\$464.4



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

5. PROCTOR TRANSPORTATION PLAN

MIC staff will review the changes, recommendations, and next steps for the final Proctor Transportation Plan. This plan defines the community's vision for how it would like its transportation system to look, feel and function. A central theme is supporting the safe and efficient movement of people of all ages, abilities and incomes, as well as the safe and efficient movement of goods in and through the City of Proctor and adjacent neighborhoods. The final Plan recommends short- and long-term strategies to implement the vision. This work will position Proctor well into the future with a direction for upcoming transportation projects that meet community needs and achieve the goal of an integrated, multimodal transportation system. The plan document as well as more information about the plan and planning process can be found at www.dsmic.org/proctor.

In addition, there will be two online open houses held on Thursday, January 14, to give community members an opportunity to learn more about the Plan. Both meetings are open to the general public and scheduled for Thursday, January 14 at:

- 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm (presentation at noon with opportunity to ask questions)
- 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm (presentation at 4p.m. with opportunity to ask questions)

The meetings can be accessed by clicking on the links, above, or by visiting the MIC's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/dsmic. For more information contact James Gittemeier, Principal Planner at the MIC, at jgittemeier@ardc.org or (218) 728-1836.

6. ADOPTION OF 2021 MN PERFORMANCE MEASURES 1 - 3

The US DOT established performance measures that states are required to establish targets for. These targets are to be updated at given time periods. The State of Minnesota (MnDOT) has updated the performance measure targets for PM1 (Safety), PM2 (Infrastructure – NHS Pavement and Bridge Condition), and PM3 (System Performance on NHS – NHS Performance and Freight Movement on the Interstate System). As such, the MPO (MIC) is required to either adopt the State-established targets or establish and adopt its own targets. The MIC is again proposing to adopt the State-established targets for PM1, PM2, and PM3. The new targets will be shared and briefly discussed during the meeting. The MIC will ask that these targets be adopted.

7. DRAFT - DULUTH-SUPERIOR METRO AREA PEDESTRIAN PLAN

MIC staff will be providing an overview of the draft priority areas for walking and associated mapping exercise. These pedestrian priorities are central to the plan recommendations. During this Pedestrian Plan update process, as well as, during the development of the LRTP Sustainable Choices 2045, it became abundantly clear that there are a lot of needs, even more wants, but limited resources. This plan provides guidance to decision-makers on where transportation investments in the MPO area should be focused to best improve the pedestrian environment. The draft plan has developed a tier system of priority where walkways are needed, where key gaps should be filled, and where it is critical that the pedestrian walkways are available and reliably clear and free of obstructions for everyday use.



8. ROUND TABLE

PUBLIC COMMENT

9. PROJECT UPDATES

- **2021-2024 DULUTH AREA TIP – ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATIONS #7 (Revised)**

MIC staff approved a requested addition of a new state funded concrete overlay project on Hwy. 53 and revised the cost estimate from \$12.4 million to \$9.7 million. There is no scope change with this project. The project change in the following table did not meet the thresholds required for a formal amendment process. These changes have been administratively made to the 2021-2024 Duluth Area TIP. The changes are detailed in the following table:

Admin Mod #	Project # Jurisdiction	Description	Year	Federal \$	State TH or Bond \$	Local \$	Total \$
7	6916-110 MnDOT New Project	US 53 SB from 0.2 mi. N CSAH 13, Midway Rd, to 0.3 mi N CSAH 8. Unbonded concrete overlay. 8.6 miles in length.	2021	\$0	\$12,400,000 \$9,700,000 Bond Funding	\$0	\$12,400,000 \$9,700,000

Based on the adopted MIC Public Involvement Plan (2018), the proposed change conforms to Administrative Modification guidelines. This project being added to the TIP is a state funded project that does not meet the MIC's regionally significant definition and therefore does not require a formal amendment.

- **2025 Duluth Area TIP – Project Solicitation**

Reminder: eligible jurisdictions on the Minnesota side of the MIC area looking to receive federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Program funding for FY 2025 should submit their applications by Friday January 29, 2021. The MIC staff sends out a big thank you to all who participated in the pre-application meeting in December and brought forward projects that in many ways exceedingly meet the vision, goals and objectives of the LRTP Sustainable Choices 2045. In February, MIC staff will present to the TAC and MIC Policy Board meetings the projects submitted, as well as undertaking public engagement activities to give the general public an opportunity to review and comments on these projects. The formal request to approve the projects is scheduled for March.

- **Bike & Ped (BPAC) Update**

The BPAC chair called a special meeting in January to discuss the Morris Thomas Road Project. St. Louis County presented an overview of the roadway project and opened it up to the BPAC for questions and comments. The BPAC is presently working through possible bike and ped options and drafting a recommendation.