



**Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council
Meeting Summary**

** = Approval Item*

Note Taker(s)	Tari Aanonsen, MIC Administrative & Finance Assistant	
Members Present		
	Chris Belden	Duluth Transit Authority
	David Bolf	City of Hermantown
	Chris Carlson	City of Superior – Public Works
	Kate Ferguson	Duluth Seaway Port Authority
	Jim Foldesi	St Louis County
	Derek Fredrickson	MnDOT District 1
	James Gittemeier	City of Duluth
	Todd Janigo	City of Superior – Public Works
	Cari Pedersen	City of Duluth
	Jess Rich	City of Proctor
	Mae Sommerfeld	WisDOT NW Region
	Cindy Voigt	City of Duluth Engineering
	Maren Webb	MnDOT District 1
	Tom Werner	Duluth Airport Authority
	Skip Williams	Active Transportation
Members Absent		* Excused Absence
	Jason Jackman	Douglas County
	Chris Lee*	City of Duluth
	Vacant	Economic Development
	Vacant	Mobility Challenged Community
Others Present		
	Isabelle Cervantes	City of Duluth – AmeriCorps Vista
	Duane Hill	MnDOT District One Engineer
	Sheldon Johnson	MIC Deputy Director - NWRPC
	Beth Kallestad	MnDOT Principal Sustainability Planner (Presenter)
	Bryan McCoy	MnDOT Central Office State Program Administrator
	Alex Popp	City of Duluth Project Engineer (Presenter)
	Elinor Rosenberg	City of Duluth – AmeriCorps Vista
	Richard Sarran	MIC Senior GIS Specialist
	Mike Wenholz	MIC Principal Planner



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1. Introductions / Agenda Review

Mike Wenholz, MIC Principal Planner, called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm. A "roll call" attendance was taken. When completed, Mike announced that an adjustment to the agenda was needed, to remove (under the Project Updates) the Administration Modification #1 to the 2025-2028 Superior Area TIP. Mike then asked if there were any questions or other changes to the agenda. There were none.

2. Committee Business

- Meeting Summary of 12.10.24*

Mike then asked if there were any questions or changes to the December meeting summary.

Table with 2 columns: Motion Discussion and Vote, and Jim Foldesi / Skip Williams moved to approve the 12.10.24 meeting summary. There was no further discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.

3. MnDOT electric Vehicle (EV) Infrastructure Needs Assessment

Beth Kallestad, MnDOT Principal Sustainability Planner, presented the latest updates on the MnDOT Electric Vehicle (EV) Program. Beth began by saying that there are currently 66,086 EV's registered in Minnesota. The MnDOT Statewide Multi Modal Plan assumes that there will be 20% EV's on the roads in Minnesota. How will communities support this?

Currently, the state has two established corridors in which Carbon Reduction Program funding can be used to install charging infrastructure in Minnesota. Other funding options include federal and state grants, as well as private funding sources. Minnesota Power is also working on establishing charging locations in the region. But there is a need for community buy-in for there to be enough support for EV usage.

To assist communities with understanding their local needs, MnDOT has developed a tool to assess the facility needs for charging stations, which includes an online mapping tool and station locator. An open Public Engagement period will occur in February to gain feedback from stakeholders. The final product will be available for general use sometime in May.

For more information:

Please visit the EVINA Let's Talk Transportation page - https://talk.dot.state.mn.us/mnevina

4. West Superior Street Reconstruction Project

Alex Popp, Project Engineer with the City of Duluth, presented an update to the West Superior Street Reconstruction Project, which includes a 1 1/2 mile section from Carlton Street to M&H Gas Station. A cohesive design was developed utilizing four "character districts" that represent the needs of each characterized section of roadway.

A typical section of roadway will contain seven-foot pedestrian sidewalks, along with thirteen-foot buffers that include a tree-scape and bike lane. Other accommodations include modernized shelters for DTA Bus Rapid Transit stops, and bump outs for curbside management. Needs were assessed for the movement of freight through the area and taken into consideration for curb design.



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This project is primarily funded by a Rebuilding America Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (Raise) grant from FHWA, along with an Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Match Program grant from MnDOT. Project construction is scheduled to begin sometime in 2025, after the bidding process is completed this spring and will continue through 2028.

5. 2025-2028 Superior Area TIP Amendment #1-7*

Sheldon Johnson gave a detailed overview of the Superior TIP amendments, as listed below:

TIP AMENDMENT #1

This project enables IndiGO (North Country Independent Living Center) the ability to continue their transportation voucher and volunteer driver program to eligible clients throughout (eight county area including Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Iron, Price, Sawyer, and Washburn) northern Wisconsin. The project provides individuals with disabilities and residents aged 55 and over who are experiencing a transportation barrier, a means of traveling to work, school, shopping, and other events. The vouchers are used to reimburse friends, neighbors and other volunteers who use their own vehicle for transporting disabled individuals. Federal funds for this project are made available through the Section 5310 (Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities) Program administered by WisDOT. The project will span January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025.

2025 Transportation Improvements Projects (Section 5310)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
IndiGO - North Country Independent Living Center 113-25-020 Amended to TIP in January 2025	Funding a Voucher Program for individuals with disabilities and others experiencing transportation barriers in 8 NW Counties.	Voucher Program	172,863		172,863	345,726
		TOTAL	172,863		172,863	345,726

TIP AMENDMENT #2

This project enables IndiGO (North Country Independent Living Center) the ability to operate a mobility management program funding staff members who coordinate rides for the region’s population seniors and individuals with disabilities, and also work to expand their service, provide outreach and information of transportation options to residents, and work to coordinate rides with other providers. Federal funds for this project are made available through the Section 5310 (Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities) Program administered by WisDOT. The project will span January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025.



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2025 Transportation Improvements Projects (Section 5310)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
IndiGO - North Country Independent Living Center 113-25-021 Amended to TIP in January 2025	Funding a mobility manager within NCIL	Mobility Manager	28,368		7,092	35,460
		TOTAL	28,368		7,092	35,460

TIP AMENDMENT #3

This project enables the Center for Independent Living to provide a transportation voucher and volunteer driver program to eligible clients throughout a 42-county area (including Douglas County). The project provides individuals with disabilities and residents aged 55 and over who are experiencing a transportation barrier, a means of traveling to work, school, shopping, and other events. The vouchers are used to reimburse friends, neighbors and other volunteers who use their own vehicle for transporting disabled individuals. Federal funds for this project are made available through the Section 5310 (Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities) Program administered by WisDOT. The project will span January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025.

2025 Transportation Improvements Projects (Section 5310)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
Center for Independent Living 113-25-022 Amended to TIP in January 2025	Funding a Voucher Program for individuals with disabilities and others experiencing transportation barriers in 42 Central and NW Wisconsin Counties.	Voucher Program	229,589		229,589	459,178
		TOTAL	229,589		229,589	459,178

TIP AMENDMENT #4

This project enables the Center for Independent Living to operate a mobility management program funding staff members who coordinate rides for a 42-county area (including Douglas County) for a population of seniors and individuals with disabilities, and also work to expand their service, provide outreach and information of transportation options to residents, and work to coordinate rides with other providers. Federal funds for this project are made available through the Section 5310 (Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities) Program administered by WisDOT. The project will span January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025.



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2025 Transportation Improvements Projects (Section 5310)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
Center for Independent Living 113-25-023 Amended to TIP in January 2025	Funding a mobility manager within the Center for Independent Living	Mobility Manager	86,096		21,524	107,620
		TOTAL	86,096		21,524	107,620

TIP AMENDMENT #5

A TIP amendment has been requested by WisDOT for construction work associated with the Blatnik Bridge replacement project with amendment funding totaling \$1,400. Work related to the project amendment is scheduled for 2025.

2025 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources			
			Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT 113-25-024 Amended to TIP in January 2025	IH 535 St. Louis River Bridge B-16-0005-0001 to 0005 (0.0 miles) Sanitary Sewer 1199-00-41	PE ROW CONST		1,400		1,400
		TOTAL		1,400		1,400

TIP AMENDMENT #6

A TIP amendment has been requested by WisDOT for construction work associated with a repaving project of STH 35 from CTH B South to 69th Street. Total project cost is estimated at \$9,000. Work related to the project amendment is scheduled for 2028.

Please refer to the table on the next page.



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2028 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT 113-25-025 Amended to TIP in January 2025	STH 35 CTH B S to 69 th St. (9.0 miles) Cold in place recycling paving STBG 8010-00-77	PE ROW CONST	7,200	1,800		9,000
		TOTAL	7,200	1,800		9,000

TIP AMENDMENT #7

A TIP amendment has been requested by WisDOT for work associated with repainting of the Bong Bridge which is currently listed in the 2025-2028 TIP as project ID 113-24-020. An amendment is required as project funding has increased and federal funds are now obligated to the project. Work remains on schedule for 2025. Local funding is provided by MnDOT. Total project cost is estimated at \$5,577,000.

2025 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT 113-24-020 Amended to TIP in January 2025	USH 2 Bong Bridge Painting (0.0 miles) Local Share MnDOT NHPP 8680-00-74	PE ROW CONST	1,601	1,031	2,945	5,577
		TOTAL	1,601	1,031	2,945	5,577

Questions regarding this project should be directed to Sheldon Johnson at 715-635-2197 or by email at sjohnson@nwrpc.com

Motion Discussion and Vote	Todd Janigo / Cindy Voigt moved to recommend the 2025-2028 Superior Area TIP Amendments #1-7 to the Policy Board for approval. There was no further discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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6. 2025-2028 Duluth Area TIP Amendment #2*

Richard Sarran gave a detailed overview of the Duluth TIP Amendment, as listed below:

TIP AMENDMENT #2

Project Scope Revision for MN 61 at Jct of McQuade Rd (069-070-074, 6926-58/58N) and Type of Work and Cost change to 6926-58N.

MnDOT/St. Louis County is requesting changes to a single construction project which was separated into 3 state project ID's. Project is located on MN 61 at Jct of McQuade Rd and is planned for FY 2026. Scope change is to remove the Talmadge River Culvert Repair and remove RWIS (Road and Weather Information System) from 069-070-074, this is now MnDOT Only.

Additionally for project 6926-58N type of work and cost changes are being requested. Type of work is changing from "Drainage" to "Pavement Resurface and Rehabilitation" with a related cost decrease;

- Total project cost = \$1,000,000 down to \$188,890
 - Federal funding = \$800,000 down to \$153,794
 - State funding = \$200,000 down to \$35,096

This change has been made as an Amendment* to the 2025-2028 Duluth Area TIP, as detailed in the table below:

1/15/2025	State Project ID	Agency	Route	Est. Length (Miles)	Type of Work	Project Description	Type of Funds	Fed \$ (Non-AC)	State T.H. or Bond \$	Other \$	Project Total \$	Year
	069-070-074	St. Louis County	MN-61	0.4	TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES/SAFETY	**SEC 164**: MN 61 ATJCT CSAH33/MCQUADE RD. CONSTRUCT REDUCED CONFLICT INTERSECTION, TALMADGE RIVER CULVERT REPAIR AND INSTALL RWIS. (ASSOC 6926-58) MNDOT LEAD	HSIP	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 55,555	\$ 555,555	2026
Amendment 2	069-070-074	St. Louis County	MN-61	0.4	TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES/SAFETY	**SEC 164**: MN 61 ATJCT CSAH33/MCQUADE RD. CONSTRUCT REDUCED CONFLICT INTERSECTION, TALMADGE RIVER CULVERT REPAIR AND INSTALL RWIS. (ASSOC 6926-58) MNDOT LEAD	HSIP	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 55,555	\$ 555,555	2026
	6926-58	MnDOT	MN 61	0.4	TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES/SAFETY	**SEC 164**: MN 61 ATJCT CSAH33/MCQUADE RD. CONSTRUCT REDUCED CONFLICT INTERSECTION, TALMADGE RIVER CULVERT REPAIR AND INSTAL RWIS. (ASSOC 069-070-074) MNDOT LEAD	HSIP	\$ 500,000	\$ 55,555	\$ -	\$ 555,555	2026
Amendment 2	6926-58	MnDOT	MN 61	0.4	TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES/SAFETY	**SEC 164**: MN 61 ATJCT CSAH33/MCQUADE RD. CONSTRUCT REDUCED CONFLICT INTERSECTION, TALMADGE RIVER CULVERT REPAIR AND INSTAL RWIS. (ASSOC 069-070-074) MNDOT LEAD	HSIP	\$ 500,000	\$ 55,555	\$ -	\$ 555,555	2026
	6926-58N	MnDOT	MN 61	0.4	DRAINAGE	MN 61 ATJCT CSAH33/MCQUADE RD. CONSTRUCT REDUCED CONFLICT INTERSECTION, TALMADGE RIVER CULVERT REPAIR AND INSTAL RWIS. (ASSOC 069-070-074) MNDOT LEAD	NHPP	\$ 800,000	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	2026
Amendment 2	6926-58N	MnDOT	MN 61	0.4	DRAINAGE PAVEMENT RESURFACE AND REHABILITATION	MN 61 ATJCT CSAH33/MCQUADE RD. CONSTRUCT REDUCED CONFLICT INTERSECTION, TALMADGE RIVER CULVERT REPAIR AND INSTAL RWIS. (ASSOC 069-070-074) MNDOT LEAD	NHPP	\$ 153,794	\$ 35,096	\$ -	\$ 188,890	2026

Questions regarding this project should be directed to Mike Wenholz at 218-529-7573 or by email at mwenholz@ardc.org.

Motion Discussion and Vote	Maren Webb / Skip Williams moved to recommend the 2025-2028 Duluth Area TIP Amendment #2 to the Policy Board for approval. There was no further discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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7. 2025 Minnesota Performance Measure (PM1) Targets

Mike Wenzholz gave a detailed overview of the 2025 MN Performance Measure (PM1) Targets as listed below.

In accordance with the USDOT/FHWA strategy to achieve national transportation performance goals, every state DOT and MPO must annually adopt five Safety Performance Measure (PM1) targets to support the Highway Safety Improvement Plan (HSIP). MPOs have the option to either adopt the targets established by the state or develop their own.

For 2025, MIC staff recommends that MnDOT’s statewide Safety Performance Measure targets be adopted for the Minnesota portion of the MIC Planning Area. (WisDOT sets its own targets, which the MIC adopts separately for the Wisconsin portion of the MIC Planning Area). By doing so, the MIC agrees to plan and program projects so that they contribute to the accomplishment of MnDOT’s 2025 Safety PM1 targets. These performance measures are also incorporated into the Duluth Area TIP and our long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (*Sustainable Choices 2050*).

Based on the trend expressed in the baseline data, which shows a statewide increase rather than a decrease in all five Safety performance measures, MnDOT’s 2025 targets are unchanged from 2024, as follows:

MnDOT 2025 Statewide Safety Performance Measure Targets

Performance Measure	Baseline (2018-2022 average)	Baseline (2019-2023 average)	2025 Targets*
Number of fatalities	414.2	420.8	352.4
Fatality rate (per 100M VMT**)	0.725	0.742	0.582
Number of serious injuries	1676.2	1,745.6	1,463.4
Serious injury rate (per 100M VMT)	2.930	3.075	2.470
Number of non-motorist fatalities and serious injuries	282.4	285.4	258.4

**Targets are based on five-year rolling averages to address year-to-year variations and anomalies.*

***VMT = Vehicle Miles Traveled*

Questions regarding the MnDOT PM1 Targets should be directed to Mike Wenzholz at 218-529-7573 or by email at mwenzholz@ardc.org.

Motion Discussion and Vote	Jim Foldesi / Cindy Voigt moved to recommend the 2025 Minnesota Safety Performance (PM1) Targets to the Policy Board for approval. There was no further discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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8. MIC Area Bicycle Transportation Plan 2025 Status Update

Mike Wenholz presented on the work that MIC Staff and the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) are doing to update the MIC Area Bicycle Transportation Plan. Work continues as Chapters 1-5 are drafted. Chapter four will include more localized maps and will note existing key gaps in the network. The BPAC will meet again in late January to review and give input on the chapters, maps and project prioritization list.

Next steps include a review of the draft document at the February meeting of the BPAC, as well as a public informational meeting in February, approval by the BPAC in early March, and presented for approval at the TAC and MIC meetings in March.

Questions regarding the MIC Area Bicycle Transportation Plan 2025 should be directed to Mike Wenholz at 218-529-7573 or by email at mwenholz@ardc.org.

9. MTP Implementation – Organizational Discussion

Mike Wenholz led a discussion with the TAC members on what the group's preferences were for jurisdictional planning sessions to be held in the coming months, to work through the creation of a report card for use in reporting the outcomes of projects listed in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). It was decided that up to three meetings/work sessions should be sufficient to work on this.

10. Round Table

- Maren Webb announced that Erika Shepard has joined the MnDOT District One planning team. Her primary focus will be on transportation corridor planning, as well as other areas yet to be determined. Erika was previously the MPO Coordinator for MnDOT.

11. Project Updates

• ~~Administrative Modification #1 to the 2025-2028 Superior Area TIP~~

~~An administrative modification to project 113-23-011 will be made to advance the project from CY 2027 to CY 2026. The project will remain the same in length (0.14 miles) and budget cost (\$2,209,000), and the project and TIP remain fiscally constraint.~~

2025-2028 Superior TIP Administrative Modification Correction: Administrative Modification #1, published in the January 15, 2025 TAC and MIC Project Updates, was removed from the agenda as the City of Superior and WisDOT identified that the project in question would remain on schedule as currently listed in the 2025-2028 TIP. As of January 2025, there are no Administrative Modifications to the 2025-2028 Superior TIP.

• **2029 Minnesota Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP) & Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) Project Applications**

The Minnesota Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP) application was revised for 2029 and was distributed to local jurisdictions in December 2024 to use to apply for STBGP eligible funds. A pre-application meeting was held with local jurisdictions and MnDOT staff to walk through the revised application, discuss potential projects that may be applied for, discuss pertinent timelines and deadlines, and discuss available Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funds. Applications from the jurisdictions were received prior to the January 10 deadline. MIC staff are currently reviewing and evaluating the STBGP applications received and will be preparing for STBGP



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Preliminary Public Engagement that begins the last week of January and extends into February. Staff will share relevant CRP details.

- 12. Adjourn:** With no further agenda items, discussions or announcements, Mike Wenholz adjourned the meeting at 3:13 pm.