



**Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council
Policy Board**

May 21, 2025 Meeting

Meeting Summary

* = Approval Item

1Note Taker(s)	Tari Aanonsen, MIC Administrative/Finance Assistant	
Members Present		
	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
	Tylor Elm	Superior City Council
	Annie Harala	St. Louis County
	Yauhen Karatai	City of Duluth – Citizen Representative
	Nick Ledin	Superior City Council
	John Lohse	Douglas County Board of Supervisors
	Adam McGill	Duluth Transit Authority (DTA) Board
	Bob Quade	City of Rice Lake
	Chad Ward	City of Proctor
	Scott Welsh	Solway Township
Members Absent		* Excused Absence
	Broc Allen	Douglas County Suburban Townships
	Mark Johnson	Superior City Council
	Janet Kennedy*	Duluth City Council
	Mike Mayou*	Duluth City Council
	Randy Skowlund	Douglas County Board of Supervisors
	Vacant	Douglas County Board of Supervisors
	Vacant	Superior City Council
Others Present		
	Sheldon Johnson	NWRPC Deputy MIC Director
	Shelly Nelson	Superior Telegram
	Richard Sarran	MIC Senior GIS Specialist
	Mike Wenholz	MIC Principal Planner



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1. Introductions / Agenda Review

MIC Co-Chair, Nick Boucher, called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm. A "Roll Call" attendance was taken. When completed, Chair Boucher then moved on to item# 2 on the agenda.

2. Committee Business

- **Meeting Summary of 4.16.25***

Chair Boucher then asked if there were any questions or changes to the April 16, 2025 meeting summary.

Motion Discussion and Vote	Nick Baker / Annie Harala moved to approve the 4.16.25 meeting summary. There was no discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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- **Meeting Summary of 4.28.25***

Chair Boucher then asked if there were any questions or changes to the April 28, 2025 meeting summary.

Motion Discussion and Vote	Nick Baker / Annie Harala moved to approve the 4.28.25 meeting summary. There was no discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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- **Director's Report**

Director Chicka was not present to give a verbal report. Please refer to the items listed in the written Director's Report, as found in the agenda packet.

Open Public Comment Period:

Chair Boucher then allowed for an opportunity for Public Comment. Hearing none, he continued to item #3 on the agenda.

3. 2025-2028 Superior Area TIP Amendment #8-12*

Sheldon Johnson gave a detailed overview of the Superior Area TIP Amendments as listed below:

TIP AMENDMENT #8

A TIP amendment has been requested by WisDOT for a real estate acquisition project associated with the Interstate Highway 535 St. Louis River Bridge (Blatnik) replacement project. Total right of way acquisition project cost is estimated at \$9,650,000. Work related to the project amendment is scheduled for 2027.

Please refer to the table on the next page.



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2027 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources			
			Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT 113-25-026 Amended to TIP in May 2025	IH 535 St. Louis RV BR B16- 0005-0001 TO 0005 miles 0.0 Real Estate Acquisition 1199-00-21	PE ROW CONST		9,650		9,650
		TOTAL		9,650		9,650

TIP AMENDMENT #9

A TIP amendment has been requested by WisDOT for relocation programming associated with the Interstate Highway 535 St. Louis River Bridge (Blatnik) replacement project. Total acquisition programming cost is estimated at \$30,900,000. 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 113-25-027 Amended to TIP in May 2025	IH 535 St. Louis RV BR B16- 0005-0001 TO 0005 miles 0.0 Real Estate Acquisition 1199-00-20	PE ROW CONST		30,900		30,900
		TOTAL		30,900		30,900

TIP AMENDMENT #10

A TIP amendment has been requested by WisDOT for relocation programming associated with the Interstate Highway 535 St. Louis River Bridge (Blatnik) replacement project. Total relocation programming cost is estimated at \$15,570,000. Work related to the project amendment is scheduled for 2026.

Please refer to the table on the next page.



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2026 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources			
			Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT 113-25-028 Amended to TIP in May 2025	IH 535 St. Louis RV BR B16- 0005-0001 TO 0005 miles 0.0 Relocation/Admin 1199-00-20	PE ROW CONST		15,570		15,570
		TOTAL		15,570		15,570

TIP AMENDMENT #11

A TIP amendment has been requested by WisDOT for relocation programming associated with the Interstate Highway 535 St. Louis River Bridge (Blatnik) replacement project. Total relocation programming cost is estimated at \$364,000. Work related to the project amendment is scheduled for 2027.

2027 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources			
			Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT 113-25-029 Amended to TIP in May 2025	IH 535 St. Louis RV BR B16- 0005-0001 TO 0005 miles 0.0 Relocation/Admin 1199-00-20	PE ROW CONST		364		364
		TOTAL		364		364

TIP AMENDMENT #12

A TIP amendment has been requested by WisDOT for work associated with design/sign relocation for the St. Louis River Bridge (Blatnik) replacement project. Total preliminary engineering project cost is estimated at \$125,000. 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 113-25-030 Amended to TIP in May 2025	IH 535 St. Louis RV BR B16- 0005-0001 TO 0005 Design/Sign Relocation 1199-00-13	PE ROW CONST		125		125
		TOTAL		125		125

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

No Public Comments were provided or received.

Motion Discussion and Vote	Moved by Nick Baker, seconded by Ed Anderson, to approve Amendments #8-12 for adoption into the 2025-2028 Superior Area Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). There was no Board discussion. Voting Aye: Anderson, Baker, Boucher, Elm, Harala, Karatai, Ledin, Lohse, McGill, Quade, Ward, Welsh Voting Nay: None Abstain: None Absent: Allen, Johnson, Kennedy, Mayou, Skowlund Motion Carried: Aye: 12, Nay: 0.
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4. Round Table

- Ed Anderson stated that he has been appointed by the Superior Mayor to serve as a representative on the Police and Fire Commission for the City of Superior. He will remain a voting member on the Harbor Technical Advisory Committee (HTAC). He has enjoyed his many years of service with the MIC Policy Board.
- Nick Baker congratulated Chair Boucher on the shortest meeting in Policy Board history.
- Mike Wenhholz stated that the MIC has hired a new transportation planner, Eli Norlander, who will start his role in roughly one month's time.
- Bob Quade recognized Sam Pomush who had passed away recently and who has served as a member of the MIC Policy Board. Bob went on to thank Ed for his service as well.



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5. Project Updates

- **Title VI and Language Access Plan - Update 2025**

The MIC's Title VI Plan is being updated with 2020 Census information and will be presented for Board approval in June.

This Plan is the framework for the MIC's efforts to ensure compliance with federal statutes regarding nondiscrimination (to assure that no person or group of persons shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in activities administered by the MIC). In addition, the Language Access Plan, which describes the measures we take to provide meaningful access to our planning processes to persons with limited English proficiency.

Changes from the 2021 to the 2025 versions of these Plans are minimal and will be reviewed at the meeting.

- **Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Update**

The BPAC met on May 1 with a full agenda covering a variety of topics, including a debrief and discussion of next steps regarding implementing the recently approved 2025 Duluth-Superior Area Bicycle Transportation Plan, key take-aways from a recent bike and ped design training, updates of bike and ped concerns related to the 40th Avenue West and 26th Avenue East/London Road roundabout projects, and a brief update of the upcoming Mayors' Bike Event.

6. Adjourn:

With no further agenda items, discussions or announcements, Chair Boucher adjourned the meeting at 7:16 pm.