

2026-2029 Duluth Area Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

FY 2029 Proposed Projects

TAC & MIC Policy Board – February 2025

Mike Wenholtz



Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP) Funds for 2029

**FY 2029 ATP 1
\$7,800,000 STBGP Funds**

23% goes to the MPO = \$1,794,000

**MPO Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) Target
\$225,000**

FY 2029 – Revised STBGP Application

Return to a Paper Form

Additional Multimodal and Other Details to Select

Clearer Funding Information

Identify if the Project is Included in the MTP?

- **If so, identify the MTP Project # & Cost**
- **If not, provide explanation why**

FY 2029 – Revised STBGP Application

Require Project Visualizations (map, images, renderings, etc.)

Identify All MTP Goals & Objectives the Project Will Help to Accomplish – with Detailed Explanation

Identify All PM1, PM2, and PM3 Targets the Project Will Help to Achieve – with Detailed Explanation

FY 2029 – Revised STBGP Process

Jurisdictional Meeting Together to Share Project Ideas & Discuss

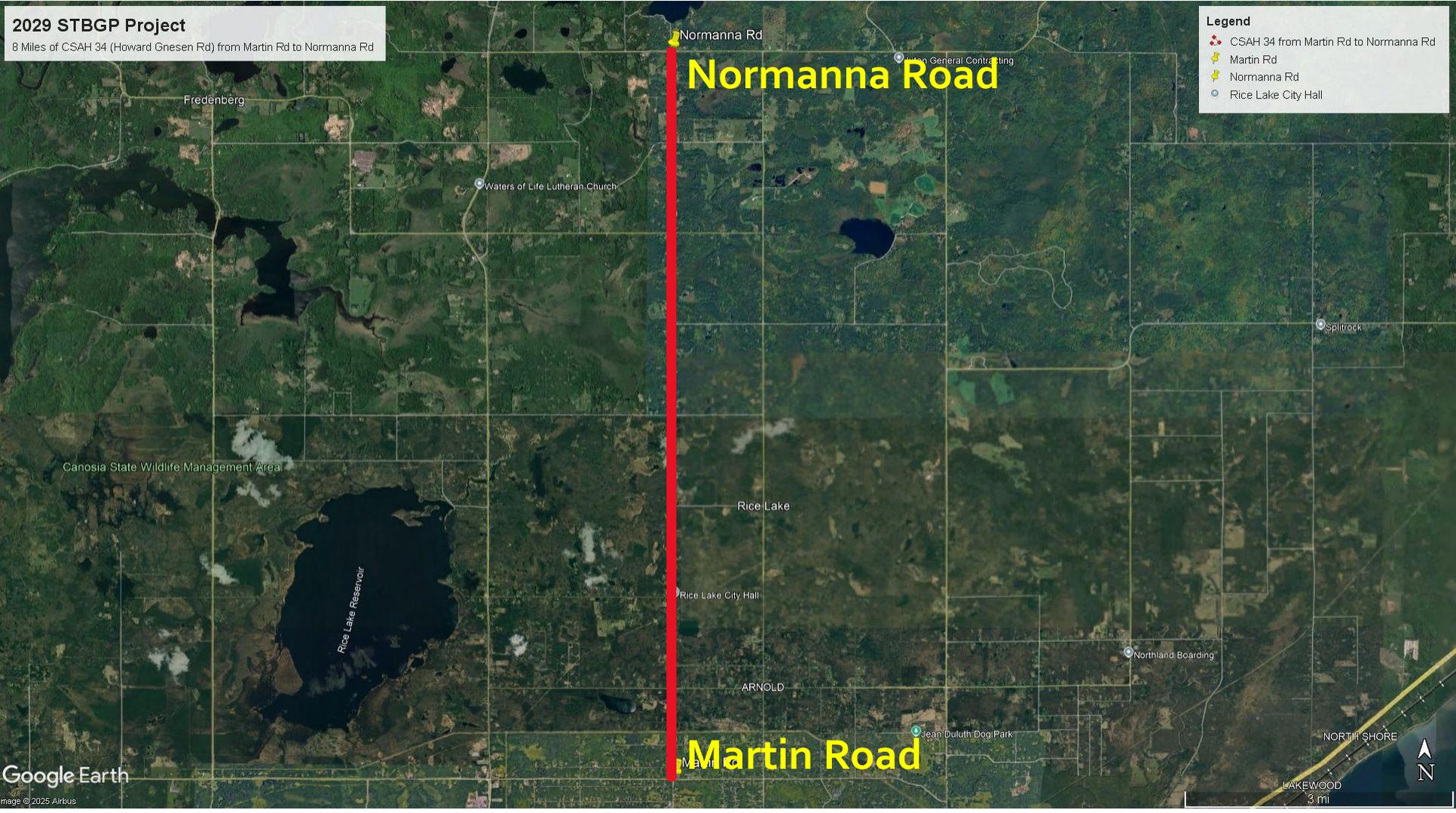
- **Not to pre-decide the project to move forward**

Initial Review to Ensure All Required Info Provided

Specific MIC STBGP Project Application Evaluation Process Developed (details what's in the application)

STBGP Project Application Evaluation Summary Prepared for Each Submittal

FY 2029 – Proposed Project (1): Howard Gnesen Road Reconstruction



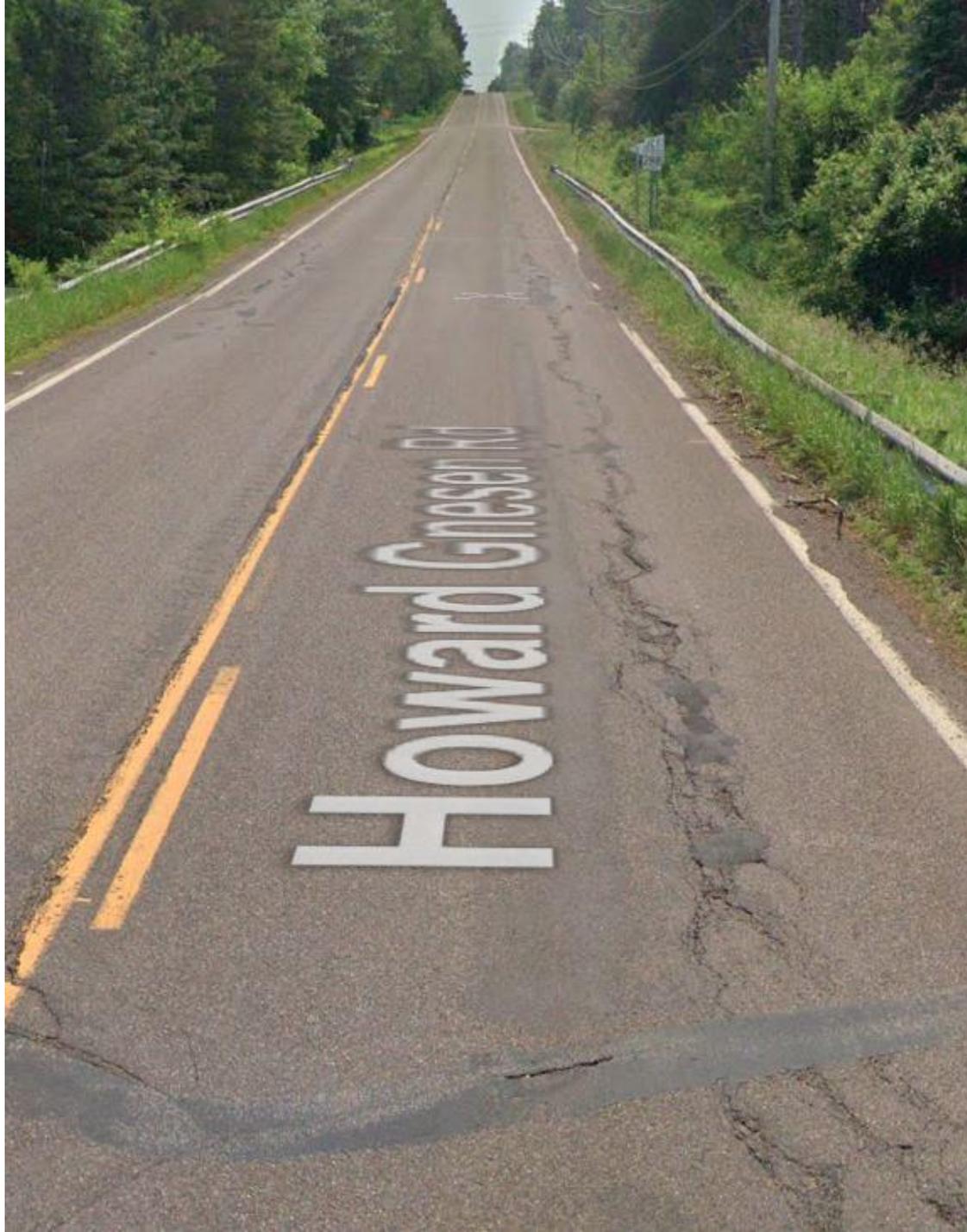
FY 2029 – Proposed Project (1): Howard Gnesen Road Reconstruction

Lead Agency or Jurisdiction: **St Louis County**

Project Location: **8 miles of CSAH 34 (Howard Gnesen Road) from
Martin Road to Normanna Road**

Plain Language Project Description & Summary of Purpose or Need:

Full depth reclamation and bituminous paving with gravel shoulders. Given this segment is at the end of its serviceable life this is the appropriate treatment to rehabilitate the roadway.



Howard Gnesen Rd



FY 2029 – Proposed Project (1): Howard Gnesen Road Reconstruction

Estimated Total Project Cost = **\$3,200,000**

Amount of STBGP Funding Requested = **\$897,000**

Is the proposed project listed in the *Sustainable Choices 2050* project list? **No**

But “its critical needs & issues align closely with the other roads in the plan.”

By the MIC’s definition of “regionally significant” this project does not need to be included in the MTP project list

FY 2029 – Proposed Project (1): Howard Gnesen Road Reconstruction

Proposed project consistency with the Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures of *Sustainable Choices 2050*:

St. Louis County has identified that the project will help meet 13 of the 26 Objectives of *Sustainable Choices 2050*, including at least 1 objective under all 5 goals.

St. Louis County has identified that the project will help make progress in meeting all 5 of the PM1 Safety targets in *Sustainable Choices 2050* by improving pavement condition, as smooth pavement is critical as potholes, crack, bumps, and other rough surface that currently exists contribute to vehicles losing control and leaving the roadway.

FY 2029 – Proposed Project (1): Howard Gnesen Road Reconstruction

Based on St. Louis County's application the proposed project will help bring the vision of *Sustainable Choices 2050* to life through the following:

- **The project will include improvements for automobiles and vehicular freight transportation.**
- **The segment/corridor will be safer and minimize or mitigate risk for both people and freight as smooth, well-maintained roads reduce the likelihood of vehicles losing control, improve conditions for emergency response, and are more resilient to environmental stressors such as heavy rains, floods, and freezing conditions.**

FY 2029 – Proposed Project (1): Howard Gnesen Road Reconstruction

Based on St. Louis County's application the proposed project will help bring the vision of *Sustainable Choices 2050* to life through the following:

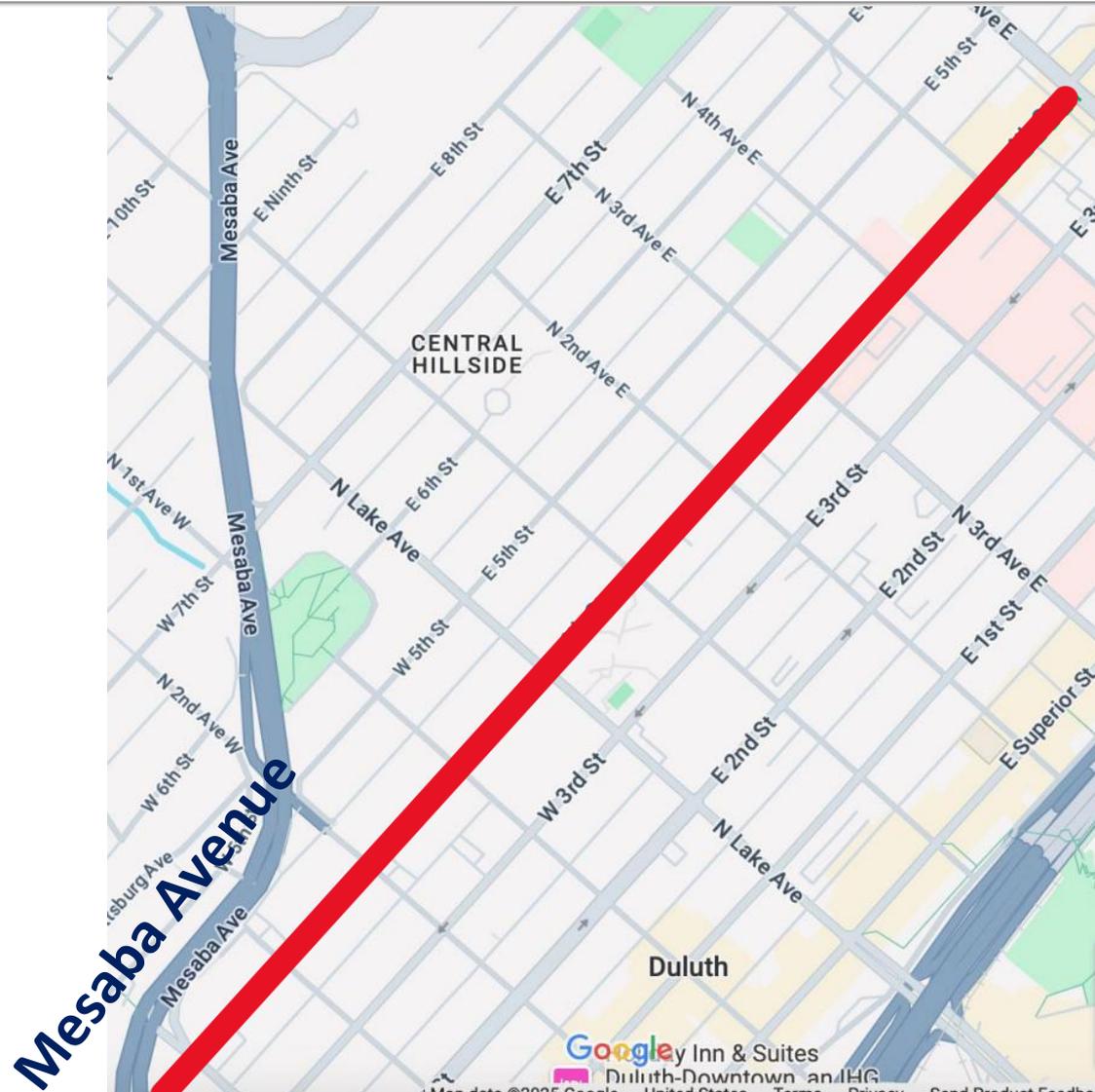
- **This segment/corridor is a key road in connecting people with key community resources as both the Rice Lake City Hall and Gnesen Community Center are on/adjacent to this segment of Howard Gnesen Road.**
- **This project would help to improve the health of people and the environment as smooth pavement reduces driver discomfort and musculoskeletal issues and reduces fuel consumption of vehicles.**

FY 2029 – Proposed Project (1): Howard Gnesen Road Reconstruction

Based on St. Louis County's application the proposed project will help bring the vision of *Sustainable Choices 2050* to life through the following:

- **This project is important to local economic vitality as this segment/corridor is a major collector that connects people with numerous popular lakes and reservoirs north of Duluth and is a route used by many rural residents to travel to the Duluth area for work, commerce, and recreation. Also, this corridor is an alternate freight route in and out of Duluth to the Iron Range and to support the local businesses in the rural areas north of Duluth.**
- **The proposed project would also include road shoulder improvements.**

FY 2029 – Proposed Project (2): 4th Street Reconstruction



Mesaba Avenue

6th Avenue East

FY 2029 – Proposed Project (2): 4th Street Reconstruction

Lead Agency or Jurisdiction: **City of Duluth**

Project Location: **0.93 miles of 4th Street between Mesaba Avenue and 6th Avenue East**

Plain Language Project Description & Summary of Purpose or Need:

Full reconstruction of the segment. Given this segment was last fully reconstructed in 1976 and water mains under the roadway are due for replacement it is necessary to reconstruct the roadway to accommodate all users of this key part of the City's multi-modal network, which also includes a bus line.

FY 2029 – Proposed Project (2): 4th Street Reconstruction

Estimated Total Project Cost = **\$3,720,000**

Amount of STBGP Funding Requested = **\$897,000**

Is the proposed project listed in the *Sustainable Choices 2050* project list? **Yes**

MTP Project # MN – 03 – 28

This project is listed as a Priority Project

FY 2029 – Proposed Project (2): 4th Street Reconstruction

Proposed project consistency with the Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures of *Sustainable Choices 2050*:

The City of Duluth has identified that the **project will help meet 12 of the 26 Objectives** of *Sustainable Choices 2050*, including at least 2 objectives under all 5 goals.

The City of Duluth has identified that the **project will help make progress in meeting all 5 of the PM1 Safety targets** in *Sustainable Choices 2050* by including traffic calming measures consistent with the Safe Streets for All Safety Action Plan.

FY 2029 – Proposed Project (2): 4th Street Reconstruction

Based on the City of Duluth's application the proposed project will help bring the vision of *Sustainable Choices 2050* to life through the following:

- **The project will include a variety of multimodal enhancements, including walking, bicycling, and transit-related improvements.**
- **The segment/corridor will be safer to walk along and across by including sidewalk, intersection, and lighting improvements.**

FY 2029 – Proposed Project (2): 4th Street Reconstruction

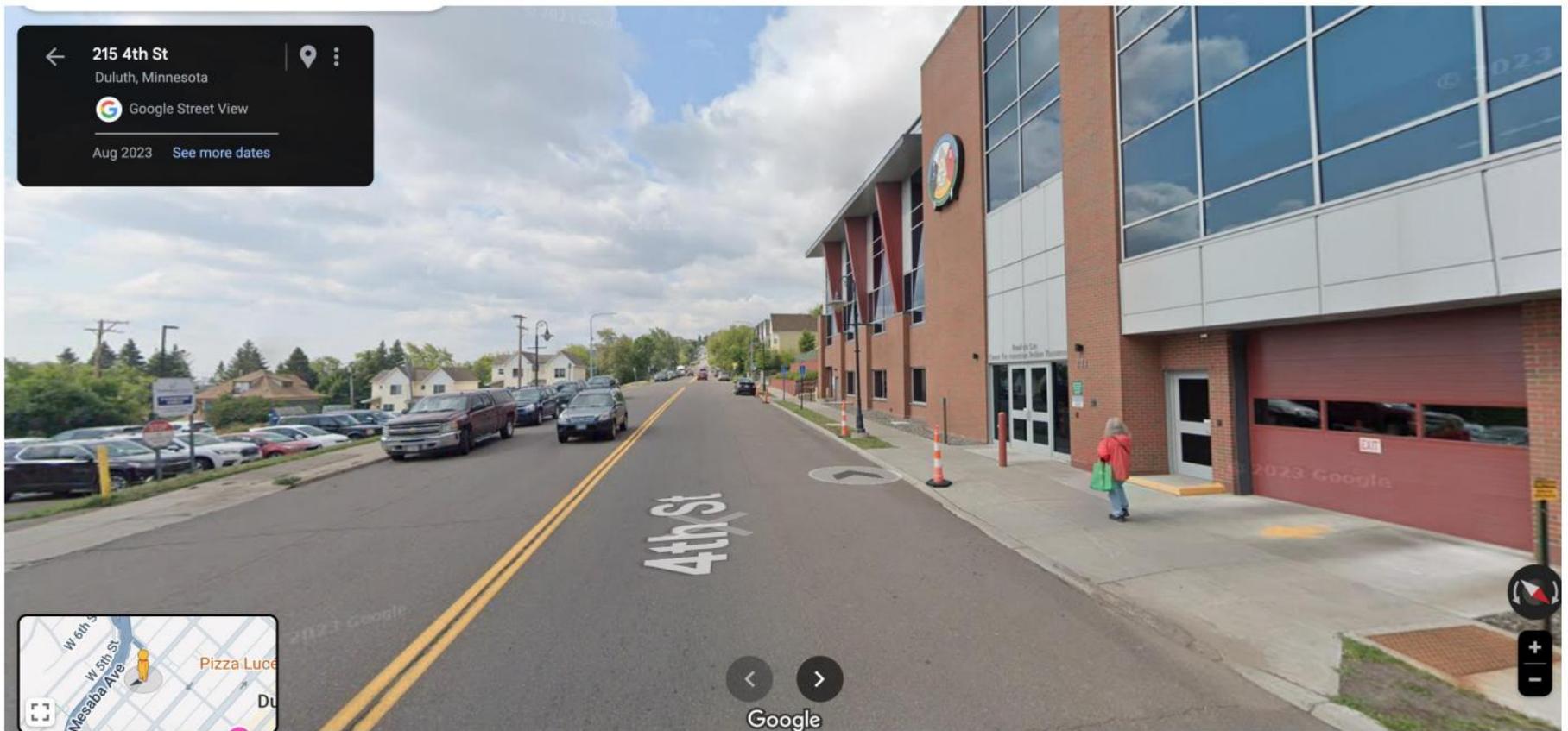
Based on the City of Duluth's application the proposed project will help bring the vision of *Sustainable Choices 2050* to life through the following:

- **This segment/corridor is a key road in connecting people with critical neighborhood destinations and the proposed improvements would enhance community connectivity to these key resources, especially for this neighborhood with identified equity needs.**
- **This project would encourage individuals to engage in active transportation (such as walking and bicycling), leading to greater physical and mental health benefits and by reducing single person vehicle miles travelled minimizing negative environmental impacts.**

FY 2029 – Proposed Project (2): 4th Street Reconstruction

Based on the City of Duluth's application the proposed project will help bring the vision of *Sustainable Choices 2050* to life through the following:

- **This project would maintain and improve a key corridor to the broader East-West movement of people across Duluth's Hillside. This includes a key bus line. It is also the primary street in Essentia Health's land use study which aims to revitalize the Hillside neighborhood.**
- **The proposed project would also include stormwater management, intersection, and lighting improvements.**



Center for American Indian Resources: 4th St and 2nd Ave W



Steve O'Neil Apartments: 4th St and 2nd Ave W



Central Hillside Community Center: 4th St and Lake Ave



Commercial District 1: 4th St and 4th Ave E



4th St and 6th Ave E

MOTION REQUESTED

**Approve STBGP*-funded projects proposed for inclusion
in the
2026-2029 Duluth Area TIP (FY2029)**

Jurisdiction	Project Name	Project Length (miles)	Federal (STBGP) \$	State \$	Local \$	Total \$
St Louis County	Howard Gnesen Road Reconstruction	8	\$897,000	\$2,303,000		\$3,200,000
Duluth	4 th Street Reconstruction	0.93	\$897,000		\$2,823,000	\$3,720,000
TOTAL		8.93	\$1,794,000	\$2,303,000	\$2,823,000	\$6,920,000

*Surface Transportation Block Grant Program

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT



NAME AND AFFILIATION (IF ANY)



COMMENT TIME LIMIT: 3 MINUTES



LIMIT YOUR REMARKS TO THE
SPECIFIC PLAN, STUDY OR
DOCUMENT UNDER
CONSIDERATION BY THE BOARD

Comments? Questions?



TAC & MIC
February 2024