

MEETING NOTICE



TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at 1:30 p.m.

WITC Conference Center
600 North 21st Street, Superior, WI

Action Items / Review for Approval:

- 2009-2010 MIC Work Program & Budget—Final

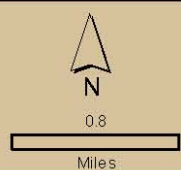
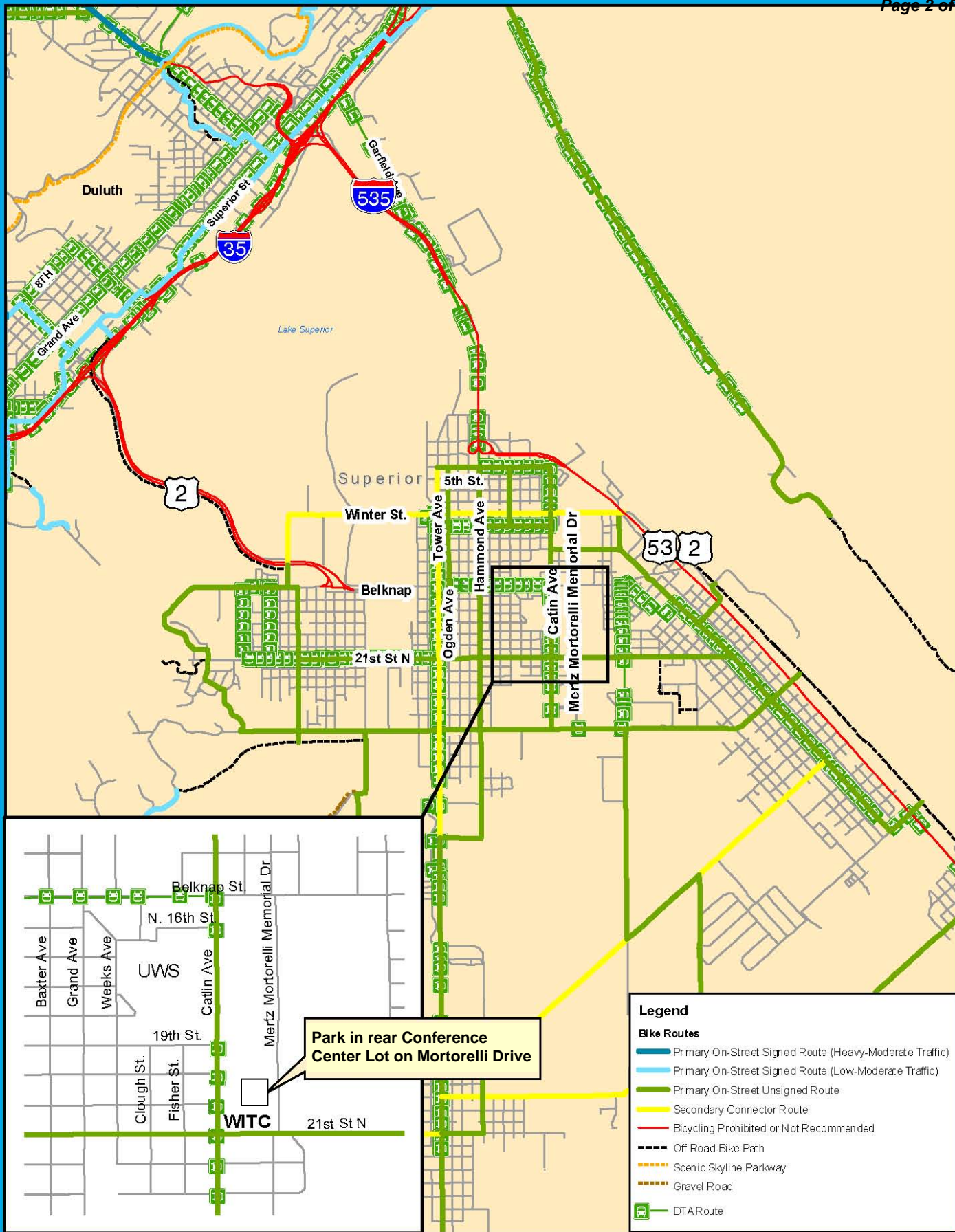
Discussion / Informational Items:

- Long Range Transportation Plan 2035 Update
- Northern MN/Northwest WI Regional Freight Study
- Safe Routes to School Project Applications
- Proctor Comprehensive Plan Update
- HTAC/Harbor Planning Update

Driving Directions & Parking Information: *See map on next page*

Attendance for Meetings:

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



WITC Conference Center
 Wisconsin Indian Technical College
 600 North 21st St - Superior, WI



**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY
COMMITTEE (TAC)
MEMBERS**

Airport

Brian Ryks
Susan Thompson (*alternate*)

Bikes / Pedestrians

Bryn Jacobson

City of Duluth

Jim Benning
Chuck Froseth
Cari Pedersen
Cindy Voigt (*alternate*)
Vacant

City of Hermantown

David Salo
Lynn Lander (*alternate*)

City of Proctor

Jim Rohweder

City of Superior

Jason Serck
Jeff Goetzman

Douglas County

Paul Halverson

Duluth Transit Authority

Dennis Jensen
Jim Heilig (*alternate*)

MN DEED Office

Heather Rand

MnDOT

Denny Johnson, *Chair*
Walter Leu

Ports

Jim Sharrow

St. Louis County

Jim Foldesi
Brian Boder (*alternate*)

WisDOT NW Region

Dena Young, *Vice-chair*

DULUTH-SUPERIOR METROPOLITAN INTERSTATE COUNCIL
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at 1:30 p.m.

WITC Conference Center, Superior, WI

AGENDA

<p>1. Introductions / Agenda Review</p> <p>2. Committee Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAC Meeting Summary of October 14, 2008 • 2009 TAC Officers • 2009 TAC Meeting Calendar 	<p>5 min</p>
<p>3. 2009-2010 MIC Work Program and Budget—Final</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review for Approval, <i>Ron Chicka</i> 	<p>15 min</p>
<p>4. Long Range Transportation Plan 2035 Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and Discussion, <i>Robert Herling</i> 	<p>15 min</p>
<p>5. Northern MN - Northwest WI Regional Freight Study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and Discussion, <i>Andy McDonald</i> 	<p>10 min</p>
<p>6. Safe Routes to School Project Applications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and Discussion, <i>Holly Butcher</i> 	<p>15 min</p>
<p>7. Proctor Comprehensive Plan Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and Discussion, <i>James Gittemeier</i> 	<p>10 min</p>
<p>8. HTAC/Harbor Planning Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and Discussion, <i>Andy McDonald</i> 	<p>15 min</p>
<p>9. Roundtable Discussion – Local Projects</p>	<p>5 min</p>
<p>10. Project Updates And Informational Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duluth Area TIP Applications, <i>James Gittemeier</i> • Superior Pedestrian Committee, <i>Ron Chicka</i> • Twin Cities to Twin Ports Rail Coalition, <i>Ron Chicka</i> • Superior-East 2nd Street Study, <i>Robert Herling</i> • UMD-CSS Transportation Assessment, <i>Andy McDonald</i> • DTA Planning Update, <i>Robert Herling</i> 	<p>5 min</p>

Next TAC Meeting: Tuesday, January 20, 2009
WITC Conference Center, Superior, WI

TAC Agenda Topics and Project Updates

December 9, 2008 Meeting

Transportation Advisory Committee



* = Approval Item

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND AGENDA REVIEW

2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- **Meeting Summary of October 14, 2008*** (*enclosed*)

- **2009 TAC Officers**

At the December TAC meeting, I will be asking for a volunteer to serve as the Vice-Chair for the upcoming year. Following TAC protocol, current Vice-Chair Dena Ryan (WisDOT) will serve as the 2009 TAC Chair. Nominations for both officers will be formalized by a vote at the start of the January 2009 meeting.

Please consider putting your name forward to serve as 2009 Vice-Chair (and as Chair in 2010). If you have comments or questions, please contact Ron Chicka at 529-7506 or at rchicka@ardc.org.

- **2009 TAC Meeting Schedule** (*attached as separate document*)

3. 2009-2010 MIC WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET (FINAL)* (*attached as separate document*)

The final 2009-2010 Work Program and Budget will be reviewed and is up for approval at the December MIC and TAC meetings. I will discuss the short range projects included for each year, long range planning activities and administrative functions. The Freight Plan component for 2009 is a major reason why the budget is substantially larger in 2009 than the present year. Funding for the plan is covered, though I am still attempting to involve the Wisconsin DOT to assist in matching federal dollars, therefore putting less strain on the ARDC local match. If you have you comments or questions, please contact Ron Chicka at 529-7541 or at rchicka@ardc.org.

4. LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2035 UPDATE

Beginning in December, the MIC will begin the process of updating the Goals & Objectives for the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) 2035. As with previous updates, the involvement of the TAC and MIC members will be integral in helping to define these. Public input will also be sought, and the MIC will be advertising, via the local media, a web page specific to the LRTP 2035. This web page will included a meeting calendar, a brief survey, and the opportunity for people to provide immediate comment. It is hoped that together these tools will help us shape the goals and objectives that will form the foundation of the plan. If you have you comments or questions, please contact Robert Herling at rherling@ardc.org or (218) 529-7573.

5. NORTHERN MN/NORTHWESTERN WI REGIONAL FREIGHT STUDY

The steering committee for this project met on November 12th to discuss roles and the work plan generated by the consultant. Members of the steering committee include both MnDOT

TAC Agenda Topics and Project Updates, continued December 9, 2008 Meeting

Transportation Advisory Committee

and WisDOT staff, DNR staff from both states, university level partners, St Louis and Douglas County staff and Port Authority staff. The consultant team hired for this project is led by Wilbur Smith Associates. Their team brings a wide range of experience to this project. We discussed what each participant's role will be in the initial data collection phase of this study. The MIC will be responsible for gathering much of the freight related data for the Wisconsin portion of the study area. We also discussed some of the stakeholder input strategies such as primary business interviews and a technical advisory committee. If you have you comments or questions, please contact Andy McDonald at amcdonald@ardc.org or (218) 529-7514.

6. SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROJECT APPLICATIONS

At the December meetings I'll review the projects that the Proctor and Duluth School Districts applied for in this final round of Safe Routes to School funding applications. If you have comments or questions, please contact Holly Butcher at holly.butcher@ardc.org or (218) 529-7548.

7. PROCTOR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Since 1997, Proctor undertakes the process of updating their Comprehensive Plan every 5 years. The major issues driving this update include:

1. Kirkus Street and the opening up of land for potential development;
2. Health issues, particularly as they relate to obesity and physical inactivity;
3. Trends of the baby boom generation aging and their impacts;
4. Sustainability and what the city can do to be more sustainable.

A community-wide meeting was held on November 13 to review the goals of the plan and give the public another opportunity to have a meaningful impact on the ways the City should focus its resources to address the four core underlying issues listed above. The planning process will conclude with a draft plan for review in January. The plan will then move through the City of Proctor approval process in February, with the final Comp Plan before the MIC in March. For comments or questions, please contact James Gittemeier at jgittemeier@ardc.org or (218) 529-7556.

8. HTAC/HARBOR PLANNING UPDATE

The HTAC will be meeting on Wednesday December 3rd at WITC in Superior. Our agenda includes presentations on the following topics: Impacts of Climate Change on the Great Lakes Ports, Harbors and Marinas; Erie Pier Process Re-use Facility Cost and Market Analysis Research; Great Lakes Maritime Research Institute Sponsored Tour of Baltic Seaports; Dredged Material Management Plan Update; and Great Lakes Commission Annual Meeting. I will provide a brief presentation describing these topics at our

TAC Agenda Topics and Project Updates, continued

December 9, 2008 Meeting

Transportation Advisory Committee

upcoming meeting. If you have you comments or questions, please contact Andy McDonald at amcdonald@ardc.org or (218) 529-7514.

9. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION - LOCAL PROJECTS

10. PROJECT UPDATES

Duluth Area TIP Applications, *James Gittemeier*

In October, MIC staff met with each Duluth-area jurisdiction that is eligible for federal transportation funding to review projects in the current TIP and to discuss regional needs identified in the Long Range Transportation Plan. In addition, project applications for 2013 federal funding were sent out on November 10. The project solicitation period runs from November 10th to December 19th.

Superior-Pedestrian Committee, *Ron Chicka*

The City of Superior is facilitating a Pedestrian Safety Committee that will review policies and projects throughout the community, taking into account the various planning efforts conducted by the MIC toward this issue. MIC products to aid this effort include data and recommendations from the 2005 Superior Safes Routes to School plan and from 1999, the Metropolitan Pedestrian Plan and the Superior Sidewalk Inventory. Committee participants include City Planning and Engineering staff, as well as representatives from the Police department, School District and City Council. The MIC has made connections with Wisconsin Walks (www.wisconsinwalks.org) to come to the city and help guide their initiatives. The assembling of this committee is an important first step toward the City putting together the resources to determine priorities for pedestrian and some improved bike movement within Superior. The next meeting of this group is set for Thursday, November 20th.

Twin Cities to Twin Ports Rail Coalition, *Ron Chicka*

This initiative recently received two different funding boosts to continue planning efforts to establish passenger rail service between Duluth – Superior and the Twin Cities. A \$1.1 million matching grant was awarded by the Federal Railroad Administration to complete the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), the next major step in the re-establishment of this line. Also, St Louis County has allocated funds to undertake a study of expansion potential of the Duluth Depot as it relates to the potential new rail service. The MIC has been asked to review project applicants along with sitting on the study steering committee.

Superior-East Second Street Study, *Robert Herling*

In October, speed counts were conducted at several locations along East 2nd Street. Preliminary analysis has been done on these data, the findings of which will be looked at in

TAC Agenda Topics and Project Updates, continued
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conjunction with the previous information gathered. This information will be presented to the study's steering committee in January 2009, and be used to develop recommended improvements for the corridor.

UMD-CSS Transportation Assessment, *Andy McDonald*

MIC staff recently met with City of Duluth staff and its design consultant to discuss the Woodland Avenue reconstruction design. We advocated that all roadway users be accommodated and that Woodland Avenue not become a barrier for pedestrian activity in the area. Pedestrian safety is a primary concern along this corridor as 5 of the 7 pedestrian accidents in a recent five year span in the UMD-CSS area occurred along Woodland Avenue. This topic was discussed at our past UMD-CSS Study Committee meeting with the concerns stated passed along to the design team.

DTA Planning Update, *Robert Herling*

The MIC is currently assisting the DTA with an update of the Duluth-Superior Area Transit Vision, a document which identifies the DTA's mission, goals, objectives and standards for Duluth-Superior transit service. The MIC is assisting specifically with the analysis of technical and survey data provided by the DTA.