

Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) Meeting
Beaver Bay City Hall – Thursday, October 13, 2016
Project Update Handout

RTAC Planning Project Updates

North Shore Scenic Drive (NSSD) Council Planning

- The Byway Council has continued to work on the NSSD Interactive Map Tour, receiving partial funding from the MN Lake Superior Coastal Program as a way to showcase all the wayside stops along the Byway.
- Recently completed projects include an integrity study for Hovland Dock and an ADA dual viewfinder at Taconite Harbor.
- Continue presence on Facebook as a way to promote the Byway.
- Formulate a strategy to raise funds for future Council activities.



Superior National Forest Scenic Byway (SNFSB) Council Planning

- The Byway Council continues to actively pursue a local match for the TAP awarded Skibo Vista project.
- City of Hoyt Lakes allocated \$10,000 into the budget towards the local match.
- The Council will seek the remaining \$11,000 by applying for an IRRRB Culture and Tourism Grant and a formal request from the East Range Joint Powers Board (ERJPB).
- Formulate a strategy to raise funds for future Council activities.

Safe Routes to School Planning

- Planning efforts continuing at Duluth's Laura MacArthur Elementary and Moose Lake.
- Projects have begun in International Falls and Duluth's Piedmont Elementary as initial/kick-off meetings have been held.
- Planning will soon begin at Proctor, Coleraine, Esko, and Duluth's Marshall schools.



Lake Vermilion Trail Implementation

- Efforts to implement the Lake Vermilion Trail currently include the creation of a trail administrative structure and steps toward obtaining funding for trail construction.
- A joint powers agreement has been drafted based on steering committee input; the draft agreement will go through a legal review and then be presented to cities and townships.
- The National Park Service and ARDC have facilitated steering committee discussion inform an update of the Lake Vermilion Trail Master Plan.

Scanlon Community Corridor

- ARDC has submitted a proposal to the City of Cloquet to assist with implementation of the St. Louis River Trail Master Plan.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Counting

- Year two of ped/bike counting had taken place over the summer along the Gitchi-Gami Trail.
- Cross-year analysis will be performed with data collected in 2015, which will be beneficial to MnDOT, MnDNR, GGTA and others as a way to establish a basis for trail count accuracy.
- ARDC now hosts portable bike and pedestrian counting equipment that will be available for use by regional entities and partners.



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Other Transportation Projects/Activities

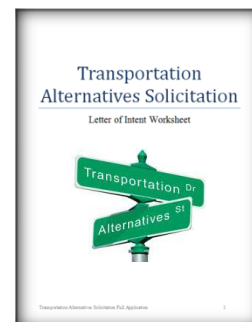
Fond du Lac Long-Range Transportation Plan

- ARDC is assisting the Fond du Lac (FDL) Reservation in an update of their Long-Range Transportation Plan which includes a Trails Plan component.
- Reviewed and evaluated the current plan recommendation/projects with FDL Planning staff.
- Public outreach was performed by attending a Community Health Fair and meeting with the Elders Concern Group to hear their concerns/issues and opportunities.
- Draft recommendations have been developed and will be reviewed by FDL, St. Louis and Carlton Counties, MnDOT, and City of Cloquet for initial comments.
- A public hearing will be held sometime in December.



Transportation Alternatives (TA) Solicitation

- The TA solicitation opened on September 30th with a call for Letters of Intent (LOI).
- TA Workshop was held in Duluth on October 4th.
- LOI will need to be submitted on October 31st and final applications are due January 13th, 2017.
- \$900,000 is available in the region. Minimum and maximum requests are \$100,000 and \$600,000 respectively.
- A 20% local match is required.



Local Transit Coordination Plan

- ARDC was awarded \$26,000 to start work on the Human Services Local Transit Coordination Plan, which was last updated in 2011.
- Plan will address and assess available services that identify current transportation providers, and transportation needs for individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes.
- Strategies, activities, and/or projects will be identified to address gaps between current services and needs, as well as opportunities to improve efficiencies in services delivery, with implementation priorities.
- The plan will be completed by June 30, 2017.