

MEETING NOTICE



Annual Joint Meeting of the
Metropolitan Interstate Council
and the
Transportation Advisory Committee

Wednesday, September 3, 2008

5:30 p.m. Picnic Supper / 7:00 p.m. Meeting

Proctor Community Center

100 Pionk Drive, Proctor, MN (map on reverse)

Guest Speakers “Duluth’s Infrastructure – Above and Below Ground”:

- Mayor Don Ness, City of Duluth, and Jack Ezell, WLSSD

Action Items / Review for Approval:

- Amendment #6 to the 2008-2011 Superior Area TIP
- 2009-2012 Draft Superior Area TIP

Discussion / Informational Items:

- Long Range Transportation Plan 2035 Update
- 2009-2010 MIC Work Program Projects
- Downtown Duluth Modal Connections Study
- Superior Bike Route Planning

Driving Directions & Parking Information: See map on reverse.

Attendance: Please RSVP for both 5:30 p.m. picnic and 7:00 p.m. meeting by contacting Rondi Watson at 529-7541 or rwatson@ardc.org.

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 • Fax 218/529-7592 • www.dsmic.org

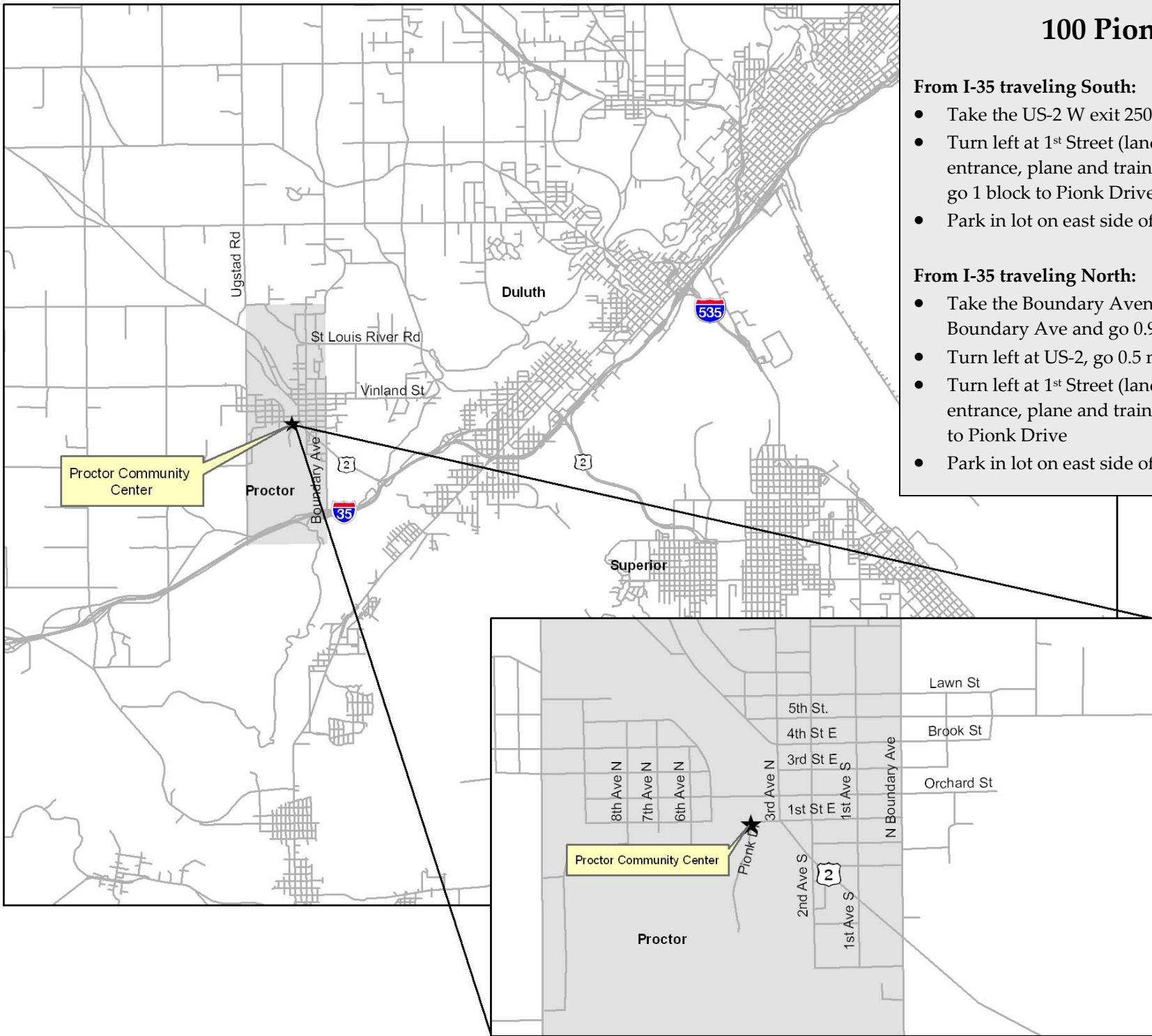
Proctor Community Center 100 Pionk Drive

From I-35 traveling South:

- Take the US-2 W exit 250, go 1.4 mi
- Turn left at 1st Street (landmarks: just past golf course entrance, plane and train display on left); go 1 block to Pionk Drive
- Park in lot on east side of building

From I-35 traveling North:

- Take the Boundary Avenue exit 249, turn left onto Boundary Ave and go 0.9 mi
- Turn left at US-2, go 0.5 mi
- Turn left at 1st Street (landmarks: just past golf course entrance, plane and train display on left); go 1 block to Pionk Drive
- Park in lot on east side of building



Proctor Community Center

Proctor Community Center

Metropolitan Interstate Council Policy Board (MIC)	ANNUAL JOINT MIC & TAC MEETING	Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)
<p style="text-align: center;">City of Duluth Jay Fosle Garry Krause Andy Peterson, <i>Co-Chair</i></p>	<p>Wednesday, September 3, 2008, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Proctor Community Center 100 Pionk Drive, Proctor, MN</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; color: #0056b3;">Agenda</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">City of Duluth Jim Benning Chuck Froseth Cari Pedersen Cindy Voigt</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">City of Hermantown Keith MacDonald</p>	<p>1. INTRODUCTIONS / AGENDA REVIEW</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">City of Proctor David Brenna</p>	<p>2. GUEST SPEAKERS: (60") "Duluth Infrastructure--Above and Below"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don Ness, Mayor, City of Duluth • Jack Ezell/Dan Belden, WLSSD 	<p style="text-align: center;">City of Hermantown David Salo</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">City of Superior Ed Anderson Warren Bender Kevin Norbie Dan Olson</p>	<p>3. AMENDMENT # 6 TO THE 2008-2011 SUPERIOR TIP (5")</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review for Approval, <i>Sheldon Johnson</i> 	<p style="text-align: center;">City of Proctor Jim Rohweder</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Douglas County Nick Baker, <i>Co-Chair</i> Steve Baker Mike Coyle Kathryn McKenzie</p>	<p>4. 2009-2012 DRAFT SUPERIOR METRO TIP (5")</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve Release for 30-day Public Comment Period, <i>Sheldon Johnson</i> 	<p style="text-align: center;">City of Superior Jason Serck Jeff Goetzman</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Douglas County Nick Baker, <i>Co-Chair</i> Steve Baker Mike Coyle Kathryn McKenzie</p>	<p>5. LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE 2035 (10")</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation & Discussion, <i>Robert Herling</i> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Douglas County Paul Halverson</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Douglas County Suburban Townships Broc Allen</p>	<p>6. 2009-2010 WORK PROGRAM PROJECTS (10")</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation & Discussion, <i>Ron Chicka</i> 	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Louis County Jim Foldesi</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Duluth Transit Authority Melanie Hendrickson</p>	<p>7. DOWNTOWN DULUTH MODAL CONNECTIONS STUDY (15")</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation & Discussion, <i>Holly Butcher</i> 	<p style="text-align: center;">MnDOT Denny Johnson Walter Leu</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">St. Louis County Steve O'Neil</p>	<p>8. SUPERIOR BIKE ROUTE PLANNING (10")</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation & Discussion, <i>James Gittemeier</i> 	<p style="text-align: center;">WisDOT Dena Ryan</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">St. Louis County Suburban Townships Earl Elde Cindy Moe</p>	<p>9. PROJECT UPDATES (5")</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No MN/NW WI Freight Study, <i>Andy McDonald</i> • East 2nd Street Study, <i>Robert Herling</i> • Proctor Comprehensive Plan Update, <i>James Gittemeier</i> • MN State Planning Conference, <i>Holly Butcher</i> 	<p style="text-align: center;">NE MN DEED Heather Rand</p>
	<p>Next TAC Meeting: Tuesday, October 14, 1:30 PM Next MIC Meeting: Wednesday, October 15, 7:00 PM <i>(Both held at the Hermantown Public Safety Training Center)</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Airport Brian Ryks</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Bikes/Peds Bryn Jacobson</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Transit Dennis Jensen</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Port Jim Sharrow</p>

Agenda Topics and Project Updates

September 3, 2008 Annual Joint Meeting of the MIC and TAC



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council Transportation Advisory Committee

* = Approval Item

1. DULUTH'S INFRASTRUCTURE – ABOVE AND BELOW GROUND

Guest speakers Don Ness, Mayor of Duluth, and Jack Ezell, Planning and Technical Services Division Manager at WLSSD, will present information about current challenges and plans to address Duluth's infrastructure needs, including a review by Mayor Ness regarding street improvement priorities within Duluth with a focus on the major arterial and collector routes. Funding limitations will be discussed that impact these decisions including the future of the Trinity Road extension project through the northern Duluth Heights area. Dan and Jack will address the current limits and expansion plans for sanitary sewer service in the Duluth metro area and the impacts these plans will have on commercial and industrial growth. Please contact Ron Chicka at rchicka@ardc.org or (218) 529-7506 for more information.

2. AMENDMENT #6 TO 2008-2011 SUPERIOR METRO TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM*

It is necessary to consider an amendment to add a project for inclusion in the 2008-2011 Superior Urbanized Area TIP. A summary of the proposed amendment is outlined below:

2008 Transportation Improvement Project (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description	Type of Cost	Estimated Costs & Funding Sources in Thousands			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
WisDOT 113-08-014	IH 535 - Hammond Avenue to IH 535 Minnesota Line: Investigation and Replacement of Suspender Cables 1199-00-72	PE		50		50
		ROW CONS T				
		TOTAL		50		50

This project involves the investigation and replacement of necessary suspender cables along the Wisconsin portion of the Blatnik Bridge. Project to begin in CY 2008. If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact me at 715-635-2197 or by email at sjohnson@nwrpc.com.

3. 2009-2012 SUPERIOR METRO TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (DRAFT) *

A draft Superior Urbanized Area Transportation Improvement Program will be presented at

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requested will be to release the draft plan for the required 30-day public comment period.

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

4. LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2035 UPDATE

The MIC has begun to gather the necessary information to update its travel demand model. Staff will be approaching each jurisdiction in the MIC planning area to assist in verifying this updated information and identify areas within their boundaries where future development will likely occur. This effort will be undertaken to ensure that the traffic model is updated accurately and provides the best possible projection of future traffic patterns. If you have you comments or questions, please contact Robert Herling at rherling@ardc.org or (218) 529-7573.

5. 2009-2010 WORK PROGRAM PROJECTS

For the September meeting, I will lead an interactive discussion concerning Work Program items to include in the 2nd year (2010) of the next two-year Work Program and Budget. I will conduct this exercise in addition to sending out a project preference survey to all members as in the past. If you have you comments or questions, please contact Ron Chicka at rchicka@ardc.org or (218) 529-7506.

6. DOWNTOWN DULUTH MODAL CONNECTIONS STUDY

In an effort to examine transportation connectivity and usage between Duluth's Central Business District, Canal Park and the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center (DECC)/Bayfront area, MIC staff conducted bicycle, pedestrian, and traffic counts during the Finn Fest weekend in July. The City of Duluth's engineering staff aided the study in installing tube counters in seven key locations to examine the flow of traffic coming off of Interstate 35 during a DECC event.

Additionally, the project steering committee has chosen to work with Zenith Research to identify perception, awareness and realities of tourist travel patterns between Duluth Central Business District, Canal Park, DECC, Bayfront Park and other prime tourist attractions within the area between 5th Avenue West and Leif Erickson Park at 12th Avenue East. The goal is to conduct intercept interviews with tourists (residency beyond a 50 mile radius of Duluth) yielding key demographic and trip purpose data.

If you have you comments or questions, please contact Holly Butcher at holly.butcher@ardc.org or (218) 529-7548.

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7. SUPERIOR BIKE ROUTE PLANNING

The process of bike route planning in Superior has begun and the formation of a steering committee to guide this process is underway. Members of the committee will include Superior City staff (planning, parks & engineering), Council members, local bike advocates, and citizens. MIC staff is reviewing proposed bike routes for Superior from past plans and bike maps and will begin analyzing the routes for their bicycle compatibility. If you have you comments or questions, please contact James Gittemeier at jgittemeier@ardc.org or (218) 529-7556.

8. PROJECT UPDATES

Northern MN/Northeastern WI Freight Study, *Andy McDonald*

The MNDOT Central Office, MNDOT District staff and MIC staff continue to meet on aspects of the scope, including development of an exact project budget in preparation for the RFP that should occur in September. We have recently been in touch with Dr. Richard Stewart at UW-Superior to discuss their role in the project. He will be able to use his connections for data acquisition as well as in-kind assistance.

East Second Street Study, *Robert Herling*

A steering committee meeting for was held on August 4th to look at the various pieces of information gathered so far for this study and to help direct future tasks. It was determined that the collection of speed data was the next important task to be carried out, as well as to establish a method for people to provide input to the study via the MIC website.

Proctor Comprehensive Plan Update, *James Gittemeier; Holly Butcher*

The Proctor Comprehensive Plan Update will roll into full gear this fall, devising sections of the plan by topic for feedback from the Proctor Comprehensive Plan Group. MIC staff will also be facilitating a public meeting that will yield a general land use plan for the land that will be opened to development after the Kirkus Street project is completed.

The Proctor Safe Routes to School Steering committee will meet on August 19th to review school site traffic observations and survey data collected this spring. The group will begin devising policy and project recommendations to improve the physical conditions and education climate for students who are walking and biking to school.

Minnesota State Planning Conference, *Holly Butcher*

The annual state planning conference for the Minnesota Chapter of the American Planning Association (MnAPA) will be held at the DECC/Holiday Inn from Monday September 22 – Wednesday September 24. The theme, Transitions in Planning, represents the changing climate of planning topics: the housing market, transportation, environmental awareness,

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and design requirements. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has sponsored two keynote addresses: “Food Systems and Planning: A Path Forward,” and “Tough Problems: Regional Solutions,” delivered by national experts. Conference program tracks include small town and rural planning, regional and metropolitan area planning, environmental planning, professional development, and partnerships.

MIC members may be interested in registering for a Government Training Services (GTS) workshop on Monday entitled: *Your Role as a Planning Commission Member*. This workshop will focus on practical tips and provide valuable handouts for future reference. Topics include: keeping the “Big Picture” in mind, setting significant but realistic Commission goals, preparing an annual work program, forging healthy relationships with elected officials and staff, ways to facilitate public participation, and effective tools and techniques. The workshop will be led by Phil Carlson of Bonestroo, an expert in consulting local governments on planning issues. He has written ordinances for numerous communities as well as design guidelines for well-regarded projects such as Burnsville’s Heart of the City development, West St. Paul’s Robert Street corridor and Mankato’s Urban Design Framework. The cost of the one-day workshop is \$45. For more information on the conference, or to register, visit: www.plannersconference.com (MnAPA office at mnapa_admin@tds.net 888-882-5369).