



Meeting Summary

Note Taker(s)	Name, Title/Affiliation – Eli Norlander/MIC	
Members Present		
	Members Present	
Chair	Andrea Crouse	Zeitgeist Arts/SHIP/Active Transportation
Vice Chair	James Gittemeier (Virtual)	City of Duluth Senior Transportation Planner
	Carol Andrews	St. Louis County Public Works
	Chris Belden (Virtual)	Duluth Transit Authority
	Cari Pedersen (Virtual)	City of Duluth Engineering
	Mae Sommerfeld (Virtual)	WisDOT
	Dick Haney	Friends of Western Duluth Trails & Parks
	Skip Williams	Vibrant Streets Duluth
	Judy Gibbs	Citizen Representative
	Mimi Stender	Citizen Representative
Non-Voting	Maren Webb	Sr Transportation Planner, MnDOT District 1
Members Absent		^ Excused Absence
	Chris Carlson	City of Superior Public Works
	Denis Sauve	Twin Ports Cyclery
Non-Voting	Bryan Anderson	
Others Present		
	Ron Chicka	MIC Director
	Eli Norlander	MIC Planner, BPAC coordinator
	Ricky Sarran	MIC GIS Specialist
	Andrea Heil	Duluth Public Schools
	Duane Hill	MnDOT
	Mike Casey	Bike/peds
	Wayne Boucher	MIC Policy Board
	Hadrian DeMaioribus	
	Yauhen Karatai	
	Alice Tibbets	Vibrant Streets
	Gavin Bukovich	ARDC
	Doug Kerfeld	MnDOT
	George Harnish	All cyclists



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	Brad Scott (Virtual)	MnDOT
	Kelly Corbin (Virtual)	MnDOT
	Alex Popp (Virtual)	City of Duluth
	Tanja Mattonen (Virtual)	St. Louis County
	Mark (Virtual)	

1. Introductions / Agenda Review

Housekeeping item – Andrea C. stated that the “Proposed Resolution” item, was brought forward by Skip Williams. Opportunity for public comment after this discussion item.

2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Approval of meeting notes from 2/6/2025 and from 5/1/2025

Motion to approve meeting notes from 2/6/2025 and 5/1/2025	Skip/Carol move to approve meeting summaries None Motion passed unanimously
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BPAC Bylaw Periodic Review and Update

Andrea C. mentioned that BPAC leadership is recruiting members for a bylaw review. Looking for nominations or self-nominations for an Ad Hoc committee to address the bylaw update.

Judy and Carol said they are interested.

BPAC Member List

Andrea C. stated that BPAC is looking to fill the two vacancies. Also looking to check in on member start dates. Dick Haney, Mike Casey, and Cari Pederson helped provide Dick & Cari’s missing start dates.

Andrea also mentioned that there is not a maximum number of terms a person can serve.

Subcommittees

Eli said that MIC is looking to modify subcommittees. MIC is seeking a volunteer chair & vice chair to lead the bike & ped subcommittees.

Future meeting dates

Andrea C. updated participants that the BPAC is meeting at the MIC in February.

3. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

London Rd Overview- MnDOT Presentation & Discussion



Meeting Summary

See Presentation “2025-08-07 BPAC London Road Presentation_MnDOT.pdf”

**** Opportunity for public comment ****

Hadrian DeMaioribus gave [this statement](#). Mike Casey then gave [this statement](#). Judy Gibbs mentioned that they feel MnDOT treats bicyclists as children recreating and not travelers. At Bentleyville, backups constantly happen and design is not changed. George Harnish mentioned that he can appreciate MnDOT’s work behind the scenes. He also said his mom lives at Ecumen, so he bikes through this corridor and would like to see it improved.

****End Public comment****

Q from Carol – What is the alternative option for biking from E London Rd?

A from Duane – The Lakewalk runs parallel to London Rd and MnDOT is making a connection to the Lakewalk by the gas station.

Cari Pederson provided input that she thought Duane provided a good summary. From Duluth engineering perspective: being at 95% design, the comments are well intended but when you have federal funds, you need to execute the project at this stage. It is not a perfect design, but it is making huge improvements for the corridor. These comments need to be made years in advance, coming in at this point, it is nearly impossible to make these changes at this stage

Q from Judy – Where could a person walk, where are sidewalks shown on the layout?

A from Duane – Purple color is a 10’ wide trail, wider than the typical sidewalk

A from Maren – The maroon color is the connection to the Lakewalk trail

Skip Williams provided his perspective that it could slow drivers to narrow I-35 down to one lane at 21st Ave to get drivers ready for a city merge. Pedestrians are confused about how you are supposed to cross at the 26th Ave part of the project. Modeling is not as much about the outcomes, but VSD is interested in the assumptions that go into the model.

Q from Chris Beldon – Was the R-O-W acquisition 15’ total the whole way or both sides for 30’ total?

A from Duane – Not an acquisition, temporary easement. Those are 15’

Q from Andrea C. – have there been safer options for northbound bike routes at 26th?

A from Duane – Beyond the tunnel, northbound bike lanes are not explored

A from Maren – To change things would require replacing the Lemon Drop bridge over the railroad tracks which is also a large investment

[Proposed Resolution to MIC Policy Board regarding the design for London Rd at 26th Ave E](#)

See “Proposed Resolution to MIC Policy Board”



Meeting Summary

Resolution introduced and presented by Skip Williams

<p>Motion to advance to discussion</p>	<p>Skip/Mimi move to advance to discussion</p> <p>Board Discussion:</p> <p>Cari –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Design has been going on for 5 years• A formal amendment needs to happen sooner• The council gave consent, it is not on this body to override that• These are excellent comments, timing needs to be more in advance• MnDOT is typically earlier in their design processes• Once to 95%, this becomes difficult to make changes <p>Ron –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The MIC does not design or build anything• The Bike plan that was just finished, London Rd was not on the critical connections list <p>James –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reviewed past resolutions that BPAC has approved they start with:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ “Stands in support for”○ “Supports recommending”• BPAC has not made a resolution for removing federal funding before• Hesitancy with the language• The SS4A plan will help to address intersections like this quickly. It will help with this• The free right at 50 or 45 or even 30 mph speeds are not safe without any place for cyclists to go <p>Mimi -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• End of the resolution “to remove the project from the TIP” <p>Q - Has the MIC Board approved the project?</p> <p>A - It has been with the current TIP</p> <p>The next TIP will be voted on next month, which includes the funding for this project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• it does make sense to push this resolution through. Although formally, it does not make a large impact• Important to take a stand on safety over traffic flow <p>Skip –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• After 5 years, of input, the design is not adequately addressing the required considerations <p>Andrea –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gauging if there is any interest in removing “or remove it from the
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Meeting Summary

<p>Amend motion to table until special meeting in August</p>	<p>TIP”</p> <p>Carol –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maybe interested in proposing a different resolution <p>Dick H. –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently living at Ecumen. • If something at 26th didn’t work with transportation systems, it should be cast aside • In Dick’s time at Ecumen, he has taken notice of old films where the automobile had not been established and needed to work their way in, similar to cyclists today <p>Andrea C. –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noticing hesitation about some of the language. • Comments so far, there are concerns with this design • Offering to modify final two “Be it Resolved” statements <p>Mimi -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laser focus in on 26th Ave portion <p>Carol –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rewrite last three statements <p>Wayne –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should take an interlude to write up exactly as BPAC wants it • Does not need to be before MIC Board until September 17th <p>Cari –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like’s the suggestion, lots to table and reread <p>James/Cari amend motion to table until a special meeting in August</p> <p>None</p> <p>Eli will schedule special meeting</p>
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Measuring Progress on Bike/Ped Plans

Carol Andrews gave a brief introduction, stating the goal to make sure BPAC is sending comments on projects in a timely manner. She is envisioning a spreadsheet of jurisdictions engaged and what the responses were.

Skip Williams added that jurisdictions could have more discipline with programming piece. Visibility from involved parties about where the project is in terms of development is needed.

Dick Haney added that BPAC’s connection to the MIC can be strengthened with more meetings rather than quarterly.



Meeting Summary

Andrea Heil added that Duluth Public Schools does see an increase in students using active transportation to school.

Andrea C. suggested bringing in the involvement of Chris Carlson from Superior

Project implementation updates/quick input

- Active transportation plans – status update/involvement opportunities late Aug
 - St. Louis Co – Arrowhead Rd

Carol stated that St. Louis County Active transportation grant from MnDOT. The county is working with a consultant on August 25th for a bike audit. She added that anyone who is interested could join.

- City of Duluth – 2nd St

James G. provided an updated that there is a MnDOT active transportation plan in progress for City of Duluth. BPAC participants are invited to be a part of the involvement for 2nd St active transportation planning.

4. UPDATES

Safety Action Plan/SS4A

Eli stated that the MIC is currently finalizing things with the selected Safety Action Plan consultant team. James G. and representatives from St. Louis County were part of the selection team.

Duluth SRTS Planning Process

- Scope of work

Andrea Heil, the Duluth Public Schools Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Coordinator provided information on SRTS planning. They are looking to do data collection and plan to discuss the opportunities at school open houses. August 27th has many of the open houses. They are seeking volunteers to help with SRTS information sharing at these.

- MnDOT SRTS Research for School Speed Zones using ISD709 as case study

Kelly Corbin provided an introduction of the MnDOT SRTS Research for School Speed Zones.

Q from Mimi - U of M was mentioned, what part of U of M was involved?

A from Kelly - Research with Center for Transportation

Jurisdictional Project Updates

- City of Duluth
 - Campus Connector Trail
 - St. Marie Street – adding in a shared use path
 - UMD campus – Tischer Creek crossing



Meeting Summary

Alex Popp gave a summary of the Campus Connector Trail progress. The project is at about 50% complete design. The project includes adding RRFBs and there have been changes which has slowed down the project. This project will be bid late winter or spring.

- College Street – converting sidewalk to a shared use path
- Cross City Trail
 - TPI completion – Fall 2025 CCT re-opening
 - Raleigh to 6th segment reconstruction
 - 67 to Fremont segment under design
 - Fremont to Kingsbury Creek/Zoo parking lot planning underway

James Gittemeier summarized that the Twin Ports Interchange will be completed this fall.

He also stated that the City will reopen the Cross City Trail this fall. There is one section behind a Kwik Trip under development. For other sections, the City's property division is looking at properties to approach for new segments. Various portions of the trail will close over a 3 year period for construction, so meetings for detours will be coming

Alex stated that on these projects, the City is trying to communicate with FHWA on funding. The City moving forward as if the funding will be there.

- ~~City of Superior (Chris C.) – Not Present~~
 - ~~Hammond Ave~~
- MnDOT
 - 2026 construction projects

Maren Webb stated that there are 2026 projects happening at the bottom of Mesaba. MnDOT is trying to coordinate two projects so that detours are planned ahead of time to minimize inconvenience for contractors and users.

- Programmed projects in the TIP (2026-2029)

Doug Kerfeld provided a list of MnDOT project updates for 2027 and beyond. There will be bike & ped improvements along highway 2 in Proctor. A project on Trinity Ave Highway 53 includes sidewalk improvements and extension to the Central Entrance intersection. MnDOT is working on a study to see how pedestrian and traffic interactions can be improved in this area and areas around Mall Dr. The Central Entrance project has a new lead, they are working with SRF on corridor study. This work includes getting layouts to a planning level estimates; within the next 4-6 weeks agencies can take a look at layouts

Maren Webb and Duane Hill added that there is an active Request for Qualifications from Design-Build Teams on Blatnik Bridge. In winter 2027 the bridge is anticipated to be taken out of service.

They also added that the ~~Lester river~~* HWY 23 – Mission Creek bridge project in West Duluth is still in progress.

*Correction made at 11/6/2025 BPAC meeting



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- Planned projects in 2030-2031

Maren and Duane continued that the replacement of 40th Ave W bridge over I-35 is at least 5 years out, with scoping soon. Highway 23 scoping is starting soon.

Q from Andrea C. – when Ped bridge is closed what is the detour?

A from Doug - if both projects overlap, looking to use RRFBs at the detour at the bottom of Mesaba.

5. INFORM/UPDATE, UPCOMING EVENTS, & GRANTS

6. ROUND TABLE:

Bike friendly community survey

TIP comment period closes next Wednesday (8/13th)

July 2018 is when Dick joined BPAC

7. ADJOURN

Motion to Adjourn meeting	Skip/Mimi move to adjourn None Meeting adjourned
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**Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council
Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)**

August 7, 2025 Meeting

Meeting Summary

2025-08-07 BPAC London Road Presentation MnDOT



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council
Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

August 7, 2025 Meeting

Meeting Summary

Proposed Resolution to MIC Policy Board