



Improvin' Movin' in the Arrowhead

Spring 2010

"Working to guide transportation decisions in Northeast Minnesota"

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Next RTAC Meeting

The next RTAC meeting will be on April 8th at the Hermantown Public Safety Building, 5131 Maple Grove Rd. Lunch will be provided at noon with the meeting immediately following.

The agenda will include:

- Project Updates
- In-Kind Grant Program
- Enhancements Recommendations



Next MEETING DATE AND LOCATION:

April 8th at the Hermantown Public Safety Building
5131 Maple Grove Road, Hermantown

In-kind Project Updates

⇒ Mountain Iron Non-Motorized Trails Plan

In the fall of 2009 the Mountain Iron Safe Routes to School and Trails Plan were combined into one project, under the guidance of Josh Bergstad, Senior Planner. In October, a pedestrian facilities and traffic survey of the areas around the elementary and high school had been completed. The data has been analyzed and maps are be created to show student density and transportation routes. A Steering Committee is being formed and a meeting is scheduled for April. The project is on schedule and expected to be completed by June 2010.

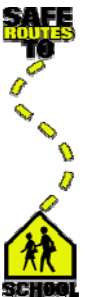
⇒ Big Falls Trails Plan

ARDC is in the process of drafting the Big Falls Trails Plan. The purpose of the Big Falls Trails Plan is to connect people safely to places in the community without having to rely on motorized transportation. Bryan Anderson has been working on this project. Several meetings have been held and suggestions have been presented. This project is expected to be completed by June 2010.

⇒ Moose Lake Safe Routes to School Community Assessment

The Cook County Board of Directors voted on March 16th to postpone work on the Cook County State-Aid Non-Motorized Priority Planning project. Very little ARDC time has been spent on the project to date. This project was granted \$8,000 of in-kind planning time by the RTAC last June. The RTAC voted on March 23rd to drop the project from the 2010 RTAC in-kind grant program and replace it with the Moose Lake Safe Routes to School Community Assessment project.

The Moose Lake Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Community Assessment will assess the current environment around the Moose Lake Community and identify issues and perceived barriers preventing students from walking and bicycling to and from school. The Assessment will include mapping student population density,



surveying parents and students, and develop low-cost infrastructure and non-infrastructure project recommendations that will improve the safety of children walking or biking to and from school.

Recommended low-cost infrastructure projects will likely include items such as identifying locations for school zone signage, crosswalk striping and installing school bike racks. Recommended non-infrastructure projects will address safety concerns for students biking and walking to school through community outreach and organized programs/events that focus on education/encouragement (e.g., bike rodeo). The timeframe for the project will be three months.

Greater Minnesota Transit Investment Plan

The State is currently undertaking the development of the Greater Minnesota Transit Investment Plan as required by state legislature. The RDCs in Minnesota have been assisting the State's Office of Transit by providing planning and technical support during the plan development. ARDC has been doing market research and data collection for the northeast region. In March Bryan Anderson will be working with a focus group to identify additional transportation issues. This project will be completed in the fall 2010.

FY 2011 In-Kind Grant Program

Please keep projects in mind that will qualify for the RTAC Planning Grant. The RTAC grant solicitation will begin in April and project applications will be discussed at the June RTAC meeting. There will be approximately \$25,000 available this year for local planning initiatives. If you are aware of a local entity interested in applying please have them contact Bryan Anderson to discuss their project.

Eligible Entities

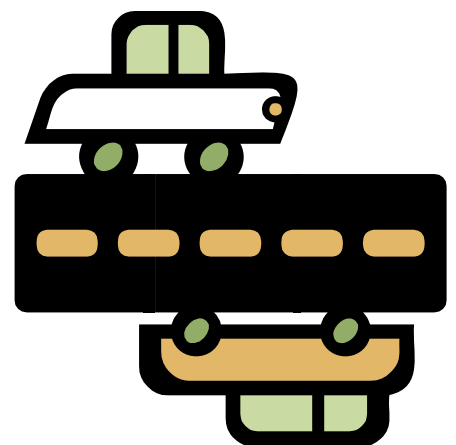
All state and local agencies and governments within the seven-county Arrowhead Region are eligible to apply. Entity eligibility will mirror the Area Transportation Partnership Enhancement guidelines.

Eligible Projects

The RTAC in-kind grant program is available for transportation planning.

Examples include:

- Parking capacity studies
- Highway or railroad corridor safety studies
- Access management planning
- Bike trail or bike route planning
- Pedestrian safety studies
- Enhancement project preparation
- Local road plans
- Transportation/land use interaction plans
- Safe Routes to School Plans/Community walkability assessments



Enhancements Projects for 2014

The Enhancement Task Force met on February 3rd to review and rank 11 Enhancement applications requesting 2014 funding. The Task Force made the following recommendations:

Location	Project Name	Amount Requested	Local Match	Project Total	Project Type
Duluth	Munger Trail to Lakewalk Connection Phase III—extending the Munger Trail for .7 miles.	\$500,000	\$200,000	\$700,000	Bike/ Ped Trail
Beaver Bay	Beaver Bay Trailhead—construction of a trailhead facility, entrance & exit improvements, parking, information and trail access.	\$400,000	\$100,000	\$500,000	Bike/Ped Facility
NE MN	HelmetHero Bicycle Education-continues the project into its 3rd year, educating and providing helmet to 1,900 students	\$57,494	\$14,374	\$71,686	Bike/Ped Education
Ely	Ely Trezona (Mesabi) Trail Connection-provides access to key destinations in the city of Ely and connection to the Mesabi Trail	\$149,040	\$37,260	\$186,300	Bike/Ped Trail
International Falls	International Falls Area Gateway Corridor Improvement Project—Improvement to the Hwy 53/11 corridor with lighting, landscaping, way-finding signs, trail construction.	\$500,000	\$125,000	\$615,000	Bike/Ped/Trail/ Streetscape
	TOTAL	\$1,606,534	\$476,634	\$2,083,168	



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