



**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
In at 1:44 pm	Chris Carlson	City of Superior – Public Works
	Jim Foldesi	St Louis County
	Derek Fredrickson	MnDOT District 1
Out at 3:17 pm	James Gittemeier	City of Duluth
	Jason Jackman	Douglas County
In at 1:38-Out at 2:03 pm	Todd Janigo	City of Superior – Public Works
	Jess Rich	City of Proctor
Out at 3:17 pm	Cindy Voigt	City of Duluth Engineering
	Maren Webb	MnDOT District 1
	Skip Williams	Active Transportation
Members Absent		* Excused Absence
	David Bolf	City of Hermantown
	Kate Ferguson*	Duluth Seaway Port Authority
	Chris Lee*	City of Duluth
	Cari Pedersen*	City of Duluth
	Mae Sommerfeld	WisDOT NW Region
	Tom Werner*	Duluth Airport Authority
	Vacant	Economic Development
	Vacant	Mobility Challenged Community
Others Present		
	Ron Chicka	MIC Director
	Jason Gottfried	MnDOT Central Office – MPO Coordinator
	Justin Johnson	WisDOT Central Office - MPO Coordinator
	Eli Norlander	Future MIC Transportation Planner
	Richard Sarran	MIC Senior GIS Specialist
	Rondi Watson	MIC Senior Planner/Communications Specialist
	Mike Wenholtz	MIC Principal Planner



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1. Introductions / Agenda Review

Ron Chicka, MIC Director, called the meeting to order at 1:34 pm. A “roll call” attendance was taken. When completed, Director Chicka then asked if there were any questions or other changes to the agenda. There were none.

2. Committee Business

- **Meeting Summary of 5.20.25***

Director Chicka then asked if there were any questions or changes to the May meeting summary.

Motion Discussion and Vote	Skip Williams / Jim Foldesi moved to approve the 5.20.25 meeting summary. There was no further discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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- **Director’s Report**

Director Chicka gave a brief overview of the items listed in the written Director’s Report, as found in the agenda packet.

3. 2025-2028 Duluth Area TIP Amendments #7*

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

TIP AMENDMENT #7

Re-allocation of Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) Funds from the City of Duluth’s FY2025 West Superior Street Reconstruction Project to the City of Duluth’s FY2025 Railroad Street Rehabilitation Project

State Project ID #118-109-021CRP (FY2025), #118-118-005 (FY2025), and #118-118-005CRP (FY2025)

Due to uncertainties in state funding for the City of Duluth’s 2025 West Superior Street Reconstruction Project, the City has requested that the MIC’s 2025 CRP funds in the amount of \$370,000 be re-allocated to the City’s 2025 Railroad Street project, reducing the amount of the City’s contribution to that project. **There will be no change to the scope of work or the total funding amount of \$2,500,000 for the project.**

CRP funds are intended to be used for projects that reduce transportation emissions, specifically carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions from on-road highway sources. MnDOT guidance indicates that these funds are eligible to be applied to the Railroad Street project. The \$370,000 to be replaced by the CRP funds will be used to replace traffic signals, sidewalks, ADA improvements and streetlights.

Approval of this Amendment also signifies TAC and MIC approval of the re-allocation of CRP funds in the amount of \$370,000 from the City of Duluth’s FY2025 West Superior Street Reconstruction Project to the City of Duluth’s FY2025 Railroad Street Rehabilitation Project.

All changes described are noted in red in the tables below:

Please see the table on the next page



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6/18/2025	State Project ID	Agency	Roadway Name	Project Description	Type of Funds	Fed \$ (Non-AC)	Other \$	Project Total \$	Year
Original	118-109-021CRP	Duluth	W Superior St	**CRP**: IN DULUTH, MSAS 109 (W SUPERIOR ST) FROM MSAS 194 (CARLTON ST) TO MSAS 194 (W MICHIGAN ST) RECONSTRUCTION, STREETScape AND EV CHARGING STATIONS	CRP	\$ 370,000	\$ 92,500	\$ 462,500	2025
Amendment 7	118-109-021CRP	Duluth	W Superior St	**CRP**: IN DULUTH, MSAS 109 (W SUPERIOR ST) FROM MSAS 194 (CARLTON ST) TO MSAS 194 (W MICHIGAN ST) RECONSTRUCTION, STREETScape AND EV CHARGING STATIONS	CRP	\$ 370,000	\$ 92,500	\$ 462,500	2025
Original	118-118-005	Duluth	Railroad St (MSAS 118)	RAILROAD ST (MSAS 118) IN DULUTH FROM 5TH AVE W TO CANAL PARK DRIVE BITUMINOUS RESURFACING, CURB AND GUTTER, SIDEWALK ADA UPGRADES, TRAFFIC SIGNAL AND STREET LIGHT REPLACEMENT	STBGP	\$1,480,000	\$ 1,020,000	\$ 2,500,000	2025
Amendment 7	118-118-005	Duluth	Railroad St (MSAS 118)	RAILROAD ST (MSAS 118) IN DULUTH FROM 5TH AVE W TO CANAL PARK DRIVE BITUMINOUS RESURFACING, CURB AND GUTTER, SIDEWALK ADA UPGRADES, TRAFFIC SIGNAL AND STREET LIGHT REPLACEMENT	STBGP	\$1,480,000	\$ 557,500	\$ 2,037,500	2025
New Project Amendment 7	118-118-005CRP	Duluth	Railroad St (MSAS 118)	**CRP**: RAILROAD STREET (MSAS 118) IN DULUTH FROM 5TH AVE W TO CANAL PARK DRIVE BITUMINOUS RESURFACING, CURB AND GUTTER, SIDEWALK, ADA UPGRADES, TRAFFIC SIGNAL AND STREET LIGHT REPLACEMENT	CRP	\$ 370,000	\$ 92,500	\$ 462,500	2025

Questions regarding this project should be directed to Mike Wenholtz at 218-529-7573 or by email at mwenholtz@ardc.org or Richard Sarraan at 218-529-7502 or by email at rsarraan@ardc.org.

Motion Discussion and Vote	Jim Foldesi / Skip Williams moved to recommend the 2025-2028 Duluth Area TIP Amendments #7 to the Policy Board for approval. There was no further discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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4. Draft 2026-2029 Duluth Area TIP – Discussion & Release for 30 Day Public Comment Period on July 14, 2025*

Mike Wenholtz gave an overview of the preliminary Draft 2026-2029 Duluth Area TIP that was supplied in the meeting materials for review by the TAC. The preliminary draft contained several areas that will need revision prior to its release for public comment. The MIC is waiting for further guidance from FHWA regarding certain language that may need adjusting due to recent policy changes.

The MIC has delayed the release by two weeks to allow for final projects to be added/changed by the MnDOT deadline on July 7th. The MIC will then make any additional needed changes or additions to the Draft TIP and will send it to the TAC members for one last review 3-4 days prior to the release of the TIP for the 30-Day Public Comment Period. The MIC is asking that jurisdictions review the final draft and offer feedback by Friday, July 11th.

The MIC will email the final Draft 2026-2029 Duluth Area TIP to TAC, MIC and BPAC members on the morning of its release for public comment on July 14, 2025.

Motion Discussion and Vote	Cindy Voigt moved to recommend the release of the Draft 2025-2028 Duluth Area TIP for 30-Day Public Comment Period to the Policy Board for approval and to include any additions or changes that arise between July 2 nd and July 13 th . Maren Webb seconded the motion. There was no further discussion; the motion was approved unanimously.
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5. Input on the new Definition of “Regionally significant”

Mike Wenholtz presented the proposed change to the MICs current definition of “regionally significant”. Each Minnesota MPO defines “regionally significant” differently. The MIC’s current definition is broader than it needs to be and results in more projects being added to the TIP than are required.

The MIC is suggesting showing projects on two separate tables in the TIP. One table would reflect only



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the federally funded projects. Another Table would include the regionally significant projects, those not being included in the STIP. This separation will allow us to filter out the smaller projects to reduce the reporting efforts. Jurisdictions would need to request projects that they consider to be regionally significant to be added to the TIP.

TAC members discussed the possible changes and their effects on TIP processes.

6. MIC Area Safety Action Plan

Rondi Watson gave an update on the recent work of Phase II of the MIC Area Safety Action Plan. The MIC completed Phase I in 2024, which focused on the safety analysis of the MIC area transportation network and developed strategies and prioritized project selection.

The MIC received a Safe Streets for All federal planning grant to complete the remaining elements needed to produce a comprehensive safety action plan. The focus of Phase II will be to develop a sustained safety culture by employing strategies to influence how our community accepts and prioritizes traffic safety strategies over the long run. The MIC issued an RFP to hire a consultant to lead this planning work. Six proposals were received by the deadline and the selection process will take place on June 18, 2025. Consultant work would begin in July 2025 and continue through October 2026.

7. Round Table Discussion

No Round Table items were brought forward for this meeting.

8. Project Updates

- **Harbor Technical Advisory Committee (HTAC) Update**

The HTAC met on June 4 with a full agenda covering a variety of topics, including a thank you to Deb DeLuca for her partnership with HTAC, updates from both the Dredging and Navigation & Safety Subcommittees, a status update of the Duluth Ship Canal Work Group, status updates on St Louis River Estuary AOC work, upcoming events honoring the memory of the Edmund Fitzgerald – Fifty Years Later, treaty rights in the St Louis River Estuary, and funding opportunities and updates from the Maritime Administration (MARAD). Jeff Udd (Duluth Seaway Port Authority) was introduced as the new HTAC Chair, and Jason Serck (City of Superior) was introduced as the new HTAC Vice Chair.

- **Safe Routes to School – Duluth Public Schools**

Starting on July 1st, 2025, ARDC Regional Planning Division will begin work on a Duluth School district-wide Safe Routes to Schools planning process. This will look at improving bicycle and pedestrian access for the 13 public school sites in the Duluth area. The contract is for 18 months and will conclude January 1st, 2027.

9. Adjourn: With no further agenda items, discussions or announcements, Director Chicka adjourned the meeting at 3:24 pm.