

## Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council



# MEETING NOTICE

Wednesday, December 8, 2010 at 7:00 pm  
 WITC Conference Center  
 Superior, WI

### Guest Speaker

- Vision for Transportation in Minnesota

*Lynne Bly, MnDOT Office of Statewide Multimodal Planning*

### Approval / Voting Items

- 2011 MIC Officers
- Final 2011-2012 MIC Work Program and Budget
- Amendments #4 and 5 to the 2010-2013 Superior Area TIP

### Presentation / Discussion / Informational Items

- Kirkus Street Land Use Plan (Proctor)
- East Second Street Corridor Plan (Superior)
- Bicycle/Pedestrian 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

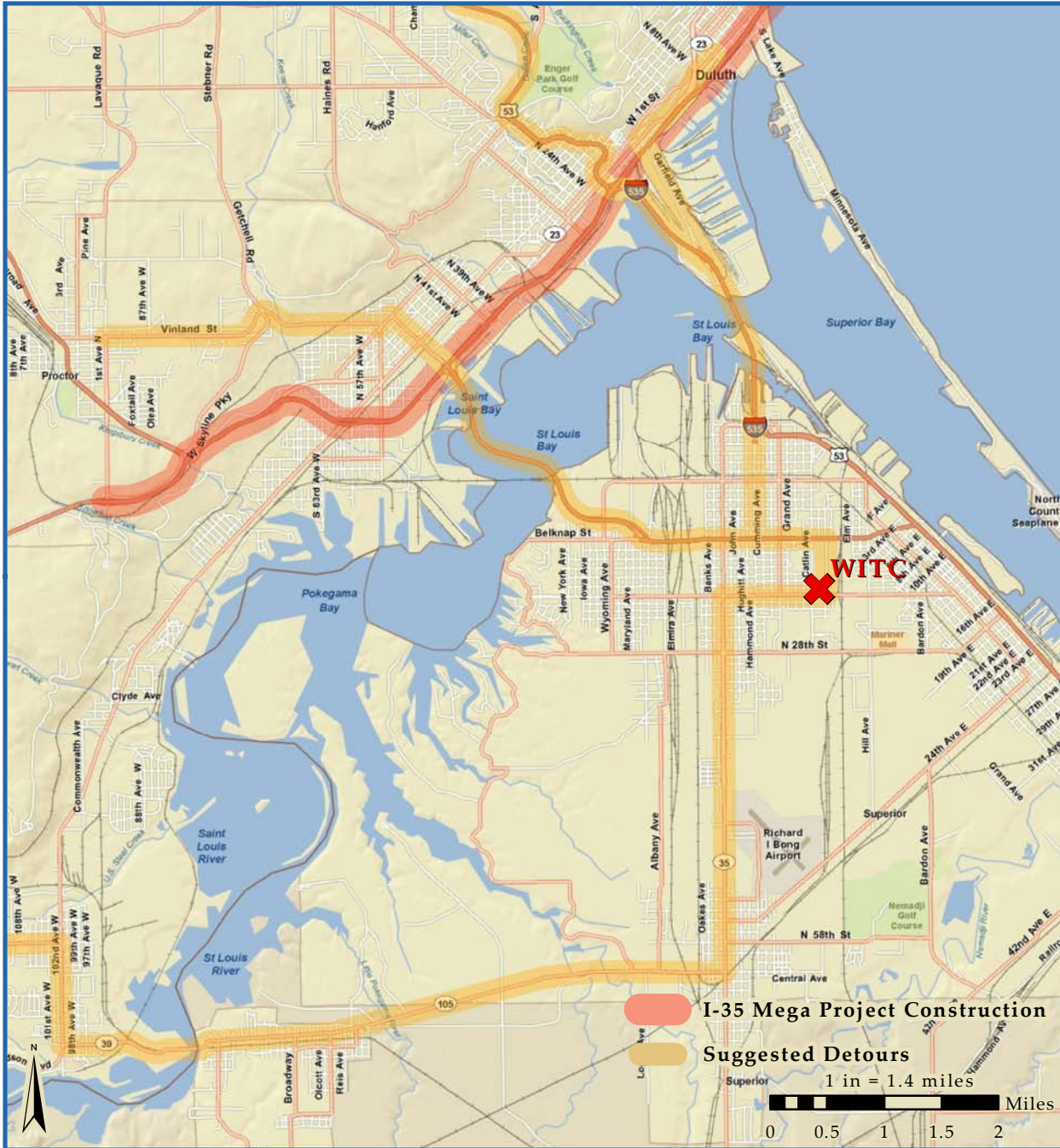
*Duluth and Superior Urban Area Communities Cooperating in Planning and Development through a Joint Venture of the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission and the Northwest Regional Planning Commission*

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# Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College

Conference Center - 600 N. 21st St. Superior, WI



### Alternative Route from Twin Cities:

#### Directions via Becks Rd:

- Take Exit 246 for Midway Rd.; turn **Right** onto Cty. 3 (Becks Rd.)
- Turn **Right** at Gary St.; then **Right** at Commonwealth Ave.
- Turn **Left** at McCuen St. (MN 39) becomes WI 105
- Turn **Left** at Tower Ave. (WI 35); turn **Right** at N. 21<sup>st</sup> St.
- Turn **Left** at Mertz Mortorelli Dr.

#### Alternative Route from Proctor:

#### Directions via Vinland St:

- Follow Vinland St.; continue onto Highland St.
- Turn **Right** at N. Central Ave.; take first **Left** onto W. 8<sup>th</sup> St.
- Turn **Right** at N. 46<sup>th</sup> Ave. W.; continue onto US Hwy 2 into WI (Belknop St.)
- Turn **Right** at Mertz Mortorelli Dr.

#### Alternative Route from Hermantown:

#### Directions via US Hwy 53:

- Follow US Hwy 53/I-535 into WI
- Turn **Left** at Belknop St. (US Hwy 2)
- Turn **Right** at Mertz Mortorelli Dr.

#### Alternative Route from downtown Duluth:

#### Directions via W. Superior St:

- Follow W. Superior St. south; turn **Left** onto Garfield Ave.
- Merge onto US Hwy 53/I-535 South (left lane) into WI
- Turn **Left** at Belknop St. (US Hwy 2)
- Turn **Right** at Mertz Mortorelli Dr.



## Metropolitan Interstate Council Policy Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 8, 2010 at 7:00 pm

WITC Conference Center, Superior, WI

### AGENDA

Minnesota Members			
<p><b>City of Duluth</b> Tony Cuneo Kerry Gauthier</p> <p><b>City of Duluth—Citizen Rep</b> David Montgomery</p> <p><b>City of Hermantown</b> Wayne Boucher</p> <p><b>City of Proctor</b> Troy Foucault</p> <p><b>Duluth Transit Authority</b> Melanie Hendrickson</p> <p><b>St. Louis County</b> Steve O'Neil, <i>MN Co-Chair</i></p> <p><b>St. Louis County Suburban Townships</b> Earl Elde Cindy Moe</p>	<p><b>1. Introductions / Agenda Review</b></p> <p><b>2. Committee Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2011 MIC Meetings Calendar</li> <li>• 2011 MIC Officers Election (<i>for approval</i>)</li> <li>• Meeting Summary of October 20, 2010 (<i>for approval</i>)</li> </ul>	5 min	
	<p><b>3. Vision for Transportation in Minnesota</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation and Discussion, Lynne Bly, <i>Transportation Planning Director, MnDOT-Office of Statewide Multimodal Planning</i></li> </ul>	20 min	
	<p><b>4. Amendments # 4 and 5 to 2010 – 2013 Superior Area TIP</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review for Approval, <i>Sheldon Johnson</i></li> </ul>	5 min	
	<p><b>5. Final 2011-2012 MIC Work Program and Budget</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review for Approval, <i>Ron Chicka</i></li> </ul>	5 min	
	<p><b>6. Kirkus Street Land Use Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation and Discussion, <i>James Gittemeier</i></li> </ul>	10 min	
	<p><b>7. East Second Street Corridor Study</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation and Discussion, <i>Robert Herling</i></li> </ul>	10 min	
	<p><b>8. Bike/Pedestrian Planning Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation and Discussion, <i>James Gittemeier</i></li> </ul>	15 min	
	<p><b>9. Project Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2012-2015 Duluth Area TIP Project Solicitation, <i>James Gittemeier</i></li> <li>• I-35 Congestion Mitigation Ridership Study, <i>Robert Herling</i></li> <li>• AMPO/NADO Conference, <i>Ron Chicka</i></li> <li>• Northern Lights Express Passenger Rail, <i>Ron Chicka</i></li> </ul>	5 min	
<p><b>Wisconsin Members</b></p> <p><b>City of Superior</b> Warren Bender Denise McDonald Dan Olson</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, January 19, 2011, 7:00 pm - WITC, Superior, WI</p>		

# MIC Agenda Topics and Project Updates

December 8, 2010 Meeting



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

\* = Approval Item

## 1. INTRODUCTIONS / AGENDA REVIEW

## 2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- MIC Meetings Calendar for 2011
- 2011 MIC Officers Election \*

I will be recruiting volunteers to assist in the process of polling members to determine nominees for next year's committee officers, as well as appointments to the ARDC Board and Commission. The nominations will be put forward and voted upon at the December meetings.

Current MIC officers are Steve O'Neil (MN Co-Chair); Nick Baker (WI Co-Chair); and Earl Elde (Secretary). Historically, one or both of the MIC officers (on the Minnesota side only) also make a commitment to serve on the ARDC Board and Commission as representatives of the MIC. Earl Elde currently serves as the MIC representative to both the ARDC Board and Commission.

If you have you comments or questions, please contact Ron Chicka at 529-7506 or [rchicka@ardc.org](mailto:rchicka@ardc.org).

- Meeting Summary of October 20, 2010 \* (separate attachment)

## 3. GUEST SPEAKER – LYNNE BLY, MNDOT DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

### *-Vision for Transportation in Minnesota*

Lynne Bly, from MnDOT's Office of Multimodal Transportation Planning in St. Paul, will present information about their new planning initiative to shape a long-range (50-year) vision for transportation in Minnesota.

## 4. AMENDMENTS #4 AND 5 TO 2010-2013 SUPERIOR URBANIZED AREA TIP \*

It is necessary to consider two amendments to add the following projects to the approved projects list in the 2010-2013 Superior Urbanized Area TIP, as follows:

### **Amendment #4**

This project enables the Northwest Wisconsin Community Services Agency to deliver described program funding throughout the counties of Douglas, Bayfield and Ashland. The project(s) will occur in calendar year 2011 (January-December).

## MIC Agenda Topics and Project Updates, continued

December 8, 2010 Meeting

### Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

#### 2011 Transportation Improvements Projects (TRANSIT - 5316)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
NWCSA 113-11- 010	Northwest Wisconsin Community Services Agency					
JARC Funding- Section 5316	Provide funding for Mobility Management, vehicle purchase and repair loans, vanpool.					
Amended to TIP in December 2010		TOTAL	123,691		72,789	196,480

#### Amendment #5

This project enables the City of Superior to complete remaining work on a federal earmark from 2007 for work along N. 28th Street. The project(s) will occur in calendar year 2011.

#### 2011 Transportation Improvements Projects (Roadway)

Jurisdiction and Project Number	Project Description		Estimated Costs & Funding Sources (Thousands)			
			Federal	State	Local	Total
City of Superior 113-11-011	N. 28 <sup>th</sup> Street – Weeks Ave to Hill Ave.	PE	26		7	33
8998-24-01 PE 8998-24-73 Const	Improve pedestrian facilities by constructing sidewalk, bulb-outs, crosswalks, and improved lighting.	ROW CONST	133		33	166
Amended to TIP in April 2010		TOTAL	159		40	199

If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact me at 715-635-2197 or by email at [sjohnson@nwrpc.com](mailto:sjohnson@nwrpc.com).

#### 5. FINAL 2011 – 2012 MIC WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET \*

The final 2011-2012 UPWP will be put forward for approval at the December meetings. From the discussion of the draft at the last meeting, there was little added input as to projects to be included or not for 2012. The second year of the UPWP is a requirement of the state's budget process for the MPOs and gives us a chance to begin to prioritize our work, at a minimum.

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

## MIC Agenda Topics and Project Updates, continued

December 8, 2010 Meeting

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### Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

#### 6. KIRKUS STREET LAND USE PLAN

A series of land use scenarios are being developed to determine potential impacts of various development alternatives. Staff will provide an update of this plan as well as the remaining steps left including a city wide public involvement event.

For comments or questions, please contact James Gittemeier at [jgittemeier@ardc.org](mailto:jgittemeier@ardc.org) or (218) 529-7556.

#### 7. EAST SECOND STREET CORRIDOR STUDY

A final draft of the East 2nd Street Corridor Study in Superior has been completed and is ready for review. The study took a look at a variety of conditions related to land use context, multimodal patterns, road design and operations. Particular attention was paid to the influence of vehicle speeds and the numerous points of access along the corridor. The draft will be presented to the MIC Policy Board for approval in January 2011.

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

#### 8. BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLANNING UPDATE

**Bike-Ped Advisory Committee** – MIC staff will provide an overview of the recent BPAC meeting, which was held on Monday, November 15, including an overview of the 2011-2012 MIC Work Program; projects that will kick off in January including identification of Superior Bike Routes and update of the MIC Area Bike Map; and the BPAC's discussion of the possible Grand Avenue project.

**Connect Duluth Bike Assessment** – MIC staff will discuss the results of this project, including an analysis of the routes cyclists would prefer to use versus the signed bike routes and information about the next steps for this Assessment.

For comments or questions, please contact James Gittemeier at [jgittemeier@ardc.org](mailto:jgittemeier@ardc.org) or (218) 529-7556.

#### 9. PROJECT UPDATES

**2012-2015 Duluth Area TIP Project Solicitation**, *James Gittemeier*

The next round of federal transportation funding is available. The MIC is soliciting for projects for federal funding that will be available in 2015. Project solicitation began on Monday, November 8, 2010 and will run until Friday, December 17, 2010.

**I-35 Congestion Mitigation Ridership Study**, *Robert Herling*

Results of a ridership survey and passenger counts done as Phase 1 of the DTA's I-35 Transit Mitigation Ridership Study have been collected and analyzed. Preliminary results suggest that the increased service on Grand Avenue had a positive impact in relieving the I-35 of commuter traffic during the 2010 construction season.

**MIC Agenda Topics and Project Updates, continued**

December 8, 2010 Meeting

**Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council****AMPO/NADO Conference, Ron Chicka**

I recently attended the annual conference of the national association of the MPOs jointly held this year with the National Rural Transportation Peer Learning conference sponsored by the National Association of Development Organizations, or NADO. It is this latter organization that serves as a legislative lobbying group for RDCs nationwide. We were informed on many topics including a very good one concerning Social Media and MPOs. There are a few MPOs across the country that are doing more in this realm of communication and we will investigate their basic policy guidance on usage. It was pointed out by these MPOs that staffing is a must for this initiative to be effective, especially at the outset. A very good point was also made by the MPOs doing this type of work that it should be seen as our responsibility to monitor what is stated on various websites and blogs concerning transportation issues to ensure accuracy. The social media options are simply another "tool" in our toolkit of public involvement techniques.

As far as the next federal transportation bill, the outlook is bleak. We will continue with current year funding level Continuing Resolutions on a shorter term basis (months or 1-year) for the next couple of years.

**Northern Lights Express Passenger Rail, Ron Chicka**

The NLX is still in the Environmental Assessment (EA) phase of development. This will continue into 2011 as the Federal Rail Administration (FRA) is requiring a route alternative (Rush line – St Paul to Hinckley to Duluth), studied to some degree by the NLX Study Team, be analyzed to the full extent in conjunction with the study team recommended alternative – the BNSF line from Minneapolis to Hinckley to Duluth. There was no discussion, since it is really just speculation at this point, concerning where the initiative may go in the future given the change in recent federal and state support. The EA is a technical phase of the project and has funding into next year to carry out its intent. As a member of the EA team, I will continue to monitor and update members as to the progress of the project including any measures that arise from a policy or political standpoint.