

Duluth-Superior Long Range Transportation Plan 2035

SCOPE OF WORK

June 2008

Introduction:

The Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council (MIC) is the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Duluth-Superior urbanized area. As such, its role is to provide guidance to local jurisdictions on transportation and land use interactions in the Twin Ports. Such guidance is based on the goals and objectives outlined in a 20-year transportation plan that is developed in partnership with the local jurisdictions and updated every four years.

The MIC's current long range plan, *Access and Mobility for People and Freight 2030*, is scheduled for an update in 2009, and due to new direction coming from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), the updated plan will be produced as a web-based document. The main benefit of moving towards a web-based plan is to make it more accessible to a greater audience and make it easier for a user to navigate through when in search of specific information.

Below are a few topics, among many others, that the plan will examine:

- Necessary adjustments to population, employment, and traffic predictions.
- Functional classification changes.
- Update of the TRANPLAN model (travel-demand model) to identify current and future deficiencies in the road network.
- Identified transportation priorities of the Duluth-Superior metro.
- Incorporating major recommendations from recent planning studies that have taken place since the last update.
- Safety, efficiency, connectivity, fiscally constrained projects, and performance-based measures.
- Implementation strategies for the plan's recommendations.

The long range planning effort will conclude in September 2009 with the launching of a web-based plan.

Outline of the Planning Process:
(May 2008 to September 2009 timeline)

I. Website Development

II. Plan Introduction (website's homepage)

- a) Page format & navigation bar
- b) *What is the LRTP and why is it important?*
- c) LRTP mission statement

III. Transportation System Assessment

- a) Update of transportation analysis zones (TAZs)
 - Land use component
 - Road network component
- b) Evaluate annual average daily traffic (AADT) data – (modify as needed)
- c) Travel-demand model update & calibration
- d) Consideration of recent micro-modeling from recent plans
- e) System management for people & freight
- e) Multimodal facilities & connectivity assessment

VI. Planning & Policy Framework

- a) Federal requirements
- b) Align with updated state LRTPs & the Federal Surface Policy & Revenue Study Commission recommendations
- c) Demographic, land use, transportation and funding trends
- d) Public participation
- e) Complete Streets, Livable Communities, Community Impact Assessment, Smart Growth, Sustainability & the environment
- f) Goals & objectives

V. Transportation Operations & Maintenance

- a) Operations & maintenance for people & freight
- b) Identify short and mid-range transportation needs
- c) Transportation systems management (TSM)
 - Congestion & air quality maintenance
 - Safety, emergency response & system security
 - Intelligent transportation systems (ITS)
 - The MIC TSM analysis
- d) Transportation planning & programming
 - MN & WI programming processes
 - MIC area transportation priorities & funding constraints

VI. Project List & Map

- a) Project identification
- b) Assessing projects with performance measures and goals & objectives
- c) Redefining projects through fiscal constraint

VII. Plan Evaluation & Implementation

- a) Recommendations
- b) Implementation strategies
- c) Community impact assessment (CIA)

Proposed Outline of the Web-based Long Range Transportation Plan 2035

PROJECTS	PLANNING	TRENDS	PERFORMANCE	PARTICIPATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed projects (transit-related, bike & ped-related, safety-related, etc.) • Project map 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MIC responsibilities • Fed & state regulations and policies • TIP process • Goals & objectives • MIC & TAC boards • Organizational cooperation (e.g. environ. coordination, and coordinated human services transportation plan) • Recommendations from the MIC & TAC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population & demographics • Travel patterns • Freight patterns • Congestion • Safety & Security • Mobility & Connectivity • Economics & Transportation • Infrastructure lifespan & Maintenance • Transportation funding • Transportation & environment (e.g. air quality, fuel & energy, storm water runoff) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobility, Connectivity, jobs/services accessibility (transit service areas & ridership, completed bike networks, etc.) • Congestion (LOS) • Safety (critical crash rates) • Bridge & Pavement Conditions (???) • Air quality, fuel consumption (VMT). • Financial constraint (Cost/Benefit) • Past project implementation (% completion) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations from the public • Opportunities to comment on the LRP • Opportunities to participate in transportation planning • PIP plan

