

Agenda Topics and Project Updates

December 12, 2007 Meeting



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

* = Approval Item

1. INTRODUCTIONS / AGENDA REVIEW

2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- Meeting Summary of October 17, 2007 (enclosed) *
- 2008 MIC Officer Elections
- 2008 MIC Meeting Schedule

3. MINNEAPOLIS – DULUTH PASSENGER RAIL INITIATIVE

Guest Speakers Bob Manzoline (St. Louis and Lake Regional Rail), John Ongaro (St. Louis County) and Ken Buehler (Duluth Depot) will present the results of the feasibility study for the restoration of passenger rail service between the Twin Cities and Twin Ports. Results will focus on estimated capital costs given a running speed, estimated ridership numbers and financing options. The next phase of the project will also be discussed entailing the programmatic environmental impact statement.

If you have you comments or questions, please contact Ron Chicka at 529-7506 or rchicka@ardc.org.

4. TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM MANAGEMENT (TSM) ASSESSMENT OF MIC ROADWAYS IN MINNESOTA AND WISCONSIN -- FINAL *

MIC staff has met with traffic engineers and planners from jurisdictions of both states, regarding the "locations of concern" as identified in the MIC's 2007 TSM assessments. The TSM documents have been updated to reflect the input that was gathered at those meetings. The final documents contain recommendations that are supported by the jurisdictions and are being brought before the TAC and Policy Board for approval.

The final reports can be viewed on the MIC website at: www.dsmic.org/tsm.

If you have you comments or questions, please contact Robert Herling at rherling@ardc.org or (218) 529-7572.

5. 2008-2011 DULUTH METRO TIP AMENDMENTS #5, 6 & 7*

There are four Amendments to the 2008-2011 Duluth Metro TIP being presented to accommodate new 2008 projects:

Amendment #5 adds funding for 2008 from the FTA Section 5316 Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) program for new transit service to Airpark, Airport, United Healthcare and West Duluth. The project includes a 50/50 match with \$214,463 in federal funds for a total project cost of \$428,926.

Duluth Metro TIP Amendment # 5 – 2008 Project						
Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description	Estimated Costs & Funding				
		Federal	State	Local	Total	
DTA TRF-0016-08D	Section 5316/JARC Urban (DTA) Service Expansion – new routes to Airpark, Duluth Int’l Airport & West Duluth	\$214,463	\$0	\$214,463	\$428,926	

Amendment #6 adds the Duluth International Airport Perimeter Road project to the 2008 TIP. The project consists of paving and shouldering the previously constructed Perimeter Road. The paving will begin at the Air National Guard Bulk Storage Access Road and proceed parallel to taxiway A to the approach of Runway 9, continue westerly and parallel Runway 9/27 and end approximately at Lavaque Road. The paving will be approximately 10,000 feet long. The project will be funding by 80% HPP and 20% Minnesota Air National Guard funds for a total project costs of \$797,920.

Duluth Metro TIP Amendment # 6 – 2008 Project						
Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description	Estimated Costs & Funding				
		Federal	State	Local	Total	
Duluth Air Nat’l Guard 118-080-038	Paving and shouldering of the previously constructed Perimeter Rd at the Duluth Int’l Airport. MN 134 – SAFETEA-LU HPP Funding	\$638,336	\$0	\$159,584 (MnANG)	\$797,920	

Amendment #7 adds 4 Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) projects into the 2008 TIP. The amendments are 100% federal dollars (no local dollars) and are described as follows:

Lincoln Park School SRTS Infrastructure Project – Installation of 2 LED crossing signs, poly preform crossings, and purchase of 4 grabber cones for use at pedestrian crossings for a cost of \$25,030.

Lincoln Park School SRTS Non-infrastructure Project – Development of an improved bicycle and pedestrian training program for Lincoln Park students and the development of a crossing guard training for student and possibly adult crossing guards for a cost of \$5,000.

Duluth Public Schools SRTS Non-infrastructure Project – Hire a consultant to develop an ongoing bike and pedestrian education program, utilizing teachers to implement the program into curriculum, educate 2 students at each of the 16 schools at Legionville School Patrol Camp, purchase of MnDOT approved safety vest for student crossing guards, and educate staff on writing tickets for vehicles parked in bus drop zones for a cost of \$50,000.

Congdon Park School SRTS Infrastructure Project – Construct a new parent drop-off location and sidewalk and poly preform crossings, and purchase of grabber cones for a cost of \$137,600. ...

Duluth Metro TIP Amendment # 7 – 2008 Project						
Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description	Estimated Costs & Funding				
		Federal	State	Local	Total	
City of Duluth SP 118-591-01	Safe Routes to School Lincoln Park School Infrastructure – Ped crossing improvements	\$25,030	\$0	\$0	\$25,030	
City of Duluth SP 118-591-02	Safe Routes to School Lincoln Park School Non-Infrastructure – Develop bicycle & ped training program	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	
City of Duluth SP 118-591-03	Safe Routes to School Duluth Public Schools Non-Infrastructure – Develop bike & ped education and increase safety of crossing guards	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	
City of Duluth SP 118-591-04	Safe Routes to School Congdon Park School Infrastructure – Construct new parent drop off location and crossing improvement	\$137,600	\$0	\$0	\$137,600	

If you have any comments or questions about these projects or Amendments, please contact James Gittemeier at jgittemeier@ardc.org or (218) 529-7556.

6. 2008-2011 SUPERIOR URBANIZED AREA TIP AMENDMENTS #1, 2 AND 3*

It is necessary to consider three Amendments to add projects for inclusion in the 2008-2011 Superior Urbanized Area TIP. A summary of the proposed Amendments are outlined below:

Amendment #1 adds an SRTS project that had been included in the 2007-2010 approved TIP. During development of the 2008-2011 TIP, it had been identified as on schedule for completion in 2007. However, the project became delayed and is now scheduled to begin in 2008. As a result of the project no longer being identified in the approved 2008-2011 project list, it is necessary to amend the 2008-2011 TIP to include the project.

Superior Metro TIP Amendment # 1 — 2008 Enhancement Project						
Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description	Type of Cost	Estimated Costs & Funding Sources in Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
City of Superior 113-07-001	Safe Routes to School: various locations to be determined 8998-00-77	PE ROW CONST	458.9		137.5	590.4
	SAFETEA-LU HPP Funding - Enhancements	TOTAL	458.9		137.5	590.4

NOTE: TIP ID has been retained from past TIP to match current ID in WisDOT FIIPS tracking system.

Amendment #2: WisDOT plans to make improvements to the USH 2 Rest Area. While the project uses no federal funds, it is desirable to include the project in the TIP.

Amendment #2, continued:

Superior Metro TIP Amendment # 2 – 2008 Highway Project						
Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description	Type of Cost	Estimated Costs & Funding Sources in Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT 113-08-009	USH 2 Rest Area and Welcome Center Improvements 1190-43-72	PE ROW CONST		346.7		346.7
	100% State Funded: State Highway Rehabilitation - Roadside Facilities	TOTAL		346.7		346.7

Amendment #3: WisDOT announced New Freedom awards on November 20, 2007. As a result, it is necessary to amend the 2008-2011 TIP to include use of these funds within the MPO area. While not all of the funding will be targeted within the MPO area, it needs to be added to the TIP.

Superior Metro TIP Amendment # 3 – 2008 Transit Related Project						
Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description	Type of Cost	Estimated Costs & Funding Sources in Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
North Country Independent Living 113-08-010	Development of a Mobility Manager and Voucher Program New Freedom \$50,444 and DVR Supplement \$44,198	TOTAL	94,642		23,660	118,302

If you have any comments or questions about these Amendments, please contact Sheldon Johnson at sjohnson@nwrpc.com or (715) 635-2197, ext. 228.

7. SCOPE OF WORK: EAST 2ND STREET STUDY *

MIC staff met with the City of Superior and WisDOT on November 7 to discuss the scope of work for the E 2nd Street Corridor Study. The group identified the study area as a section of E 2nd St (Hwy 2/53) from Belknap St. to 31st Ave. E, with an emphasis on the effect of accesses and turning movements along the corridor. Additional factors such as heavy truck movements, average vehicle speeds, and crash patterns will also be studied.

If you have you comments or questions, please contact Robert Herling at rherling@ardc.org or (218) 529-7572.

8. PROCTOR MASTER TRAIL PLAN—FINAL*

MIC staff will present the final version of the Proctor Master Trail Plan. In addition, the implementation of the plan will be reviewed, include the top priority of building the trail connection from the Munger Trail to the Proctor Community Center. Based on initial discussions on implementation, meetings with the various departments within the City of Duluth (Engineering, Parks & Rec, Planning), the City of Proctor, the City of Cloquet, the Minnesota DNR, Spirit Mountain, and other groups will be scheduled to discuss the building of the trail.

If you have any comments or questions, please contact James Gittemeier at (218) 529-7556 or jgittemeier@ardc.org.

9. HTAC / HARBOR PLANNING UPDATE

The HTAC will be meeting on Wednesday December 5th. Agenda topics includes:

- 21st Avenue West Wetland Habitat/Park/Stormwater Management
- Erie Pier Process Re-use Facility Cost and Market Analysis Research
- National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERR)
- Wisconsin Harbor Assistance Program Submittals
- Northeast Minnesota/Northwest Wisconsin Freight Study

If you have any comments or questions, please contact Andy McDonald at amcdonald@ardc.org or (218) 529-7514.

10. PROJECT UPDATES

Phase 2 Bike Routes Signage *James Gittemeier*

The implementation phase of the bike route project is underway. A contractor has been selected and the signs are being produced. However, due to the colder

temperatures fast approaching, installation of the signage is scheduled for Spring 2008, when the ground thaws..

2009-2012 Duluth Area TIP Applications *James Gittemeier*

In November, MIC staff met with each Duluth-area jurisdiction eligible for federal transportation funding, the Duluth Transit Authority (DTA), MnDOT, St. Louis County, the City of Duluth, and the City of Hermantown to go over each agency's project(s) in the current TIP and to review regional needs identified in the Long Range Transportation Plan. In addition, project applications for 2012 federal funding were sent out on November 5. The project solicitation period runs from November 5 to December 14.

Endion Transportation and Land Use Plan *Holly Butcher*

The Endion Steering Committee met on Monday November 22nd to devise final plan recommendations and to consider further public outreach. URS is in the process of developing a technical memorandum of transportation modeling information which MIC staff will review and incorporate into this plan.

DTA Route Analysis for the City of Superior *Holly Butcher*

In January, MIC, DTA, and City of Superior staff will meet with consultants from First Transit to review options for transit service in Superior.

Duluth Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Applications *Holly Butcher*

On behalf of the Duluth Public Schools, MIC staff submitted an infrastructure application for Stowe Elementary School on November 16th. The Duluth SRTS Steering Committee, which includes school principals, along with city and MnDOT engineers worked diligently on the proposal and developed accurate cost information.

Duluth's Blueprint to End Poverty *Holly Butcher*

MIC staff has been asked to join the Transportation Action Team, coordinated by Community Action Duluth, in conjunction with *Duluth's Blueprint to End Poverty*. This team will meet monthly and will begin to devise strategies to implement actions to resolving transportation issues for those in poverty who live in Duluth.

Duluth Heights Traffic Calming Survey *Andy McDonald*

Surveys were mailed to approximately 875 households in the Duluth Heights area to ask residents opinions about the half closure installed at the intersection of Eklund Avenue and Swan Lake Road in May 2007. We are currently compiling the results of the survey and will meet with City of Duluth staff to discuss the results and determine the next steps in this process.