



## Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

*Guiding the Future of Transportation for the Twin Ports Area*

### What is the MIC?

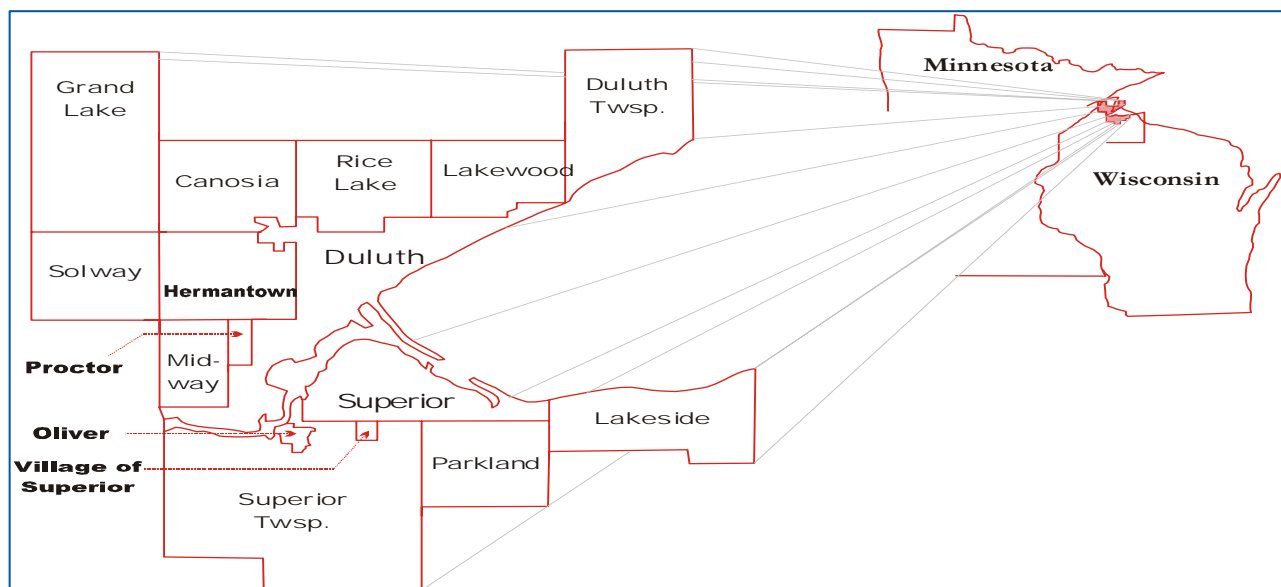
The MIC is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Duluth-Superior area. MPOs were created by the federal government to ensure that infrastructure investments are analyzed from a metropolitan-wide perspective. MPOs provide a comprehensive, cooperative, inter-agency transportation planning process for population areas over 50,000. The MIC provides leadership and technical support to all local jurisdictions within the metropolitan area.

The Duluth-Superior MIC was created under a joint agreement between the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission (ARDC) in Minnesota and the Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NWRPC) in Wisconsin.

### History

Under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) of 1996 and current federal legislation, MPOs were given greater authority to fund and implement transportation projects in urban areas. Each MPO develops an annual set of approved projects through its Long Range Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program. MPOs also emphasize public participation in the development of these projects and programs.

### MIC Planning Area



(continued on reverse) →

## Objectives

The Metropolitan Interstate Council Policy Board represents all local units of government in the Duluth-Superior area and provides cooperative leadership to meet the following objectives:

**To address** major transportation issues and solve problems that affect multiple jurisdictions or agencies within the Duluth-Superior metropolitan area.

**To develop** detailed transportation information that will encourage decisions to enhance livability and optimize the movement of people and goods throughout the metropolitan area.

**To improve** the comprehensive transportation network so that it is safe and fully integrated.

**To gain** the maximum benefit from each public transportation investment.

**To attain** an effective transportation planning process that is inclusive and responsive to the needs and interests of the area's residents, units of government and affected agencies.

## Recent Plans & Studies

The MIC provides a forum for issues of regional significance. General activities include neighborhood and corridor studies, regional impact studies, and involvement in harbor, transit and statewide planning initiatives. Recent publications include:

- Airport Land Use Study
- Downtown & Medical District Parking Studies
- Duluth & Superior Port Land Use Plans
- Duluth-Superior Area Truck Route Study
- Duluth-Superior Bikeways Plan & Map
- Duluth Urban Area Growth Impact Study
- Metropolitan Pedestrian Plan
- Safe Routes to School in Superior
- Transit Service Analysis Study
- 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan

## Council Structure

The MIC policy board has a total of 18 votes, split evenly between both states:

### Minnesota (9 votes)

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- 4 City of Duluth representatives  
(1 citizen, 2 city councilors, 1 DTA Board member)
- 1 City of Hermantown representative  
(elected official)
- 1 City of Proctor representative  
(elected official)
- 3 St. Louis County representatives  
(1 county board member, 2 suburban township elected officials)

### Wisconsin (9 votes)

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- 4 City of Superior representatives  
(1 citizen, 3 city councilors)
- 4 Douglas County representatives  
(4 county board supervisors)
- 1 representative from the suburban villages and townships

*Duluth-Superior Urban Area Communities Cooperating in Planning and Development  
through a Joint Venture of*



and

