



## Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

# MEETING NOTICE

Wednesday, October 20, 2010 at 7:00 pm

Proctor Community Center  
100 Pionk Drive, Proctor, MN

### Guest Speaker

- **Duluth International Airport – Construction & Air Service Update**  
*Brian Ryks, Executive Director, Duluth Airport Authority*

### Approval / Voting Items:

- Central Entrance Corridor Study – Scope of Work
- Final 2011-2014 Superior Area TIP

### Presentation / Discussion / Informational Items:

- Draft 2011-2012 MIC Work Program
- Transportation Performance Measures for the Duluth-Superior Area
- HTAC / Harbor Planning Update

### Attendance / Meeting Quorum:

If you are NOT able to attend, or expect to arrive late to the meeting, please contact Rondi Watson at [rwatson@ardc.org](mailto:rwatson@ardc.org) or 529-7541 to ensure a quorum will be present for voting items on the agenda.

**Driving Directions & Parking Information:** See map on reverse.

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](http://www.dsmic.org)

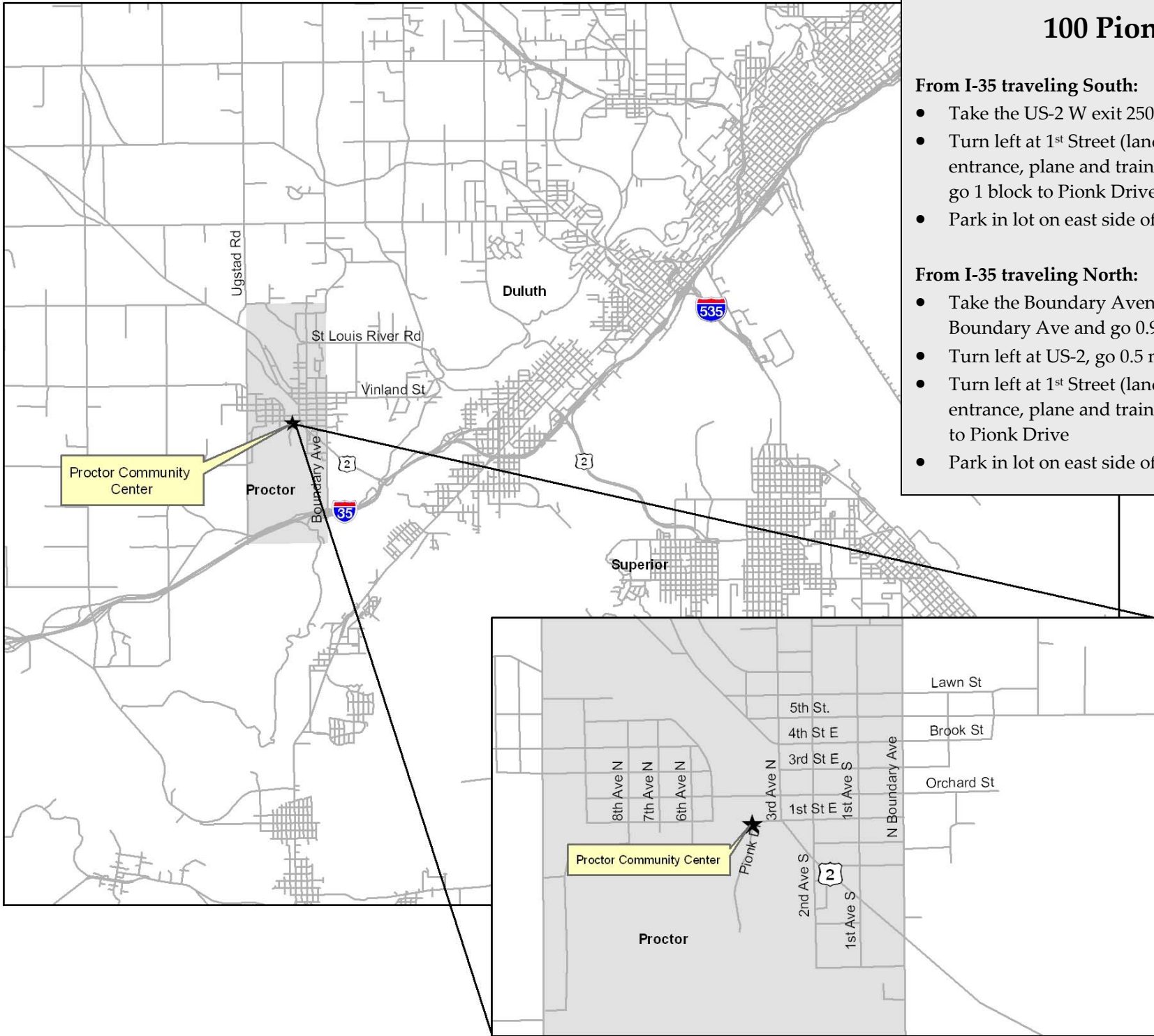
# Proctor Community Center 100 Pionk Drive

### From I-35 traveling South:

- Take the US-2 W exit 250, go 1.4 mi
- Turn left at 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Meeting

Wednesday, October 20, 2010 at 7:00 pm

Proctor Community Center, Proctor, MN

### AGENDA

Minnesota Members		
<p><b>City of Duluth</b> Tony Cuneo Kerry Gauthier</p>	<p><b>1. Introductions / Agenda Review</b></p>	<p>5 min</p>
<p><b>City of Duluth—Citizen Rep</b> David Montgomery</p>	<p><b>2. Committee Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting Summary of September 15, 2010 (<i>for approval</i>)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>City of Hermantown</b> Wayne Boucher</p>	<p><b>3. Duluth International Airport – Construction &amp; Air Service Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation and Discussion, <i>Brian Ryks, Duluth Airport Authority</i></li> </ul>	<p>25 min</p>
<p><b>City of Proctor</b> Troy Foucault</p>	<p><b>4. Central Entrance Corridor Study – Scope of Work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review for Approval, <i>Ron Chicka</i></li> </ul>	<p>15 min</p>
<p><b>Duluth Transit Authority</b> Melanie Hendrickson</p>	<p><b>5. Final 2011-2014 Superior Area TIP</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review for Approval, <i>Sheldon Johnson</i></li> </ul>	<p>5 min</p>
<p><b>St. Louis County</b> Steve O’Neil, <i>MN Co-Chair</i></p>	<p><b>6. Draft 2011-2012 MIC Work Program and Budget</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation and Discussion, <i>Ron Chicka</i></li> </ul>	<p>10 min</p>
<p><b>St. Louis County Suburban Townships</b> Earl Elde Cindy Moe</p>	<p><b>7. Transportation Performance Measures for Duluth-Superior</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation and Discussion, <i>Robert Herling</i></li> </ul>	<p>15 min</p>
<p><b>Wisconsin Members</b></p>	<p><b>8. HTAC/Harbor Planning Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation and Discussion, <i>Andy McDonald</i></li> </ul>	<p>10 min</p>
<p><b>City of Superior</b> Warren Bender Denise McDonald Dan Olson</p>	<p><b>9. Project Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Twin Ports Multimodal Transportation Facility Grant, <i>Robert Herling</i></li> <li>I-35 Transit Mitigation Study, <i>Robert Herling</i></li> <li>TRB Tools of the Trade Conference, <i>Ron Chicka</i></li> <li>Working Waterways and Waterfronts Conference, <i>Andy McDonald</i></li> <li>BPAC Update, <i>James Gittemeier</i></li> </ul>	<p>5 min</p>
<p><b>City of Superior—Citizen Rep</b> Ed Anderson</p> <p><b>Douglas County</b> Keith Allen Nick Baker, <i>WI Co-Chair</i> Kay McKenzie Jim Paine</p> <p><b>Douglas County Suburban Townships</b> Broc Allen</p>	<p><b>Next Meeting:</b> Wednesday, December 8, 2010, 7:00 pm WITC Conference Center, Superior, WI</p>	

# MIC Agenda Topics and Project Updates

October 20, 2010 Meeting



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

\* = Approval Item

## 1. INTRODUCTIONS / AGENDA REVIEW

## 2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- Meeting Summary of September 15, 2010\* (separate attachment)

## 3. GUEST SPEAKER – BRIAN RYKS, DULUTH AIRPORT AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - *Duluth International Airport Construction and Air Service Update*

The Duluth International Airport is in the second-phase of a \$65 million-dollar replacement passenger terminal project. Brian will provide an update of construction activity to date and discuss the project schedule over the next two years, as well as an update of scheduled airline service and passenger numbers in 2010.

## 4. CENTRAL ENTRANCE CORRIDOR STUDY – SCOPE OF WORK \*

The City of Duluth has identified a new vision for the Central Entrance corridor and business district. This vision was defined during the Central Entrance-Miller Hill Small Area Plan ([www.duluthmn.gov/planning/sap/millerhill.cfm](http://www.duluthmn.gov/planning/sap/millerhill.cfm)) which was completed in September of 2009. The vision for the Central Entrance area was to become more of a walkable place that also has improved auto access to businesses and have Central Entrance function as Duluth Heights “main street.” The MIC proposed to assist this effort with a more detailed look at how the anticipated future land use changes would impact and complement the surrounding transportation network.

MIC staff engaged the TAC in a scope of work development exercise and will incorporate their comments in the proposed scope of work for this project (please see attached). We will be bringing this scope forward for approval.

Please contact Andy McDonald at [amcdonald@ardc.org](mailto:amcdonald@ardc.org) or (218) 529-7514 for comments or questions.

## 5. FINAL 2011-2014 SUPERIOR AREA TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (FINAL) \*

The 2011-2014 Wisconsin TIP is up for approval at this meeting. Sheldon Johnson reviewed the projects in detail when the draft was presented in August. To date, no further comments have been given to the MIC as part of the public participation component.

If you have comments or questions about this project prior to the October meeting, please contact Sheldon Johnson at (715) 635-2197, ext. 228 or at [sjohnson@nwrpc.com](mailto:sjohnson@nwrpc.com).

## 6. DRAFT 2011 – 2012 MIC WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET

The draft 2011-2012 UPWP will be put forward for discussion at the October meetings. Last

## MIC Agenda Topics and Project Updates, continued

October 20, 2010 Meeting

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month, I provided some work item background and gained input from members into work program development. For the next meeting, you will have information on each project and corresponding budget numbers.

Please contact Ron Chicka at [rchicka@ardc.org](mailto:rchicka@ardc.org) or (218) 529-7506 for comments or questions.

#### 7. TRANSPORTATION PERFORMANCE MEASURES FOR DULUTH-SUPERIOR

For September, the TAC and MIC boards were asked to consider some potential performance measures related to the MIC's Preservation and Safety goals. Based on feedback received from members both during and after the September meetings, MIC staff has drafted some proposed target statements for your consideration. At the October meetings, MIC staff will present these statements for group discussion, as well as introduce a set of potential measures regarding Mobility.

Please contact Robert Herling at [rherling@ardc.org](mailto:rherling@ardc.org) or (218) 529-7573 for comments or questions.

#### 8. HTAC/HARBOR PLANNING UPDATE

The HTAC met on September 1st at the WITC Conference Center. Agenda items included a report by Minnesota and Wisconsin Sea Grant on a Climate Variation Matrix, the status of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative by the Environmental Protection Agency and a summary of the Great Lakes Ballast Water Collaborative by the Minnesota Sea Grant. HTAC members and stakeholders also took part in a harbor tour aboard the LL Smith Jr on September 16<sup>th</sup> viewing Erie Pier, Stryker Bay and Tallus Island.

Please contact Andy McDonald at [amcdonald@ardc.org](mailto:amcdonald@ardc.org) or (218) 529-7514 for comments or questions.

#### 9. PROJECT UPDATES

##### **State of Good Repair Award for Twin Ports Multimodal Transportation Facility, *Jim Heilig***

On Oct. 4, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood and the FTA announced an award of \$16 million to the DTA to construct a new Twin Ports Multimodal Transportation facility. Awards were made to 152 projects in 45 states and the District of Columbia and are focused on returning the nation's transit systems to a state of good repair by replacing outdated and inefficient transit maintenance and administration facilities, vehicles, transit centers and other capital projects.

The DTA facility will serve as an off-street transit center and inter-city rail station serving DTA public transportation needs as well as Jefferson Lines, Greyhound, LCS and Arrowhead Transit. The facility will provide pedestrian and bicycle connections (via replaced skywalks and concourses) to the downtown area, convention center, and the Western Waterfront Trail. The facility will replace the existing parking and add parking for long-term use (in conjunction with the planned Northern Lights/Duluth Depot rail station), space for rental cars and taxi operations, as well as secure bicycle parking with amenities.

## MIC Agenda Topics and Project Updates, continued

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The \$776 million program was made possible by utilizing unallocated funds from the FY 2010 FTA 5309 Major Capital Investments Program. Congress had previously awarded earmark projects for a portion of the FY 2010 5309 allocation, which left the remainder for the FTA to administer. In previous years, Congress would often earmark the entirety of the program. In the absence of formal surface transportation authorization legislation -- SAFETEA-LU, which expired as of September 30, 2009 -- federal agencies must determine investment priorities without legislative direction or guidance. These investment decisions reflect a policy perspective which focuses on the state of good repair needs of the industry and includes new emphasis on projects that include improved environmental efficiency -- such as hybrid and alternative fuel vehicles, as well as green facilities and maintenance equipment -- as well as those that support job creation.

#### **I-35 Transit Mitigation Study, Robert Herling**

The MIC has assisted the DTA staff in developing a one page survey that will be distributed to passengers riding the West Express buses during the remaining weeks of the operation of this added service in 2010. The survey will be distributed by DTA employees, and results will be returned to the MIC for analysis. This work, along with some analysis of DTA ridership numbers, will constitute Phase 1 of the I-35 Transit Mitigation Study which will continue again in 2011 when construction work resumes on I-35.

#### **Transportation Research Board – 12th National Tools of the Trade - Small and Medium Sized Cities Conference, Ron Chicka**

The bi-annual conference of small and mid-sized cities with an MPO was held recently in Williamsburg, Virginia. Over the last couple of years, I have been an active member of this committee focused on improving the tools and techniques made available to smaller MPOs across the country. Every other year we gather to meet and compare best practices. At this year's conference, I presented our areawide Freight Plan and James Gittemeier presented our first stages of the MIC Communications Plan with Rondi providing a great amount of help in the Power Point presentation. Additionally, Andy McDonald submitted a paper on the Freight Plan for the conference proceedings. I also moderated a session for the MPOs at the conference to talk to issues of importance to them in an open format style. This session was very useful to all as each MPO can gain knowledge from others concerning approaches to topics and issues that we all have to conduct.

#### **Working Waterways and Waterfronts Conference, Andy McDonald**

Coastal communities across the United States are experiencing changes that affect the working waterfronts and industries dependent on access to the water. This conference held in Portland, Maine brought together waterfront stakeholders to share ideas on water access issues. MIC staff attended to present the HTAC as a model for collaborative harbor planning and to listen to other presenters ideas on planning for the future of our waterfronts.

#### **BPAC Update, James Gittemeier**

MIC held the first official Bike-Ped Advisory Committee meeting on October 6, 2010. At this meeting staff explained the current stage of bike and ped related projects including the creation of

## MIC Agenda Topics and Project Updates, continued

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a new bike map, Safe Routes to School Work, the Snow Removal Initiative and the Connecting Duluth Bike Assessment. Each voting participant at the meeting also explained the range of bike and ped related work activities going on through out the region. A brief discussion took place on the role of this committee particularly in regards to input on upcoming roadway projects. Lastly, upcoming meetings this year will include a strategic planning activity to guide the priorities for 2011 and future years.