



MIC Policy Board Meeting Summary

January 20th, 2021

Virtual MS Teams Meeting

Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

Note Taker	Barb Peterson	
	Members Present	
	Ed Anderson	City of Superior – Citizen Rep
WI Co-Chair	Nick Baker	Douglas County Board of Supervisors
MN Co-Chair	Wayne Boucher	City of Hermantown
	Pete Clark	Douglas County Board of Supervisors
	Earl Elde	St. Louis County Suburban Townships
	Zack Filipovich	Duluth City Council
	Adam Fulton	City of Duluth
	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
	Warren Bender*	Superior Common Council
	Ashley Grimm* New	St Louis County
Others Present		Others Present
	Ron Chicka	MIC Director
	James Gittemeier	MIC Principal Planner
	Duane Hill	MnDOT Dist 1
	Barb Peterson	MIC Admin Asst
	Ricky Sarran	MIC/GIS Specialist
	Mike Wenholz	MIC Sr Planner



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1. INTRODUCTIONS / AGENDA REVIEW

Co-Chair Nick Baker called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. All meeting attendees introduced themselves.

2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

• Meeting Summary of 12.9.20

Motion Discussion and Vote	Sam Pomush/Ed Anderson moved to approve the 12.9.20 meeting summary. There was no discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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• MIC Director's Report

Ron Chicka briefly reviewed the items in the meeting materials.

- Central Entrance – several questions came in concerning the RFP; the responses to those questions were emailed out. Final proposals are due Feb 4th by 5 pm.
- Superior Comp Plan – Ron has been asked to participate in the stakeholder group.
- MnDOT reporting requirements; Ron addressed the considerable time needed to address these issues.

3. 2021-2024 DULUTH AREA TIP AMENDMENT #2

James Gittemeier described that the only change to this project was a cost increase due to the Local contribution being left out.

After asking for any questions or comments James then asked for approval.

Details can be found after the end of this summary or in the meeting materials.

Motion Discussion and Vote	Zack Filipovich/Wayne Boucher moved to approve Amendment #2 to the 2021-2024 Duluth Area TIP. There was no discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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4. 2021-2024 SUPERIOR AREA TIP AMENDMENTS #1-4

Sheldon Johnson shared that Amendment #1 is a request for preliminary design work for a safety improvement project at the intersection of E Street and USH 53/E 2nd Street.

Amendment #2 amendment has been requested for construction work associated with safety improvements at the intersection of E Street and USH 53/E 2nd Street.

Amendment #3 has been requested for preliminary design is scheduled for 2021 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.

Amendment #4 is the construction of the above scheduled for 2023.

Motion Discussion and Vote	Dena Ryan/Todd Janigo moved to approve Amendments #1-4 to the 2021-2024 Superior Area TIP. There was no discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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5. PROCTOR TRANSPORTATION PLAN

James Gittemeier shared the video supplied by our Consultant, Bolton-Menk as part of their deliverables, showing the recommendations for future transportation projects to be considered over the next 10 or so years. James also shared that the steering committee input, the past plans and the demonstration project all made contributions to the final plan. The Plan can be found on the MIC website: [2021 Proctor Transportation Plan](#)

Chad Ward thanked James for all the work. After asking for any questions or comments and hearing none James asked for approval of the Proctor Transportation Plan.

Motion Discussion and Vote	Chad Ward/Earl Elde moved to approve the Proctor Transportation Plal. There was no discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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6. ADOPTION OF 2021 MN PERFORMANCE MEASURES 1 - 3

Mike Wenholz presented a review of the background of these measures. As in prior years the MIC has chosen to adopt the measures MnDOT has set forth. Mike continued by sharing the changes in the measurements and then asked any questions or comments.

Nick Baker stated he had an issue with the Blatnik Bridge going from 50% to 35%.

Duane Hill shared that as MnDOT looks at their investment as a whole - wise decisions need to considered these targets.

After hearing no further comments or questions, Mike asked for adoption of the 2021 Performance Measures 1-3.

Motion Discussion and Vote	Ed Anderson/Bob Quade moved to adopt the 2021 MN Performance Measures 1-3 . There was no discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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7. DULUTH-SUPERIOR METRO AREA PEDESTRIAN PLAN

James Gittemeier provided 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.

James also shared some of the maps that will be included in the plan; this includes an interactive map where you can zoom into an area and see where there might be gaps and other information.



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Zach Filipovich asked if you can zoom into the Central Entrance area – this should be a high priority during the study. It is not a nice place to walk.

MnDOT is looking all the way to the mall area.

Will the consultant have an expertise in bike and ped modes on Central Entrance – it was included in the RFP for the search of the consultant.

A second area to consider is the Spirit Valley Area around Grand & 58th

Janet Kennedy – another problem area is on Central Entrance between the Dollar Store and the new Super1 liquor store. People don't walk up to the signal, they just walk across in the middle of the block.

Lincoln Park Schools area is also an issue – SRTS Plan gets to the specifics for 3rd St.

8. ROUND TABLE

Ron Chicka noted that another COVID Relief Bill covering transportation projects is being discussed. Eligible projects need to be included in the TIP in order to be considered.

PUBLIC COMMENT

9. PROJECT UPDATES (DETAILS CAN BE FOUND IN THE MEETING MATERIALS)

- 2021-2024 Duluth Area TIP – Administrative Modifications #8
- 2025 Duluth Area TIP – Project Solicitation
- Bike & Ped (BPAC) Update

10. Adjourn: With no further agenda items, discussions or announcements, Chair Baker adjourned the meeting at 5:45 pm.

ATTACHMENTS:

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



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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.

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.



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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.

2021-2024 DULUTH AREA TIP – ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATIONS #8

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.