

# MEETING NOTICE



## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*Tuesday, May 18, 2010 at 1:30 p.m.*

WITC Conference Center  
600 North 21<sup>st</sup> Street  
Superior, WI

### Guest Speaker

- **St. Louis County Union Depot Master Plan**  
*Darren Jablonsky, St. Louis County Planning, Research and GIS*

### Approval / Voting Items

- **Draft 2011-2014 Duluth Area Transportation Improvement Program**
- **Draft 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan**

### Presentation / Discussion / Informational Items

- **Harbor Planning Update**
- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Update**

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

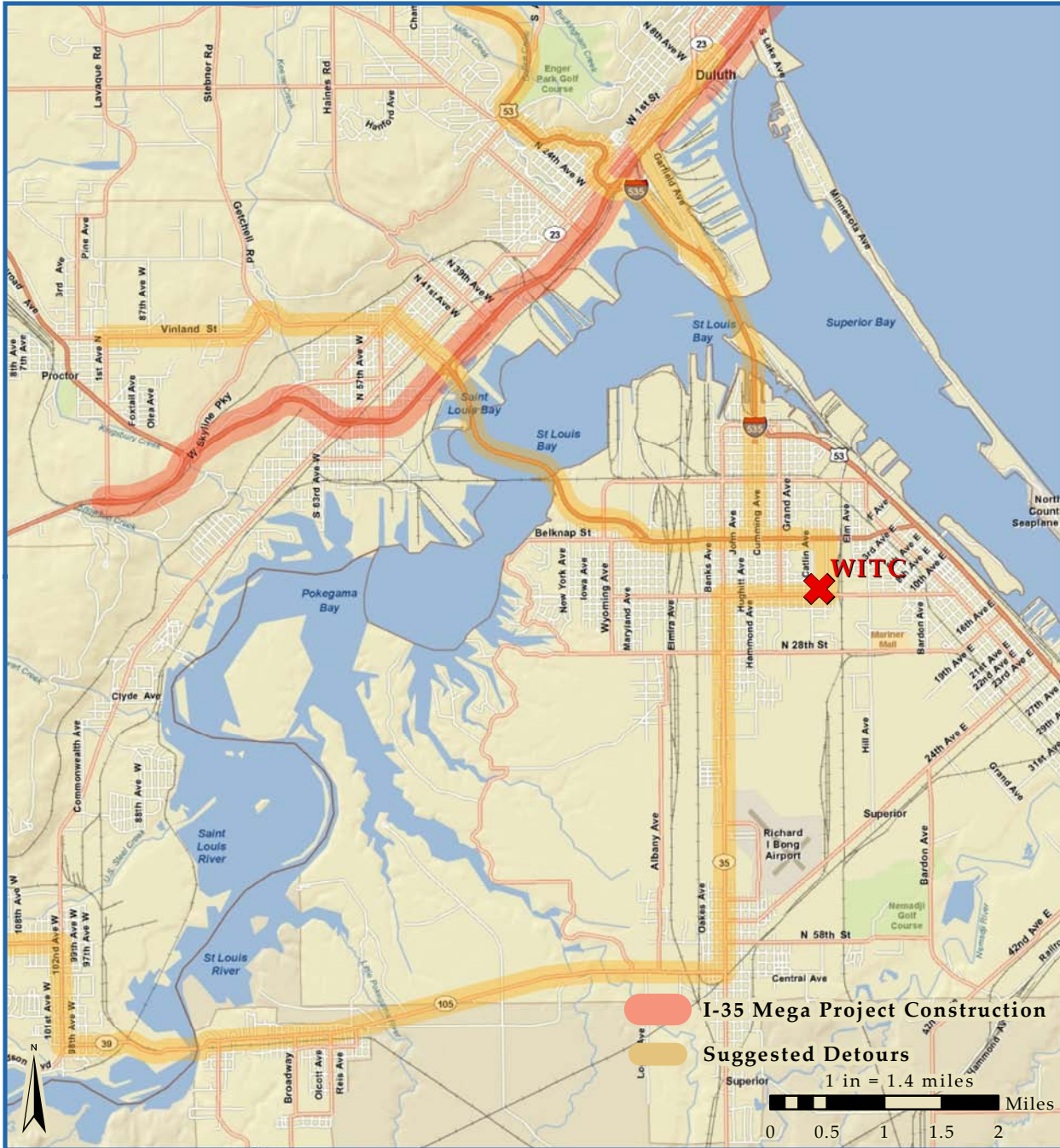
### Attendance / Meeting Quorum

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.



# 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 (Belknap 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 Belknap 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 Belknap St. (US Hwy 2)
- Turn **Right** at Mertz Mortorelli Dr.

**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE (TAC)  
MEMBERS**

**Airport (1 rep)**

Brian Ryks  
Alison Johnson (alternate)

**Bikes / Pedestrians (1 rep)**

Bryn Jacobson

**City of Duluth (4 reps)**

Chuck Froseth  
Cari Pedersen  
Cindy Petkac  
Cindy Voigt  
Jim Benning (alternate)

**City of Hermantown (1 rep)**

David Salo  
John Mulder (alternate)

**City of Proctor (1 rep)**

Jim Rohweder

**City of Superior (2 reps)**

Jason Serck, ***Vice-chair***  
Jeff Goetzman

**Douglas County (1 rep)**

Paul Halverson

**Duluth Transit Authority  
(1 rep)**

Dennis Jensen  
Jim Heilig (alternate)

**MN DEED Office (1 rep)**

Heather Rand

**MnDOT (2 reps)**

Denny Johnson  
Walter Leu

**Port/Harbor (1 rep)**

Jim Sharrow

**St. Louis County (1 rep)**

Jim Foldesi, ***Chair***  
Brian Boder (alternate)

**WisDOT NW Region (1 rep)**

Dena Young

DULUTH-SUPERIOR  
METROPOLITAN INTERSTATE COUNCIL

**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

***Tuesday, May 18, 2010 at 1:30 p.m.***

WITC Conference Center  
Superior, WI

**AGENDA**

<b>1. Introductions / Agenda Review</b>	<i>5 min</i>
<b>2. Committee Business – for approval</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting Summary of April 20, 2010</li> </ul>	
<b>3. St. Louis County Union Depot Master Plan</b>	<i>25 min</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Darren Jablonsky, St. Louis County Planning, Research &amp; GIS</i></li> </ul>	
<b>4. Draft 2011-2014 Duluth Area Transportation Improvement Program</b>	<i>10 min</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approve Release for Public Comment, <i>James Gittemeier</i></li> </ul>	
<b>5. Draft 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan</b>	<i>15 min</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approve Release for Public Comment, <i>Robert Herling</i></li> </ul>	
<b>6. Harbor Planning Update</b>	<i>15 min</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation and Discussion, <i>Andy McDonald</i></li> </ul>	
<b>7. Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Update</b>	<i>10 min</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation and Discussion, <i>James Gittemeier</i></li> </ul>	
<b>8. Roundtable Discussion– Local Projects</b>	<i>5 min</i>
<b>9. Project Updates and Informational Items</b>	<i>5 min</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Involvement/Social Media Consultant, <i>Rondi Watson</i></li> <li>Connecting Duluth, <i>James Gittemeier</i></li> <li>TIGER II Grant Application, <i>Ron Chicka</i></li> <li>Blatnik and Bong Bridge Study, <i>Ron Chicka</i></li> </ul>	

**Next TAC Meeting:**

Tuesday, June 15, 1:30 pm / Hampton Inn, Canal Park, Duluth

# TAC Agenda Topics and Project Updates

## Transportation Advisory Committee

May 18, 2010 Meeting

\* = *Approval Item*



### 1. INTRODUCTIONS / AGENDA REVIEW

### 2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

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

### 3. GUEST SPEAKER: ST. LOUIS COUNTY UNION DEPOT MASTER PLAN

Darren Jablonsky, Manager of Planning, Research, & GIS for St. Louis County, will present the final master plan for not only the Duluth Depot's future but also for land uses surrounding the site. A key component of the plan involves bike and pedestrian links that enhance the functionality of the site – many drawn from prior planning studies conducted by the MIC. This work culminates a year long process that the County initiated in anticipation of the rail line service being reestablished to the Twin Cities.

### 4. DRAFT 2011-2014 DULUTH AREA TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM\* (see separate attachment)

The Draft TIP is attached for your review and comment. The TIP includes 4 years of federally funded transportation projects, as well as some of the significant state funded projects. The Draft TIP will be released for a 30-day public comment period, which will run from May 20 to June 18. The final TIP will be presented for approval at the July MIC meetings.

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

### 5. DRAFT 2035 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN\* (see separate attachment)

A complete draft of the updated Duluth Superior Long Range Transportation Plan, "Directions 2035" is ready for review by the TAC and MIC boards, which together represent the steering committee for the development of this plan. The MIC is preparing to release the draft for an official 30-day public comment period that's tentatively scheduled to begin on June 1, 2010. The date of release will depend largely on feedback received from FHWA between now and then. The MIC staff requests that all TAC and MIC members take the opportunity to review the draft plan and provide input back to the staff before the June 1<sup>st</sup> date.

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

### 6. HARBOR PLANNING UPDATE

Staff from the Detroit office of the Army Corps of Engineers has organized a meeting on May 12-13 at the Lake Superior Maritime Visitor Center to discuss a long list of Duluth-Superior harbor topics. MIC staff and HTAC members have been invited to update meeting participants on a

number of issues. I would like to update the TAC and MIC on the following topics that are scheduled to be discussed: Dredged material Management Plan (DMMP), Great Lakes Dredging Team, sediment testing in the harbor, potential in-water placement sites for dredged materials, Hearing Island Inlet, federal funding of contaminated sediment remediation, Harbor Partnering Agreement, Erie Pier operations, legal analysis of dredged material management issues, pilot project of mineland reclamation using Erie Pier dredged materials, and using biosolids for mineland reclamation.

Please contact Andy McDonald at [amcdonald@ardc.org](mailto:amcdonald@ardc.org) or (218) 529-7514 for comments or questions.

### 7. BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLANNING UPDATE

Information will be presented on the following two initiatives that are currently underway:

#### **Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)**

The next BPAC meeting will be held in late May, including the new voting members of the committee. This first meeting with the voting members will include a background and overview of the BPAC's work as well as setting the direction of the BPAC for 2010.

#### **Bike to Work Day**

MIC staff is coordinating Bike to Work Day events for 2010. A number of events are being planned this year, including a "Just Bike" event on May 20th at Bayfront Park during the American League of Bicyclists National Bike to Work Week. In addition, the MIC is coordinating a Bike to Work Morning Commuter Break event for Duluth and Superior. Each event will take place on Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:30am to 8:30am. The Duluth event will take place at Minnesota Power Plaza at Lake Ave and Superior Street and the Superior event will take place at Belknap and Tower. At these events there will be bicycle commuter information, safety checks and refreshments. As details come together, staff will update members and the community through e-mail as well as on the MIC website. Please contact James Gittemeier at [jgittemeier@ardc.org](mailto:jgittemeier@ardc.org) or (218) 529-7556 for comments or questions.

### 8. Project Updates

#### **Public Involvement / Social Media Consultant, Rondi Watson**

We are looking to expand our use of online interactive techniques to make our plans and programs more accessible to a wider audience in our public participation efforts. Several web-based resources (e.g., social networking tools such as blogs, Facebook, and Twitter) appear to have the potential to complement our traditional public participation efforts (e.g., dsmic.org website, print ads, press releases, in-person public meetings, etc.).

However, before launching any new initiatives, we want to better understand what the full range of communications and social media options might be, and how to effectively shape and target our messages to improve the number and the quality of the responses we receive. Therefore, we have hired a social media and marketing consultant ([PureDriven](#) from Two Harbors, MN) to

assist us in developing an overall communications plan to enhance our public participation efforts. MIC staff will be participating in the first of two strategic planning sessions on May 12 at America's Byways Resource Center, facilitated by Christopher Swanson and Patrick Garmoe of PureDriven. We will keep you apprised of our progress on this new initiative.

### **Connecting Duluth, *James Gittemeier***

Over the last 3 weeks, six public meetings have been held in locations across the city to discuss bike routes. The meetings were put on by Fit City Duluth, the MIC, and the City of Duluth and sponsored by LISC. At these meetings the public was asked about what transportation routes they currently use to bicycle, which routes would they use if they were safer and to provide addition input on bicycle in Duluth. The data from these interactive work sessions will be compiled and put into a report. This report will be presented at a TAC and MIC meeting this summer, and will help guide the update of the bike route maps, as well as future bicycle initiatives, plans & studies.

### **TIGER II Grant Application, *Ron Chicka***

A second phase of the TIGER Discretionary Grants "TIGER II" was recently announced by the USDOT. It is a \$600 million competitive grant process for surface transportation projects targeted for capital investments in highway or bridge projects, public transportation projects, passenger and freight rail projects, port and infrastructure investments and intermodal facilities. Final applications are due in August. In the last round of the TIGER grant process, MNDOT and the Port authority had put together a project involving improvements to I-35 and roadways and facilities the near the Port offices. All jurisdictions that may consider a project have been or are being alerted.

### **Blatnik and Bong Bridge Study, *Ron Chicka***

The consultant team has been regularly meeting with DOT and MIC staff to provide an update of tasks conducted. A large- and small-scale model for traffic in the area has been assembled and run to determine impact on the network if the Bong has to be fully closed over the 2014 construction season. Specific intersections are under analysis to determine traffic needs under this scenario. If results are available by the TAC and MIC meeting dates, we will update the committees accordingly. A more detailed analysis will be presented to the Boards in the summer.