

MIC TAC Meeting

May 18, 2021

Project Goals & Objectives



Project Goals & Objectives

Advance the vision for a walkable, bikeable and transit-oriented thoroughfare which will create and attractive destination that is

- (1) Safe and comfortable to use for those of all ages and abilities
- (2) Encourages new types of residential and commercial development



Schedule

- Start March 2021
- Draft Plan October 2021
- Final Plan December 2021

Public Engagement



Public Engagement Work Plan

- Visioning Process
 - Public Engagement Plan for Visioning Process
 - Community Visioning
 - Community Advisory Committee
 - Virtual Corridor Walks
 - Online Engagement
- Public Engagement Framework
 - Framework for next stage
 - Developed during Visioning
 - Monitoring Visioning engagement
 - Building stakeholder database



Community Advisory Committee

- 2-3 CAC virtual meetings with attendance at 2 evening virtual workshop
- Invitation to local elected leaders to appoint members
 - Duluth City Council Members
 - Districts 3, 4, and at-large members
 - St. Louis County District 1 Commissioner
 - MnDOT
 - Duluth Transit Authority
 - We Walk in Duluth
- Duluth Heights Community Club
- Central Hillside Community Club
- MIC Pedestrian Bicycle Advisory Committee
- Businesses
 - Small
 - Regional
- MIC reserved seats (ensure underrepresented or underserved communities are at the table)



Steering Committee Engagement Survey



Engagement Planning Survey - Stakeholders

- Duluth Coggs
- Zeitgeist Arts
- MIC Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- Duluth School District / Old Central HS
- Lakeview Christian Academy
- Harbor Highlands
- Duluth Heights Community Club
- Duluth Chamber of Commerce
- Local Businesses (small and regional)
- St. Louis County



Engagement Planning Survey – Concerns & Ideas

- Concerns

- Pedestrian
 - Amenities (lack of)
 - Crossings/sidewalks
 - Disconnected/condition sidewalks
 - Walkability
 - Snow removal

- Ideas

- Transit shelters
- Create a feeling of a Duluth Heights Neighborhood hub – not just pass through
- Raised medians, bump outs, safer crossings
- Street trees
- Ped facility on north side of road



Engagement Planning Survey – Role

- Public expectation
 - Inform
 - Consult
 - Involve - 3
 - Collaborate - 3
 - Empower - 1
- Decision-makers expectations for public
 - Inform - 1
 - Consult - 1
 - Involve - 5
 - Collaborate
 - Empower



Engagement Planning Survey – Success

- Process
 - Turn out / input at events
 - All parties are heard and given a response – whether feasible or not
 - Diversity of stakeholders
 - Participants feel listened to and considered
 - Environment of sharing and trust
- Outcome
 - Corridor improvements that work well for most people of multiple modes of transportation
 - Clear vision
 - Project design reflects stakeholder goals



Engagement Planning Survey – Challenges or Opportunities to Engagement Success

- Engaging all stakeholders
- Diversity of stakeholders
- Not letting small number of people dominate and demand their outcome
- Resistance to change
- Lack of trust – will input have any influence on design
- Resistant business interests
- Unreasonable expectations
- Lack of interest until direct impact



Engagement Planning Survey – Challenges or Opportunities to Project Success

- Overcoming bias that any change will put business 'A' out of business
- Corridor improvement can improve quality of life for residents
- Improvement can bring economic growth
- Opposition by a few to subvert the process
- Challenging limited space with competing interests
- Opportunity for complete streets feel and usability
- Need for vehicle throughput versus impact of throughput on surrounding properties
- Honest conversations about safety for all users and speeds
- Challenge access management
- Encouraging new ideas



Engagement Planning Survey – One Thing

- Complimentary land use – transportation planning
- Transformed multimodal, economically diverse, and prospering corridor vision supported by all stakeholders
- Walkability
- Increase safety while maintaining traffic volumes
- Significant improvement to the pedestrian realm (safety, convenience, attractive, comfort)



Engagement Planning Survey – Right on Target

- Agreement MnDOT will build a community and city supported vision to greatest extent possible
- Community embraced vision
- Community and agency leaders had the courage to try something different and bold to realize multimodal, economically diverse, and prospering corridor
- Welcoming to all users
- Stakeholder feel their priorities were included
- Community influenced vision, brand, message that carries forward
- Residents from both sides embrace corridor and routinely cross it – children and elders walking it daily



Upcoming Engagement Opportunities

Bus, Bike, Walk Event

- June 4 5-9 p.m.
- June 5 3-7 p.m.
- Attending event
 - Overview of past studies
 - Self-guided walking audit handout
 - Vision card

zeitgeist presents

BUS, BIKE, WALK

DULUTH, MN
2021

is a month-long series of community events that celebrate, educate and empower accessible people-powered modes for getting around town, now and into the future.
visit bit.ly/BusBikeWalk21 for more information!

MAY 5 12 pm
Art is Everywhere
Finding inspiration outdoors with the Duluth Art Institute & Tin Cup Design
Virtual - visit bit.ly/BusBikeWalk21

MAY 12 12 pm & 5 pm
Prioritizing Walking in the Twin Ports
Join the Duluth-Superior MIC to learn about upcoming pedestrian infrastructure plans!
Virtual - visit bit.ly/BusBikeWalk21

MAY 20 6 pm
Explore an Urban Treasure: The St. Louis River Estuary National Water Trail
A guide to the Water Trail with the St. Louis River Alliance
Virtual - visit bit.ly/BusBikeWalk21

MAY 22 3 - 6 pm
Free Bike Repair Pop-Up
Minor repairs & tune-ups
Outdoors @ One Roof
Community Housing: 12 E 4th Street

JUNE 4 5 - 9 pm
& **JUNE 5** 3 - 7 pm
Better Central Entrance
Join us to celebrate and reimagine life on Central Entrance!
Entertainment - Kids' Play Space - Local Food & Drink - Pop-Up Businesses
3 W Central Entrance

MAY 5
National Bike to School Day
Walk or take your bike to school today!

MAY 17-23
National Bike to Work Week
Join commuters across the US & bike to work this week!

MAY 17-24
Plug, Plike, Plalk
Join Keep Duluth Clean for a week of cleaning up our city while we jog, bike, and walk around town!
Virtual/Individual - visit bit.ly/BusBikeWalk21

MAY 21 12 - 1 pm
A Mayors' Chat on Transit
Join Mayor Paine of Superior & Mayor Larson of Duluth for a chat about transportation successes, issues, and hopes for the Duluth-Superior area.
Virtual - visit bit.ly/BusBikeWalk21

MAY 25 12 pm
Transportation Through Life's Transitions
A chat with local professionals on aging and transportation.
Virtual - visit bit.ly/BusBikeWalk21

PRESENTED BY:

Due to COVID-19, masks and social distancing are required at all in-person events.



Community Advisory Committee

- June (TBD)
 - Project background, previous studies,
 - Building understanding
- June 24 & 29
 - Two-evening virtual workshop
- July-August
 - Zone concepts
- September – October
 - Draft report (vision, goals, recommendations)



Virtual Workshop

- Two evening virtual workshop
 - June 24 5-7 p.m.
 - Building understanding
 - June 29 5-7 p.m.
 - Virtual corridor walks
- Attendees
 - Community Advisory Committee members
 - Public

Overview of Past Studies



Overview of Past Studies

(1) Needs

(2) Previous study recommendations

(3) Recommendations will move forward

(4) 10 Concepts over the 5 zones



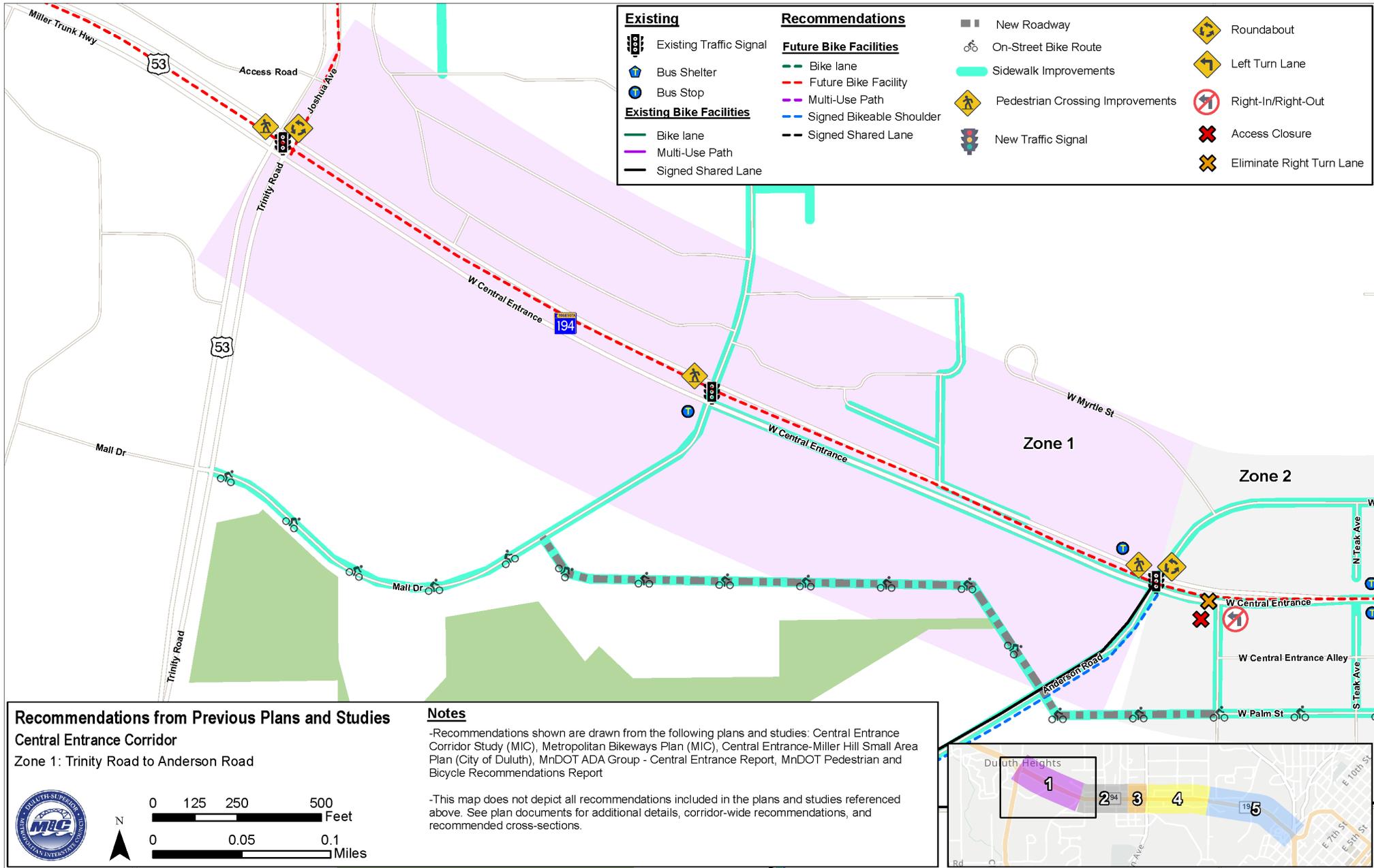
Past Studies

- (1) MIC Long Range Transportation Plan - Sustainable Choices 2045 (2019)
- (2) Metropolitan Bikeways Plan (2019)
- (3) Central Entrance Corridor Study (2012)
- (4) City of Duluth Comprehensive Plan - Imagine Duluth 2035: Forward Together (2016)
- (5) Central Entrance-Miller Hill Small Area Plan (2009)
- (6) Miller Hill Corridor Plan (1979)
- (7) DTA Comprehensive Operations Analysis (Pending, Existing conditions summary available)
- (8) DTA Transit Development Plan (2017)
- (9) MnDOT ADA Group - Central Entrance Report (2021)
- (10) MnDOT - Pedestrian and Bicycle Recommendations Report (2020)
- (11) City of Duluth Retail Analysis (2015)

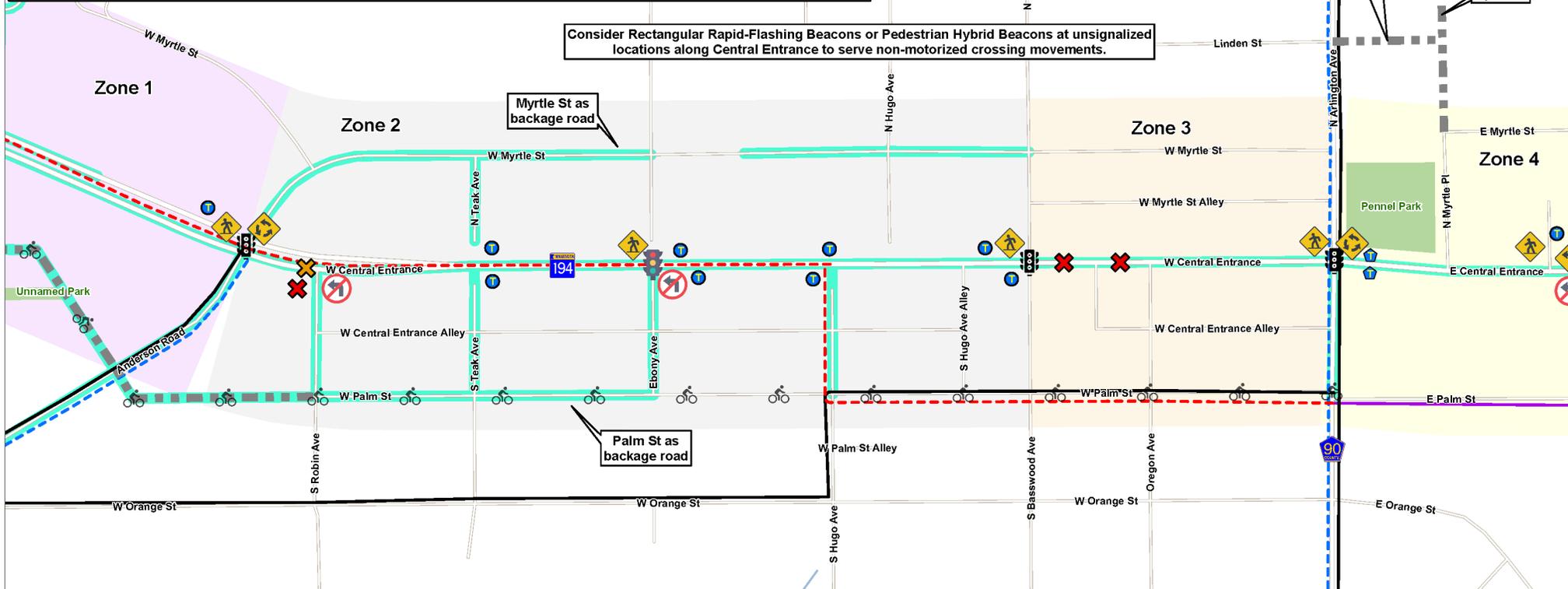


Information from Past Studies

- Overall goals/objectives as well as specific design recommendations
- Information organized into matrices by plan and zone (where applicable)
 - Plan Overview
 - Roadway/Corridor
 - Intersections
- Illustrating past recommendations using a series of maps
 - Zone 1
 - Zone 2+3
 - Zone 4
 - Zone 5



Existing		Recommendations	
	Existing Traffic Signal		New Roadway
	Bus Shelter		On-Street Bike Route
	Bus Stop		Sidewalk Improvements
Existing Bike Facilities			Pedestrian Crossing Improvements
	Bike lane		New Traffic Signal
	Multi-Use Path		Roundabout
	Signed Shared Lane		Left Turn Lane
			Right-In/Right-Out
			Access Closure
			Eliminate Right Turn Lane
			Future Bike Facility
			Multi-Use Path
			Signed Bikeable Shoulder
			Signed Shared Lane



Recommendations from Previous Plans and Studies
Central Entrance Corridor
 Zone 2: Anderson Road to Basswood Avenue
 Zone 3: Basswood Avenue to Arlington Avenue/CSAH 90

0 125 250 500 Feet
 0 0.05 0.1 Miles

Notes
 -Recommendations shown are drawn from the following plans and studies: Central Entrance Corridor Study (MIC), Metropolitan Bikeways Plan (MIC), Central Entrance-Miller Hill Small Area Plan (City of Duluth), MnDOT ADA Group - Central Entrance Report, MnDOT Pedestrian and Bicycle Recommendations Report

-This map does not depict all recommendations included in the plans and studies referenced above. See plan documents for additional details, corridor-wide recommendations, and recommended cross-sections.

