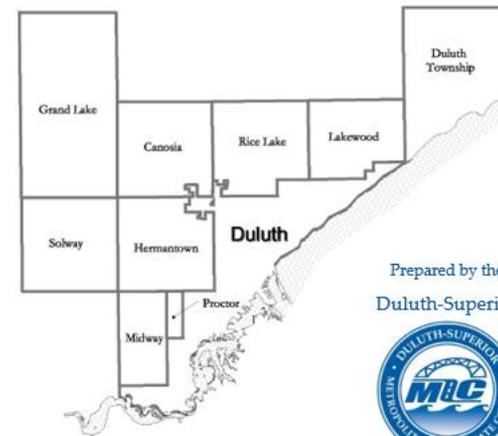


TIP-Related Context

2026-2029
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
for the
Duluth, MN Metropolitan Planning Area



Prepared by the
Duluth-Superior



Metropolitan Interstate Council

Presented to the MIC Policy Board
September 17, 2025

Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council



New Definitions

- “Regionally Significant”
- “Consistent With”
- “Reflect the Investment Priorities Established In”
- Key pieces of 23 CFR 450.326
- Important for carrying out the TIP & ensuring its connection with the MTP

New Definitions

“Regionally Significant”

- Built around minimum definition in 23 CFR 450.104
- Tailored to work for MIC area
- Reviewed by TAC
- Finalized with TAC suggestions

New Definitions

“Consistent With”

As it applies to 23 CFR 450.326(i) means:

- The project or project phase, once completed, is anticipated to make progress towards meeting one or more of the MTP’s goals and objectives;
 - It is expected the anticipated progress will be measurable and/or positively noticed by users; and
 - In achieving the above the project or project phase, once completed, will help bring the MTP’s vision to reality.
-
- does not mean the project or project phase must make progress towards meeting *all* of the MTP’s goals and objectives.

New Definitions

“Reflect the Investment Priorities Established In”

As it applies to 23 CFR 450.326(a) means:

- The project or project phase is listed in the MTP’s priority projects list, full project list, and/or is determined to be regionally significant, and is fiscally constrained;
 - The project or project phase, once completed, is anticipated to make progress towards meeting one or more of the MTP’s goals and objectives;
 - The project or project phase, once completed, is anticipated to make progress towards implementing Action Steps identified in the MTP; and
 - In achieving the above the project or project phase, once completed, will help bring the MTP’s vision to reality.
-
- does not mean the project or project phase must make progress towards meeting *all* of the MTP’s goals and objectives.

23 USC 134(h)(1-3)

A functional paraphrase:

The failure to consider any factor (the 10 planning factors) specified in the metropolitan planning process, including the performance-based approach, shall not be reviewable by any court in any matter affecting a transportation plan, a TIP, a project or strategy, or certification of a planning process.

MnDOT Input

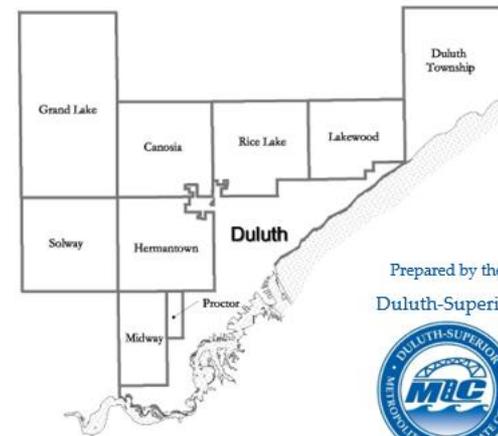
Questions?

Comments?



2026-2029 Duluth Area TIP Final TIP

2026-2029 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM for the Duluth, MN Metropolitan Planning Area



Prepared by the
Duluth-Superior



Metropolitan Interstate Council

Presented to the MIC Policy Board
September 17, 2025

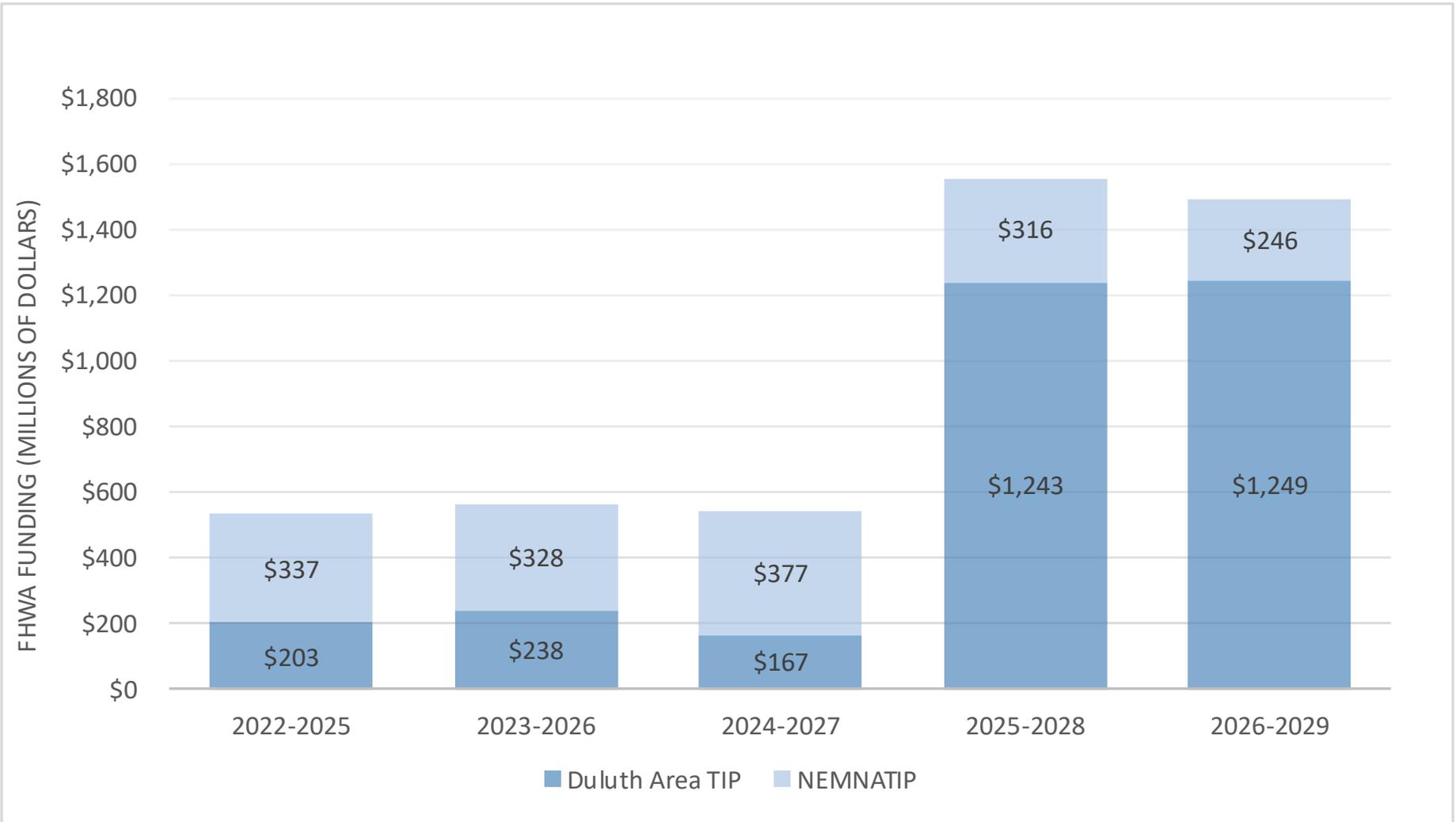
Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council



Language Changes

- “Regionally Significant” definition updated
- Chapter 1: Introduction
 - Sections rewritten for unfamiliar reader clarity
- Chapter 5: Community Impact Assessment
 - Previously waiting on federal guidance
 - Removed “Environmental Justice”
 - Swapped Executive Order language
 - **X Negative health & environmental impacts X**
 - **√ Community cohesion, quality of life, economic opportunities √**
 - Focus on Title VI: Nondiscrimination & fair participation

Project Cost Totals



Project Cost Totals

Total Project Costs: 2026-2029 Duluth Area TIP

					EXPENSES	REVENUES	
Jurisdiction	2026	2027	2028	2029	2026-2029 TIP (4-year total)	Avg. Expend. (in Millions)	
						(4 years)	
						Maintenance	Operations
MnDOT	\$ 1,452,679,330	\$ 29,566,667	\$ 29,550,000	\$ 32,700,000	\$ 1,544,495,997	\$ 13	\$ 8
St. Louis County	\$ 11,229,805	\$ 4,315,750	\$ 43,090,000	\$ 3,400,000	\$ 62,035,555	\$ 16	\$ 20
City of Duluth	\$ 70,494,083	\$ 6,166,500	\$ 4,924,776	\$ 1,472,000	\$ 83,057,359	\$ 25	\$ 21
City of Hermantown/Other			\$ 3,123,166	\$ 257,922	\$ 3,381,088	\$ 4	\$ -
Total	\$ 1,534,403,218	\$ 40,048,917	\$ 80,687,942	\$ 37,829,922	\$ 1,692,969,999	\$ 58	\$ 49
	Does not include AC Payback Dollars						

Upcoming Projects

London Rd (MN 61)



~\$ 17.14 million fed

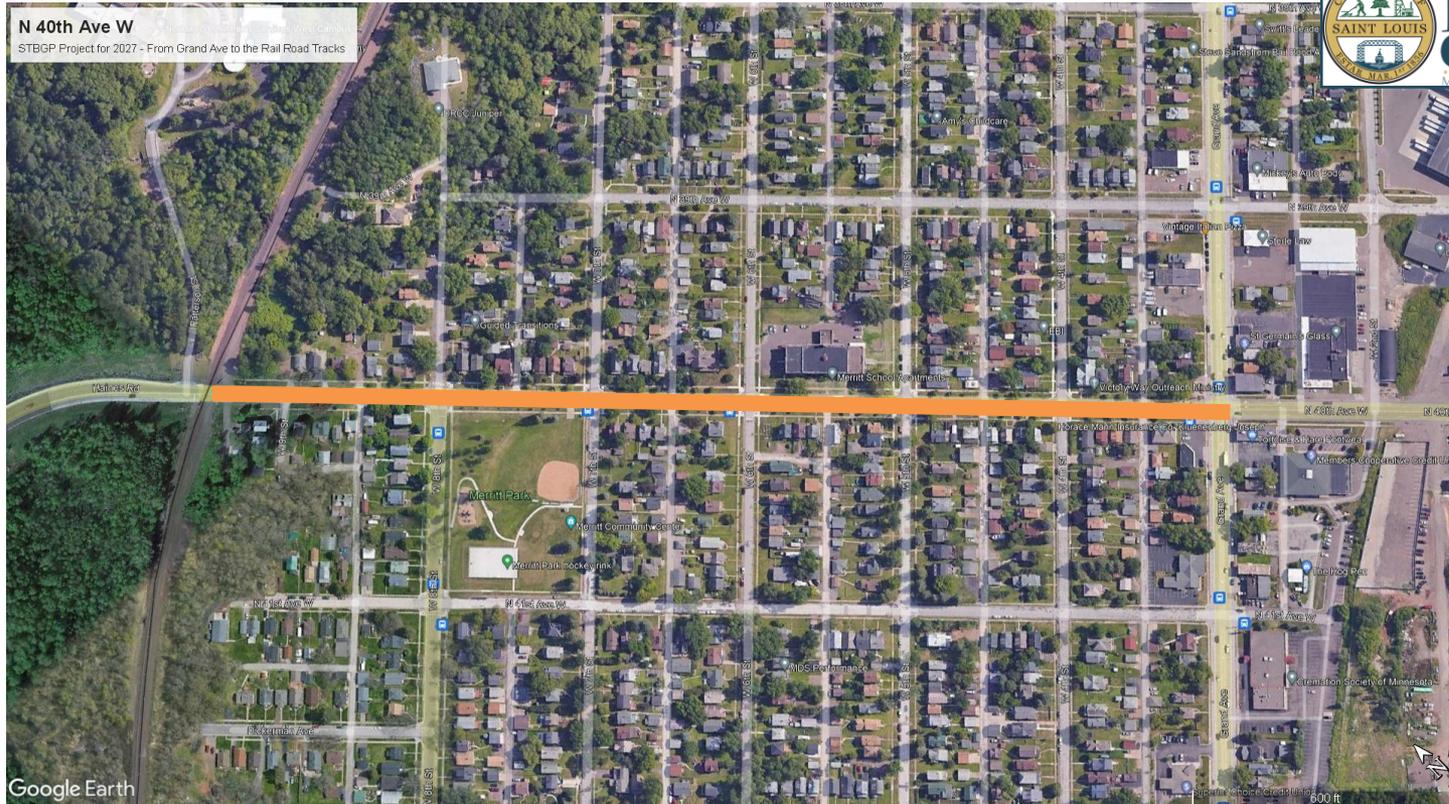
Blatnik Bridge



> \$ 1.5 billion fed

Upcoming Projects: STBGP

40th Ave W

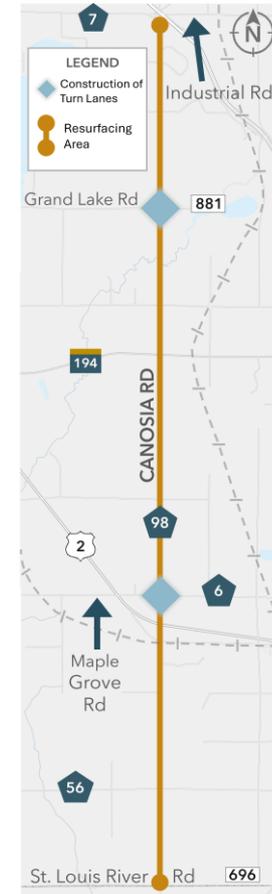
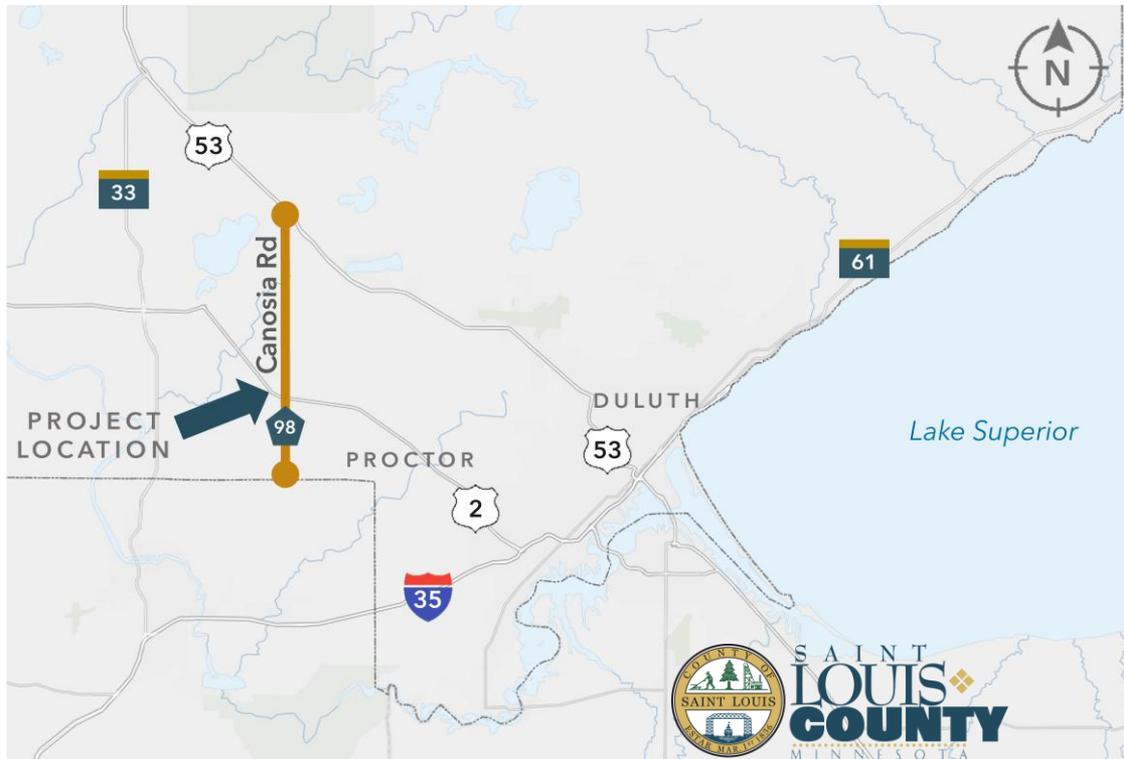


\$2,799,000 Federal
\$200,000 Federal AC

- Mini roundabout
- Storm sewer & water main
- Sidewalk & crosswalk improvements
- Lighting improvements

Upcoming Projects: STBGP

Canosia Rd

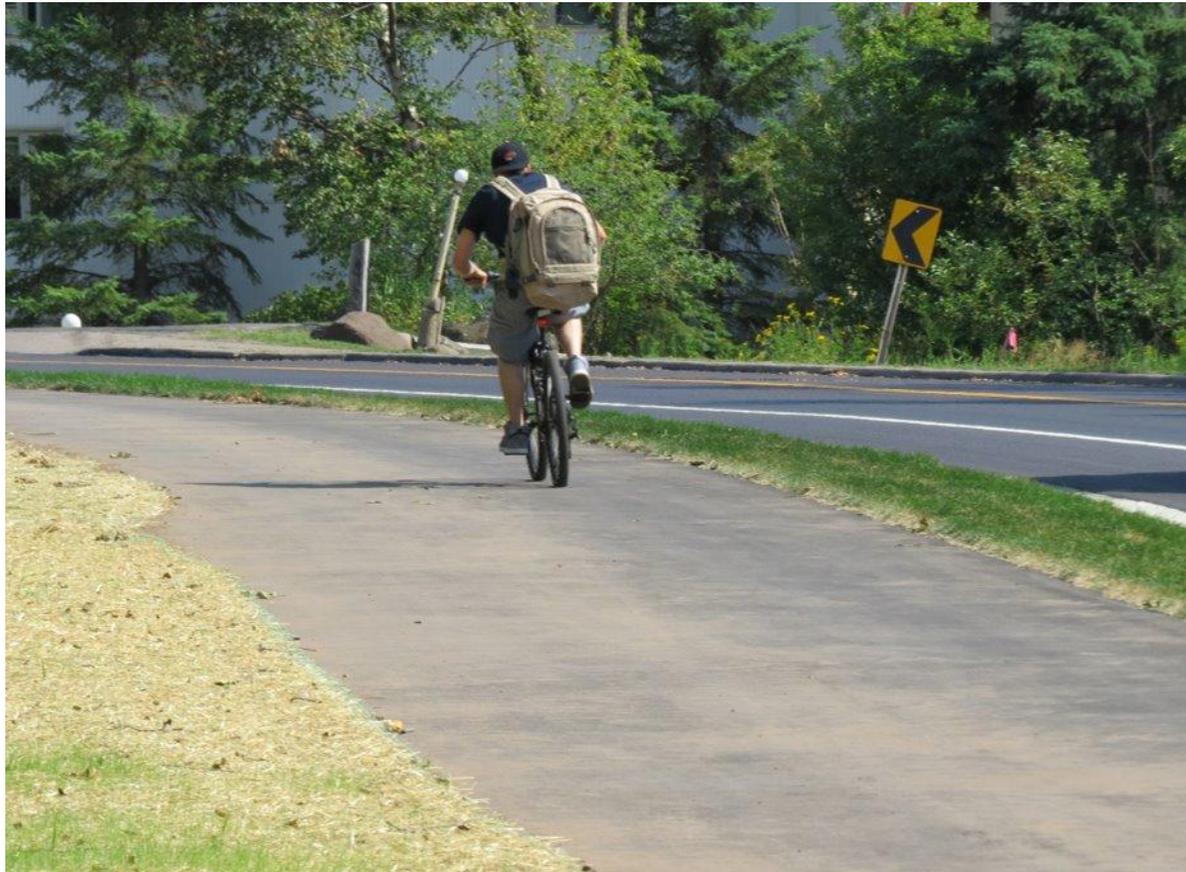


\$ 971,750 STBGP

- 8.9 mile reclaim & overlay
- Intersection safety improvements

Upcoming Projects: CRP/TA/STBGP

Campus Connector Segment 4 & 5



\$ 1,194,091 Federal

Upcoming Projects: BUILD/RAISE

Lift Bridge

AERIAL LIFT BRIDGE REHABILITATION	
Recipient	City of Duluth
Location	City of Duluth, MN: Minnesota
Project Type	Capital
Urban or Rural	Rural
RAISE Grant Funding	\$11,200,000
Construction Start (estimate)	April 2026
Area of Persistent Poverty or Historically Disadvantaged Community Designation? No	

* Estimated construction start date provided by Recipient

Project Description: This project will rehabilitate the Duluth Aerial Lift Bridge which includes: surface preparation and repainting, lead abatement, replacement of deteriorated sections, miscellaneous structural steel repairs, repairs to spalled and delaminated concrete, and replacement of the bridge sidewalks.

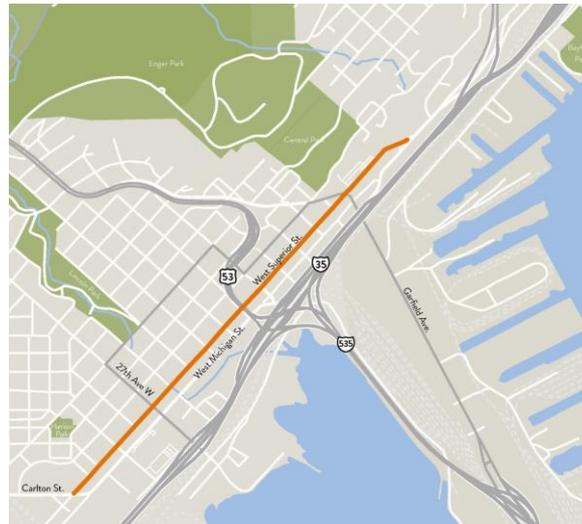
Project Benefits: This project will enhance mobility and connectivity by improving the bridge, which serves as the only roadway linking Duluth's Park Point neighborhood to the city and regional transportation network. The project will address sidewalk issues, ensuring they meet ADA standards and removing barriers such as the heaving sidewalks. Additionally, the Duluth Transit Authority, public buses, and charter buses frequently use the bridge, making these upgrades crucial for transit access.




\$11.2 million fed.

\$12 million state & local

W Superior St



\$25 million fed.

\$15 million match

Rice Lake Rd



\$25 million BUILD

\$600,000 TA

\$14 million match

Responses to Comments

- “This comment/design recommendation has been shared with...”

MnDOT

City of Duluth

St. Louis County

DTA

Responses to Comments

- 21 near identical comments
 - Mentioned 2 projects from FY2026, FY2027, FY2028
 - 6 generalized comments from these, one for each project mentioned
 - 6 generalized MIC responses
- Full comments as received, in an appendix
 - “See Response 1”, “See Response 3”
 - Where needed, other portions of these comments received additional response
- Document-specific changes were all considered, most incorporated

Current Year Project Status Report

- Additions to the status report request

MnDOT	US HWY 2 FROM INDEPENDENCE RD (CR874) TO MN HWY 194, MEDIUM MILL AND OVERLAY AND CONSTRUCT ROUNDABOUT AT INTERSECTIONS OF US 2/MN HWY 194 (ASSOC. 6907-51 & 069-646-002)	Under Construction
MnDOT	US HWY 2 FROM INDEPENDENCE RD (CR874) TO MN HWY 194, MEDIUM MILL AND OVERLAY AND CONSTRUCT ROUNDABOUT AT INTERSECTIONS OF US 2/MN HWY 194 (ASSOC. 6907-51 & 069-646-002) (AC PROJECT PAYBACK 2024)	Under Construction
MnDOT	IN DULUTH, I-535 FROM S I-35 TO MINNESOTA STATE LINE. GARFIELD AVE. INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS, CONCRETE SURFACING, RETAINING WALLS, REPLACE BRIDGES 69808, 69808A, 69809 & 69810 WITH NEW BRIDGES 69808, 69808A, 69809 & 69810.(AC PROJECT, PAYBACK 1 OF 1)	Under Construction
MnDOT	I-35 IN DULUTH FROM LAKE AVE TO 26TH AVE E. STORM STRUCTURE REPAIRS	Construction Begins 2024
MnDOT	BLATNIK BRIDGE PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING/CONSULTANT AGREEMENTS - 2023	Project Development
Duluth	3rd St., in Duluth, from 12th Ave. E. to Mesaba Ave. (MN 194) Mill & Overlay, Storm Sewer, Curb & Gutter, and ADA Improvements (AC Project Payback 2024)	Under construction
Duluth	CCT PHASE 3 - SHARED USE PATH (SUP) FROM CENTRAL AVE TO 59TH AVE WEST, SOUTHERLY TO RALEIGH STREET, AND FROM THE EAST SIDE OF KINGSBURY CREEK TO GRAND AVENUE	Construction begins October 2023
Duluth	6-INCH WET-REFLECTIVE EDGELINES ON VARIOUS CITY ROADS (SLC IS LEAD) (ASSOC. 069-070-051) (AC PROJECT PAYBACK 2026)	Work complete
St. Louis County	PIEDMONT AVE (CSAH 54) MILL AND OVERLAY AND SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS BETWEEN HAINES RD (CSAH 91) AND CHAMBERSBURG AVE. (TIED TO 069-691-033)	Under Construction
St. Louis County	CSAH 5 SINGLE T-CURVES AT CSAH 29, CSAH 43 & CSAH 100	Construction Begins August 2023
St. Louis County	ST LOUIS COUNTY WIDE - CHEVRONS AT 27 CURVES	Construction Begins August 2023
St. Louis County	MIDWAY RD (CSAH 13) AT STARK RD (CSAH 11) TURN LANES (TIED TO 069-070-057)	Under Construction
St. Louis County	IN DULUTH & PROCTOR, ON EAST SIDE OF BOUNDARY AVE CONSTRUCT NEW SIDEWALK FROM 300 FT NORTH OF ANCHOR ST TO ORCHARD ST	Work Complete
St. Louis County	MIDWAY RD (CSAH 13) AND WEST ARROWHEAD RD CONSTRUCT LEFT TURN LANES (TIED TO 069-070-053)	Under Construction
St. Louis County	HAINES RD (CSAH 91) FROM MORRIS THOMAS RD TO AIRPORT RD MILL AND OVERLAY, SIDEWALK, STORM SEWER, TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND TURN LANES (TIED TO 069-654-006)	Under Construction
St. Louis County	HAINES RD (CSAH 91) FROM MORRIS THOMAS RD TO AIRPORT RD MILL AND OVERLAY, SIDEWALK, STORM SEWER, TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND TURN LANES (AC PAYBACK 2024) (TIED TO 069-654-006)	Under Construction
St. Louis County	Countywide Apply High Friction Surface Treatment to 12 Curves (ASSOC 069-070-076)	Under Construction

PREVIOUS
STATUS REPORT

Current Year Project Status Report

Status	Construction Finished/Expected Completion	Notes	Details
In progress, will be completed in 2025	Sep-25	Project is on time & budget. Project is Tied to 6982-348. Overlay crew is starting bridge deck paving the week of July 28th project completion: September 2025	This project is contributing towards meeting goal 4 (Moving People and Goods) and goal 5 (Economic Vitality) in the MTP, by maintaining interstate infrastructure. It will also contribute to meeting PM2: Infrastructure and potentially PM3: System Reliability. This project is also identified on the MIC Area Priority Projects List in Sustainable Choices 2050 (Chapter 4).
In progress, will be completed in 2025	Sep-25	Project is using Bridge Funding Program funds Project is on time & budget. Project is Tied to 6982-348. Overlay crew is starting bridge deck paving the week of July 28th project completion: September 2025	This project is contributing towards meeting goal 4 (Moving People and Goods) and goal 5 (Economic Vitality) in the MTP, by maintaining interstate infrastructure. It will also contribute to meeting PM2: Infrastructure and potentially PM3: System Reliability. This project is also identified on the MIC Area Priority Projects List in Sustainable Choices 2050 (Chapter 4).
In design/engineering stage	30-Jun-25	On going preliminary engineering to desing Blatnik Bridge. Work is progressing on schedule	This is not the construction project - main project is in the current TIP.
In progress, will be completed in 2025	Sep-25	Project is on time & budget. Project is Tied to 6982-336. Overlay crew is starting bridge deck paving the week of July 28th project completion: September 2025	This project is contributing towards meeting goal 4 (Moving People and Goods) and goal 5 (Economic Vitality) in the MTP, by maintaining interstate infrastructure. It will also contribute to meeting PM2: Infrastructure and potentially PM3: System Reliability.
In progress, will be completed in 2025	Sep-25	Project is using Bridge Funding Program funds Project is on time & budget. Project is Tied to 6982-336. Overlay crew is starting bridge deck paving the week of July 28th project completion: September 2025	This project is contributing towards meeting goal 4 (Moving People and Goods) and goal 5 (Economic Vitality) in the MTP, by maintaining interstate infrastructure. It will also contribute to meeting PM2: Infrastructure and potentially PM3: System Reliability.

ADDED

- Description of delays/timeline change
- Performance Measure impacts

What is next, if approved?

- State & Federal approval process
 - Document & resolution to MnDOT MPO Coordinator
 - Request review and approval from MnDOT
 - Submission to FHWA/FTA
 - Final federal review & approval
- Included in the STIP
- Next TIP cycle begins

Opportunity for Public Comment



PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME
AND AFFILIATION
(IF ANY)



COMMENT TIME LIMIT:
3 MINUTES



PLEASE DIRECT YOUR
REMARKS TO THE ACTION
UNDER CONSIDERATION BY
THE BOARD

The Chair, with committee approval, has the option of extending or closing the public comment period, depending on the number of people who wish to speak and the length of the meeting agenda

TAC Recommendation to MIC Board:

Adoption of 2026-2029 Duluth Area TIP



Motion Requested:

Adopt the 2026-2029 Duluth Area TIP



Accessibility Improvements

- Alt Text on images
- Converted tables from JPEG to hosted tables
- Larger fonts
- High contrast colors
- Planning on more next year

Figure 5: Total Project Cost: Duluth Area TIP

Total Project Costs: 2026-2029 Duluth Area TIP									
Jurisdiction	2026	2027	2028	2029	2026-2029 TIP (4-year total)	EXPENSES		REVENUES	
						Avg. Expend. (in Millions)		Avg. Expend. (in Millions)	
						Maintenance	Operations	Maintenance	Operations
MnDOT	\$ 1,452,679,330	\$ 29,566,667	\$ 29,550,000	\$ 32,700,000	\$ 1,544,495,997	\$ 13	\$ 8		
St. Louis County	\$ 11,229,805	\$ 4,315,750	\$ 43,090,000	\$ 3,400,000	\$ 62,035,555	\$ 16	\$ 20		
City of Duluth	\$ 70,494,083	\$ 6,166,500	\$ 4,924,776	\$ 1,472,000	\$ 83,057,359	\$ 25	\$ 21		
City of Hermantown /Other			\$ 3,123,166	\$ 257,922	\$ 3,381,088	\$ 4	\$ -		
Total	\$ 1,534,403,218	\$ 40,048,917	\$ 80,687,942	\$ 37,829,922	\$ 1,692,969,999	\$ 58	\$ 49		
Does not include AC Payback Dollars									

Prepared by the Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council
a division of the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan
Interstate Council Logo

Duluth and Superior urban area communities cooperating in planning and development

Responses to Comments

- Generalized comments & responses

Chapter 7

Public Involvement

streets. There is a locally funded City of Duluth project with plans to reconfigure London Rd from 21st Ave E to 26th Ave E. This project is actually separate and not included in the TIP because it does not include federal funding.

2027

3. Project ID 6925-145AC (London Rd AC Payback)

"The 2027 MNDOT project 6925-145AC (London Road) does not follow the MIC area bicycle plan at the 26th Street Roundabout, and so it should be removed from the TIP until revisions are made for it to be compliant."

- MIC Response: To clarify, this is an Advanced Construction (AC) Payback TIP item. This means construction activities are not associated with Project ID 6925-145AC, only a federal funding reimbursement for the construction occurring with 6925-145. Read more on the [MnDOT website](#).

4. Project IDs 118-140-035, 118-206-001, and 118-207-001

"The 2027 City of Duluth projects 118-140-035 (Lake Avenue), 118-206-001 (Buchanan Street), 118-207-001 (Canal Park Drive), need to include pedestrian, bicycle, and transit dedicated spaces and improvements. We can't leave Canal Park the way it is. We need to make hard decisions and think outside the box on how Canal Park can change for the better by providing viable alternative transportation options. Please add the following words to the description: Raised Crosswalks, Bus Lanes, Urban Mini Roundabouts"

- MIC Response: This project recommendation has been shared with the City of Duluth and DTA. Project descriptions are determined by the jurisdiction that owns the project. The MIC cannot make edits to project descriptions unless a change is requested by the jurisdiction.

2028

5. Project ID 118-132-001

"The 2028 City of Duluth project 118-132-001 (4th Street) should include the words "Protected Bike Lanes and traffic calming" in the project description."

- MIC Response: This project recommendation has been shared with the City of Duluth. Project descriptions are determined by the jurisdiction that owns the project. The MIC cannot make edits to project descriptions unless a change is requested by the jurisdiction.

Responses to Comments

- PM 1: Safety table – Added Prior Baseline to show trend

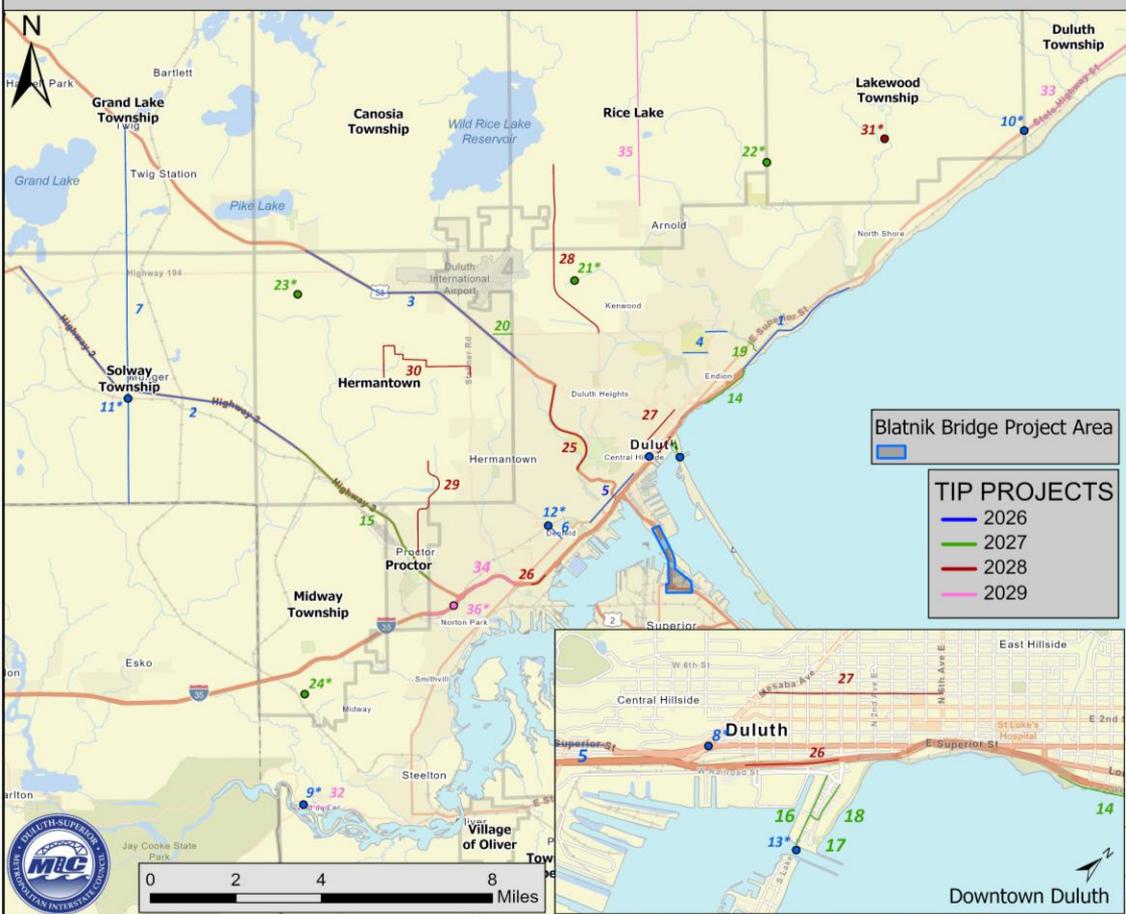
Safety Performance Measure	Prior Baseline (2018-2022 Average)	Current Baseline (2019-2023 Average)	2025 Target
Fatalities	414.2	420.8	352.4
Fatality Rate (per 100 million VMT)	0.725	0.742	0.582
Serious Injuries	1,676.2	1745.6	1463.4
Serious Injury Rate (per 100 million VMT)	2.930	3.075	2.470
Non-motorist Fatalities & Serious Injuries	282.4	285.4	258.4

ADDED

Responses to Comments

- Map edits

2026-2029 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE DULUTH PLANNING AREA



TIP Projects by Year

2026 TIP Projects

1. London Rd – Resurface 26th Ave E to 60th Ave E
2. US 2 – Resurface MN 194 to Midway Rd
3. US 53 – Resurface Haines Rd to Midway Rd
4. Campus Connector Segments 4 & 5
5. W Superior St – Carlton Ave to W Michigan St Reconstruction
6. 40th Ave W – Grand Ave to 8th St Reconstruction
7. Canosia Rd – Resurface St. Louis River Rd to Industrial Rd
- 8*. MN 194 NB over Superior St – Bridge Repair
- 9*. MN 23 – Ceremonial Structure at Jct of MN 210
- 10*. MN 61 – McQuade Rd Intersection Improvement
- 11*. Canosia Rd RR Crossing Signal Replacement
- 12*. N 40th Ave W RR Crossing Signal Replacement
- 13*. Aerial Lift Bridge – Rehabilitation

2027 TIP Projects

14. I 35 - End of Leif Erikson Tunnel to 26th Ave E ITS
15. US 2 – Resurface Midway Rd to Boundary Ave
16. Lake Ave – Resurface Railroad St to Lift Bridge
17. Buchanan St – Resurface Lake Ave to Canal Park Dr
18. Canal Park Dr – Resurface Buchanan St to Railroad St
19. Campus Connector Segment 6
20. Arrowhead Rd - Menard Dr to Haines Rd Sidewalk
- 21*. Norton Rd – Construct Bridge
- 22*. Jean Duluth Rd at W Tischer Rd Left Turn Lanes
- 23*. Midway Rd at Rose Rd – Turn Lanes
- 24*. Becks Rd at Halie Rd – Turn Lanes

2028 TIP Projects

25. Trinity Rd – Resurface Piedmont Ace to TH194
26. I35 – Resurface Central Ave to Recycle Way Bridge, 5th Ave W Bridge to Lake Ave Bridge
27. 4th St - Grade/Surface Mesaba Ave to 6th Ave E
28. Rice Lake Rd – Reconstruction
29. Lavaque Rd – Resurface 5th St to Morris Thomas
30. Munger Trail Spur - Lavaque to Ugstad Rd
- 31*. Strand Rd - Bridge Replace over Lester River

2029 TIP Projects

32. MN 23 - Resurfacing and Bridge Replacement West 210 to East 210
33. MN 61- Resurface Knife River to Homestead Rd
34. Thompson Hill - Boundary Ave to N. End Bridge
35. Howard Gnesen Rd - Martin Rd to Normana Rd Resurface/Reclaim
- 36*. Skyline Pkwy - Stonewall Reconstruct

Not all projects are listed. Please review the project list for full descriptions and list of projects.
* Projects displayed as a point.

FOOTNOTE EDIT

Not all projects are listed. Please review the project list for full descriptions and list of projects.
* Projects displayed as a point.