

EAST SECOND STREET ACCESS MANAGEMENT STUDY

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council (MIC), in cooperation with the City of Superior and WisDOT, is currently studying conditions along East 2nd Street (US Hwy 2/53) in Superior, Wisconsin. The primary focus of this work is to determine the need for implementing different access management strategies along the roadway. East 2nd Street functions as a city street, providing access to local businesses and neighborhoods, but it is also part of an important interregional corridor that is meant to move large volumes of traffic at relatively constant speeds. Because of this dual nature, the potential for traffic conflicts increases as additional development occurs along the corridor.

CHARACTERISTICS OF EAST 2ND STREET

East 2nd Street carries approximately 22,000 vehicles per day, roughly 10% of which is commercial freight. It is a 4 lane roadway with a posted speed of 30 mph, yet it typically experiences traffic flowing at speeds significantly greater than this. Such speeds generally are not compatible with large numbers of vehicles turning onto and off of the roadway at numerous locations. Nor do they allow for safe and easy pedestrian crossings. The MIC's study will be looking closely at these issues.

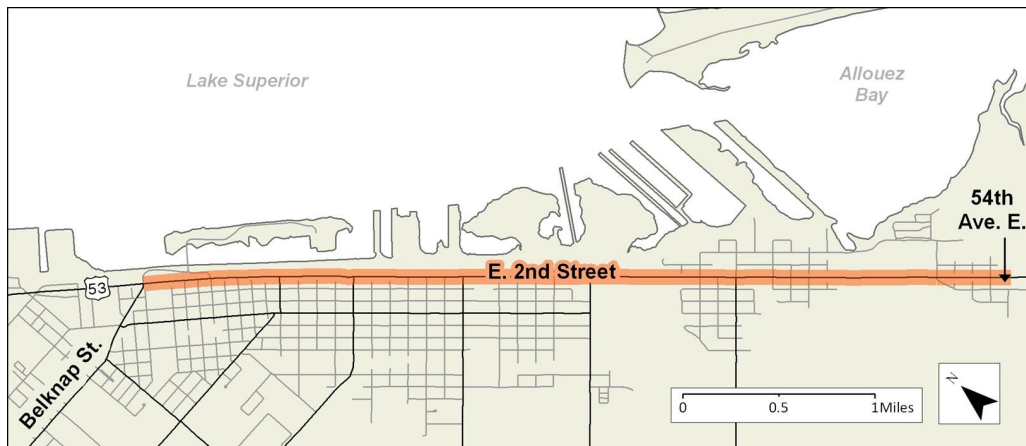
WHAT IS ACCESS MANAGEMENT?

At its most basic, access management means managing the number and spacing of driveway accesses along a roadway. Doing this on high-volume roadways can improve both safety and efficiency. But access management can involve strategies other than just simply closing or restricting accesses. It the proper configuration of traffic lanes, the addition of turn bays, the optimal placement and coordination of traffic signals can also lead to the improved safety and efficiency of a roadway. In short, access management involves identifying strategies that appropriate for managing traffic movement in ways that are sensitive to the context of an area.



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council— www.dsmic.org
221 W. First Street, Duluth, MN 55802 - (218) 529-7541

EAST 2ND STREET STUDY CORRIDOR



SOME FACTS ABOUT EAST 2ND STREET:

- The corridor under study is approximately 4.4 miles.
- East 2nd Street (also US Hwy 2/53) is classified as a “principal arterial” and serves as a major thoroughfare for moving large numbers of personal and commercial vehicles.
- East 2nd Street is a 4 lane facility that moves approximately 22,000 vehicles per day.
- 2.7miles of East 2nd Street are divided by a centerline median, while the remaining 1.7 miles contain a two-way left turn lane.
- More than 80 points of access (including intersections) exist along East 2nd Street.
- Only three intersections along East 2nd Street are controlled by traffic signals.
- There are 11 designated pedestrian crossings on East 2nd Street, 4 of which are marked by signage or signals.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Additional information about this study can be found at www.dsmic.org/e2ndSt.

Questions can be directed to the project lead, Robert Herling at rherling@ardc.org or by calling (218) 529-7573.



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