



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

Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at 6:00 pm

MEETING NOTICE

This meeting will be conducted as a hybrid meeting - join us in person at the location listed below OR participate virtually via Microsoft Teams (login info, below).

Meeting materials can be viewed on the [meeting web page](#) as well as on the attached pages.

Items for Approval

- Meeting Summary of 6.18.25
- 2025-2028 Superior Area TIP Amendment #13
- Duluth-Superior Title VI Plan and Language Access Plan Update
- Proposed MIC Resolution Supporting Bicycling and Pedestrian Infrastructure in the London Road Reconstruction Project

Items for Presentation and Discussion

- Airport Infrastructure Renewal Update
- Twin Ports Interchange and Blatnik Bridge Update
- BPAC Resolution Supporting Bicycling & Pedestrian Infrastructure in the London Rd Reconstruction Project
- Draft 2026-2029 Duluth Area TIP Update
- Draft 2026-2027 MIC Work Program Discussion
- Maintenance Dredging Update

Project Updates

- Administrative Modification #5 to the 2025-2028 Duluth Area TIP
- Administrative Modification #1 to the 2025-2026 UPWP
- DSMIC.org Website Redesign
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Update
- MPO Area Functional Classification Update
- MIC Area Safety Action Plan
- 2025-2028 Superior Area TIP Update

In-Person Meeting Location:

Proctor City Hall
Council Chambers
100 Pionk Drive
Proctor, MN 55810

OR

OR

Join virtually via TEAMS below:

[Click here to join teams meeting](#)

Join by Phone (audio only)

1 218-210-0525

Conference ID: 741 354 238#

Attendance / Meeting Quorum

If you are NOT able to attend, or expect to arrive late to the meeting, please notify Tari Aanonsen at taanonsen@ardc.org or 218-529-7541 to ensure a quorum will be present for voting items on the agenda.

The Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council (MIC) operates its programs and services without regard to race, color, and national origin in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. Complaint instructions and forms can be found in the Title VI Non-Discrimination Program and Limited-English Proficiency Plan online at dsmic.org/titlevi-policy. We are committed to accessibility. If you have an accommodation request that will allow you to participate more fully, please contact the MIC office at least three days prior to the meeting, and we will do our best, within the resources available to us, to accommodate your request.

Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

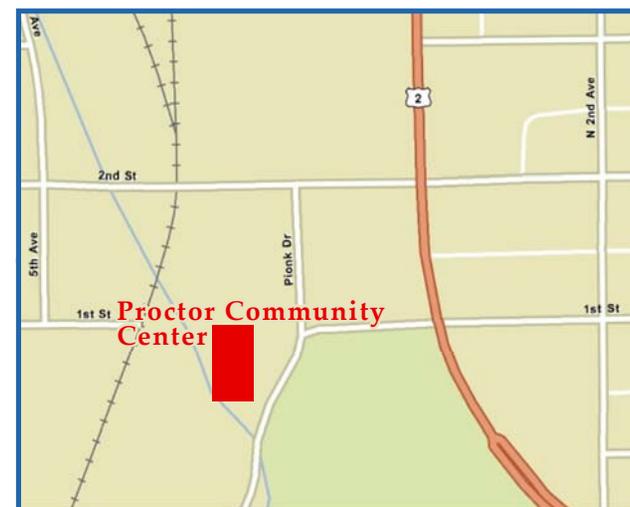
Duluth and Superior Urban Area Communities Cooperating in Planning and Development through a Joint Venture of the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission and the Northwest Regional Planning Commission

221 West First Street · Duluth, MN 55802 · 218/529-7541 · www.dsmic.org



Proctor Community Center

100 Pionk Drive Duluth, MN



Policy Board Members

Minnesota Members

City of Duluth

Janet Kennedy

Tara Swenson

City of Duluth

Citizen Rep

Yauhen Karatai

City of Hermantown

Wayne Boucher (**Co-**

Chair)

City of Proctor

Chad Ward

City of Rice Lake

Bob Quade

Duluth Transit Authority

Board

Adam McGill

St. Louis County

Annie Harala

St. Louis County

Suburban Townships

Scott Welsh

Wisconsin Members

City of Superior

Nick Ledin

Mark Johnson

Tylor Elm

City of Superior

Citizen Rep

Jenny VanSickle

Douglas County

Nick Baker (**Co-Chair**)

Rosemary Lear

John Lohse

Randy Skowlund

Douglas County

Suburban Townships

Broc Allen



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

Policy Board

Wednesday, August 20, 2025 @ 6:00 pm

MEETING AGENDA

<p>1. Introductions/Agenda Review</p> <p>2. Committee Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting Summary of 6.18.25 (for Approval) Director's Report <p style="text-align: center;">"Open Public Comment Period"</p>	10 min
<p>3. Airport Infrastructure Renewal Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation & Discussion, Tom Werner 	25 min
<p>4. Twin Ports Interchange and Blatnik Bridge Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation & Discussion, Pat Huston, MnDOT Project Director & Peter Marthaler, MnDOT Construction Manager 	25 min
<p>5. 2025-2028 Superior Area TIP Amendment #13 (Roll Call Vote)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend for Approval, Sheldon Johnson 	10 min
<p>6. Duluth-Superior Title VI Plan and Language Access Plan Update (Roll Call Vote)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend for Approval, Rondi Watson 	10 min
<p>7. BPAC Resolution Supporting Bicycling and Pedestrian Infrastructure in the London Road Reconstruction Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion, Eli Norlander and Ron Chicka 	20 min
<p>8. Draft 2026-2029 Duluth Area TIP Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation & Discussion, Mike Wenzholz 	15 min
<p>9. Draft 2026-2027 MIC Work Program Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation & Discussion, Ron Chicka 	10 min
<p>10. Maintenance Dredging Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation & Discussion, Mike Wenzholz 	5 min
<p>11. Round Table</p>	5 min
<p>12. Project Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Modification #5 to the 2025-2028 Duluth Area TIP Administrative Modification #1 to the 2025-2026 UPWP DSMIC.org Website Redesign Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Update MPO Area Functional Classification Update MIC Area Safety Action Plan 2025-2028 Superior Area TIP Update 	10 min
<p>13. Adjourn</p>	

Next Meeting

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Douglas County

6:00 pm



Agenda Item Descriptions

* = Presented for Approval or Adoption

1. Introductions / Agenda Review

2. Committee Business

- Meeting Summary of 6.18.25*
- MIC Director's Report
 - DOT-FHWA MPO Program Review – Our annual meeting with the MICs oversight agencies took place this month. This amounts to a status report on all items of the MPO including: budget and work program project status, review of the TIPs and their current status within each state, tasks within our Long Range Plan plus traffic demand modeling tasks, and an update from the DOT and FHWA on policies key to MPOs. This meeting aids in setting the course for the 2026 budget and work program to be finalized this Fall.
 - MN MPO-DOT Annual Conference – MPOs of the state and DOT representatives gathered in Mankato last month to share best practices and gain input on polices/guidance key to our operations. Some key interactive sessions were focused on peer-to-peer conversations on MPO tasks and learning of different approaches by all, and a session where AMPO (national association in DC) presented on the status of the federal transportation bill in Congress plus the various points of the recent Executive Orders out of the Administration and their pertinence to the MPOs. Most of the MPOs also highlighted a key project within their area.

3. Airport Infrastructure Renewal Update

Tom Werner will give a presentation that will include a five-year look back at infrastructure and economic development progress that coincides with the conclusion of the five-year strategic plan for the airport. There will be a look ahead to projects in the next couple of years, as well.

4. Twin Ports Interchange and Blatnik Bridge Update

Pat Huston and Peter Marthaler from MnDOT will be here to give an update on the schedules for Blatnik Bridge and Twin Ports Interchange projects, along with traffic mitigation plans.

5. 2025-2028 Superior Area TIP Amendment #13*

Sheldon Johnson will give an overview of the Superior Area TIP Amendment, as listed below:

TIP AMENDMENT #13

A TIP amendment has been requested by WisDOT to include a future Electric Vehicle Fast Charger investment within one mile of US-53 from the MN-WI border to where US-2 & US-53 split off. Total investment is estimated at \$900,000. The local match will be provided by the business receiving the WEVI grant award. Work related to the project amendment is scheduled for 2026.

Please see the table on the following page.



Agenda Item Descriptions

** = Presented for Approval or Adoption*

2026 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT 113-25-031 Amended to TIP in August 2025	US-53 within one mile of US-53 from the MN-WI border to where US-2 & US- 53 split off miles 0.0 NEVI Funding	PE	20	0	5	25
		ROW				
		CONST	700	0	175	875
		TOTAL	720	0	180	900

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

6. Duluth-Superior Title VI Plan and Language Access Plan Update*

The 2025 update of the MIC’s Title VI Plan and Language Access Plan will be presented for Board approval.

The Title VI 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, with its Language Access Plan, the MIC will provide meaningful access to services for persons with limited English language proficiency.

It is required that the updated Title VI plan be approved by the governing entity responsible for the policy decisions. Changes from the previous (2021) to the 2025 version are minimal and will be reviewed at the meeting.

7. BPAC Resolution Supporting Bicycling and Pedestrian Infrastructure in the London Road Reconstruction Project

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee met at a special meeting held on 8/12/25 to discuss a proposed BPAC resolution that would acknowledge the potential for safety issues in the proposed design of the 26th Ave East intersection in the MnDOT portion of the London Road Reconstruction Project. After some discussion, the BPAC moved to approve the resolution in a unanimous vote of the seven members present at the meeting.



Agenda Item Descriptions

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8. Draft 2026-2029 Duluth Area TIP Update

The Draft 2026-2029 Duluth Area TIP 30-day public comment period ended August 13. Three virtual 1-hour public meetings were held in July. Staff will provide a short summary of the comments received during the virtual public meetings and comment period. Staff will also discuss the remaining timeline before recommending approval of the final 2026-2029 Duluth Area TIP in September.

9. Draft 2026-2027 MIC Work Program Discussion

For the meetings this month, please consider optional/discretionary projects that the MIC staff might conduct. This is in addition to the usual and ongoing items: TIP, Metro Long Range Plan and our modal elements (Bike/Ped, Harbor, Freight, Roadway and Transit). Examples might be jurisdictional projects identified in the MTP that could use a multimodal study or further technical analysis. Or planning assistance needed to further a comprehensive plan or other long-range vision via your jurisdiction/organization.

10. Maintenance Dredging Update

At the request of a Policy Board member MIC staff will share that the annual cost of Duluth-Superior Harbor maintenance dredging is \$2.5 - 5 million for 110,000 cubic yards per year. MIC staff will share additional associated information learned from US Army Corps of Engineers partners, as well as a correction of a previous statement regarding how much maintenance dredging is expected in 2025 (it was stated in June that there would be no maintenance dredging, but that was incorrect).

11. Round Table Discussion

12. Project Updates

- **Administrative Modification #5 to the 2025-2028 Duluth Area TIP**

- **Cost Adjustments to the FY 2026 London Road Reconstruction Project**

- (State Project ID #118-166-004, #118-193-003, #118-191-003, #6925-145, #6925-145AC)*

- In response to a request from the City of Duluth and MnDOT, the MIC approved cost adjustments to the London Road Reconstruction project in the 2026 program year as an Administrative Modification* to the 2025–2028 Duluth Area TIP. These changes pertain to the project’s multiple components, which are listed under separate State Project ID numbers, as shown:

- These requested cost reductions and associated funding adjustments are based on revised estimates for the City of Duluth’s portion of the intersection improvements along London Road:*

- **#118-166-004 and #118-193-003**

- The cost for each project decreases by \$300,000, for revised Project Totals of \$700,000;

- Federal (“Non-AC”) funding increases by \$66,667
 - Local (“Other”) funding decreases by \$366,667



Agenda Item Descriptions

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#118-191-003

The cost for this project decreases by \$550,001, for a revised Project Total of \$449,999;

- Federal (“Non-AC”) funding decreases by \$133,334
- Local (“Other”) funding decreases by \$416,667

This requested cost increase and associated funding adjustments are based on a change to the final bid amount and MnDOT's decision to advance an additional \$2,000,000 in federal AC funding from 2027:

#6925-145 and #6925-145AC

The cost for this project increases by \$50,000, for a revised Project Total of \$19,175,000:

- Federal (“Non-AC”) funding decreases by \$2,757,582
- Federal Advance Construction (“AC”) funding increases by \$2,000,000
- State (“TH or Bond”) funding decreases by \$182,418
- Local (“Other”) funding increases by \$990,000.

State Project ID	Agency	Roadway Name	Type of Work	Project Description	Type of Funds	Fed \$ (Non-AC)	Fed AC \$*	Fed AC Payback**	State T.H. or Bond \$	Other \$	Project Total \$	Year
118-166-004	Duluth	MN 61	PAVEMENT RESURFACE AND REHABILITATION, TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES/SAFETY	MN 61 (LONDON RD), NB AND SB, IN DULUTH, CONST ROUNDABOUT AT (MSAS 166) 40TH AVE E. (ASSOC 6925-145, 118-191-003, 118-193-003)	STBGP	\$ 493,333	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 506,667	\$ 1,000,000	2026
118-166-004	Duluth	MN 61	PAVEMENT RESURFACE AND REHABILITATION, TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES/SAFETY	IN DULUTH MSAS166(40TH AVE E.)CONST ROUNDABOUT(ASSOC6925-145, 6982-357, 118-191-003, 118-193-003)	STBGP	\$ 560,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 140,000	\$ 700,000	2026

State Project ID	Agency	Roadway Name	Type of Work	Project Description	Type of Funds	Fed \$ (Non-AC)	Fed AC \$*	Fed AC Payback**	State T.H. or Bond \$	Other \$	Project Total \$	Year
118-191-003	Duluth	MN 61	PAVEMENT RESURFACE AND REHABILITATION, TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES/SAFETY	MN 61,(LONDON RD) NB AND SB, IN DULUTH, CONST ROUNDABOUT AT (MSAS 191) 26TH AVE E. (ASSOC 6925-145, 118-166-004, 118-193-003)	STBGP	\$ 493,333	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 506,667	\$ 1,000,000	2026
118-191-003	Duluth	MN 61	PAVEMENT RESURFACE AND REHABILITATION, TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES/SAFETY	IN DULUTH MSAS191(26TH AVE E.)CONST ROUNDABOUT(ASSOC6925-145, 6982-357, 118-193-003, 118-166-004)	STBGP	\$ 359,999	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 90,000	\$ 449,999	2026

State Project ID	Agency	Roadway Name	Type of Work	Project Description	Type of Funds	Fed \$ (Non-AC)	Fed AC \$*	Fed AC Payback**	State T.H. or Bond \$	Other \$	Project Total \$	Year
118-193-003	Duluth	MN 61	PAVEMENT RESURFACE AND REHABILITATION, TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES/SAFETY	MN 61(LONDON RD), NB AND SB, IN DULUTH, (MSAS193) LONDON RD IMPROVEMENTS. (ASSOC 6925-145, 118-166-004, 118-191-003)	STBGP	\$ 493,333	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 506,667	\$ 1,000,000	2026
118-193-003	Duluth	MN 61	PAVEMENT RESURFACE AND REHABILITATION, TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES/SAFETY	IN DULUTH MSAS193(LONDON RD.) INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS (ASSOC 6925-145, 6982-357, 118-191-003, 118-166-004)	STBGP	\$ 560,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 140,000	\$ 700,000	2026

State Project ID	Agency	Roadway Name	Type of Work	Project Description	Type of Funds	Fed \$ (Non-AC)	Fed AC \$*	Fed AC Payback**	State T.H. or Bond \$	Other \$	Project Total \$	Year	
6925-145	MnDOT	MN 61	PAVEMENT RESURFACE AND REHABILITATION, TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES/SAFETY	**AC**: MN 61(LONDON RD), NB AND SB, IN DULUTH, FROM (MSAS 191) 26AVE E. TO 0.14 MI. N. (MSAS195) 60TH AVENUE EAST, MEDIUM MILL/OVERLAY, TRAIL, CONST ROUNDABOUTS AT (MSAS191)26TH AVE E., (MSAS 166)40TH AVE E., AND I-35 SB JCT (MSAS 152)21AVE E & 26TH AVE E. INSTALL INTERSTATE CLOSURE GATES (ASSOC 6982-357, 118-166-004, 118-191-003, 118-193-003) (AC PROJECT PAYBACK 2027)	NHPP	\$ 7,571,575	\$ 8,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,553,425	\$ -	\$ 19,125,000	2026
6925-145	MnDOT	MN 61	PAVEMENT RESURFACE AND REHABILITATION, TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES/SAFETY	**AC**: MN 61(LONDON RD), NB AND SB, IN DULUTH, FROM (MSAS-191) 26AVE E. TO 0.14 MI. N. (MSAS195) 60TH AVENUE EAST, MEDIUM MILL/OVERLAY, TRAIL, CONST ROUNDABOUTS AT (MSAS191)26TH AVE E., (MSAS-166)40TH AVE E. AND I-35 SB JCT (MSAS-152)21AVE E & 26TH AVE E. INSTALL INTERSTATE CLOSURE GATES (ASSOC 6982-357, 118-166-004, 118-191-003, 118-193-003) (AC PROJECT PAYBACK 1 OF 1)	NHPP	\$ 4,813,993	\$ 10,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,371,007	\$ 990,000	\$ 19,175,000	2026
6925-145AC	MnDOT	MN 61	PAVEMENT RESURFACE AND REHABILITATION, TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES/SAFETY	**AC**: MN 61, NB AND SB, IN DULUTH, FROM (MSAS 191) 26AVE E. TO 0.14 MI. N. (MSAS195) 60TH AVENUE EAST, MEDIUM MILL/OVERLAY, TRAIL, CONST ROUNDABOUTS AT (MSAS191)26TH AVE E., (MSAS 166)40TH AVE E., AND I-35 SB JCT (MSAS 152)21AVE E & 26TH AVE E. INSTALL INTERSTATE CLOSURE GATES (ASSOC 6982-357, 118-166-004, 118-191-003, 118-193-003) (AC PROJECT PAYBACK 1 OF 1)	NHPP	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	2027
6925-145AC	MnDOT	MN 61	PAVEMENT RESURFACE AND REHABILITATION, TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES/SAFETY	**AC**: MN 61(LONDON RD), NB AND SB, IN DULUTH, FROM (MSAS-191) 26AVE E. TO 0.14 MI. N. (MSAS195) 60TH AVENUE EAST, MEDIUM MILL/OVERLAY, TRAIL, CONST ROUNDABOUTS AT (MSAS191)26TH AVE E., (MSAS-166)40TH AVE E. AND I-35 SB JCT (MSAS-152)21AVE E & 26TH AVE E. INSTALL INTERSTATE CLOSURE GATES (ASSOC 6982-357, 118-166-004, 118-191-003, 118-193-003) (AC PROJECT PAYBACK 1 OF 1)	NHPP	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	2027

Questions regarding this project should be directed to Eli Norlander at 218-529-7556 or by email at enorlander@ardc.org.



Agenda Item Descriptions

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- **Administrative Modification #1 to the 2025-2026 UPWP**

To augment the tasks identified within the current work plan and budget (UPWP), the MIC is acquiring consultant assistance to redesign the dsmic.org website to improve our online presence, visitor experience, and the ease with which staff can post to the site.

To do this, we are re-allocating existing funds in the amount of \$24,000 from both Personnel and Direct Expense budget lines-to cover the consultant cost for this task (with some added funds included to compensate for related tasks to be conducted by MIC staff). Approximately 70% of the cost will be derived from unused funds from the Personnel side of the budget; 30% derived from elements of the Direct side of the budget. Combined, this total will then be moved to the Administration code number of the MICs budget for 2025. All work on the website update is scheduled to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

- **dsmic.org Site Redesign**

The Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council (MIC) is charged with effectively communicating with project stakeholders and the public at large about our transportation planning activities. Our website, dsmic.org, is the MIC's primary tool for providing timely information on our current plans and studies.

The site, however, is ten years old and needs an update. The MIC issued a Request for Quotes (RFQ) in June for a qualified consultant to perform the needed updates. We received five quotes and awarded the contract to SEK Design Studio. Preliminary work is underway, with the design and development phases to follow. The project will be completed by the end of the year.

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

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) met on August 7th. Staff will provide a summary of the topics of discussion. These included a London Road (MN 61) project discussion which included a presentation from the Minnesota Department of Transportation's District 1 staff. A special meeting was called the following week to discuss changes to a resolution that was brought forward regarding the London Road project. Staff will be providing information about the outcome of this meeting.

At the August 7th meeting, BPAC also had several updates that staff will mention. These include the periodic review and update of the bylaws, a restructuring of subcommittees, and the scope of work for ARDC and the MIC partnering on Safe Routes to School planning with Duluth Public Schools.

- **MnDOT Functional Classification Update**

The MIC is actively working on determining the correct route we would like to go to determine where and if the MPO area roads require any Functional Classification changes. This will be completed with future coordination with the state DOT's and the local jurisdictions. We are currently in the information gathering stage and will have more information soon.



Agenda Item Descriptions

** = Presented for Approval or Adoption*

MIC Area Safety Action Plan

The planning process will soon begin with Zan Associates, in partnership with Alliant Engineering, as the lead consultant team.

As reported in June, we received six strong proposals. Because they were all high-quality and closely ranked after initial scoring, the selection committee invited each firm to give a short virtual presentation. Following this second round of evaluations, Zan Associates was selected to lead the MIC's Safety Action Plan.

With the comprehensive, data-driven Safety Analysis of the MIC area transportation network completed in 2024, a key strength of Zan's proposal was their approach to public engagement—working with community members, elected officials, jurisdictional decision-makers, and the media. Their presentation reflected a clear understanding of our objectives and the complementary expertise the Zan-Alliant team will bring.

Work is expected to begin later this month, with project completion remaining on schedule for September 2026.

- **2025-2028 Superior Area TIP Update**

Traditionally, a new Superior TIP is developed annually to include updates to projects currently listed in the TIP, removal of obligated/completed projects, and the addition of new projects identified by local jurisdictions. WisDOT has provided an opportunity for the upcoming Superior 2026-2029 TIP development process to deviate from past year TIP development processes. Instead of developing a new 2026-2029 Superior TIP that would normally be initiated in August and adopted by the MIC in October, the MIC will be simply amending the current 2025-2028 Superior TIP throughout 2025 and 2026 with any new projects and changes to currently listed projects.

This deviation will give WisDOT and MPO's across Wisconsin more time to determine how recent changes at the federal level will affect planning processes and documents. The 2025-2028 Superior TIP will continue to be fiscally constrained and future Performance Measure Targets will also be amended into the 2025-2028 TIP. Looking forward, it is expected the MIC will resume the normal Superior TIP development process in August 2026 initiating the future development and adoption of the 2027-2030 Superior TIP.

13. Adjourn