Megaregion Definition: Networks of metro areas that share economic, environmental and cultural features, as well as infrastructure and geographic connections.
Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council (MIC)

25% of all freight trains; 50% all intermodal trains thru Chicago
30,000 Truck s counts per day
Air Cargo hub
Only Direct maritime connect between Great Lakes and Mississippi River

Ron Chicka
Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council
Great Lakes shipping has enormous capacity to move additional freight compared to congested roads and rail.
CN Rail Line moves a large amount of freight from Prince Rupert, British Columbia to Chicago and Memphis.
Wind Turbine Components

- Most components manufactured overseas arrives by ship and leaves by truck
- Some components manufactured in North Dakota bound for Europe
Federal FASTLANE Application

Duluth-Superior Port Infrastructure Investment

* 2017: CN’s newest U.S. facility transfers containers between rail cars and trucks.
* Connects the port to three coasts—Atlantic, Pacific and the Gulf of Mexico—via CN’s rail network.

CN Intermodal Container Terminal

Ron Chicka
Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council
Duluth-Superior Port Transportation Assets

- Largest Great Lakes port by tonnage – 35 million tons of cargo/year
- 1,000 vessel visits/year
- 4 Class 1 railroads
- 3 major highway systems
- 30 trucking companies and logistics providers
- >$2 billion in multimodal freight moved annually

Harbor Technical Advisory Committee (HTAC)

"Imagine…a committee that actually gets work done”

- Adolf Ojard, Duluth Seaway Port Authority

Ron Chicka
Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council
HTAC Members

Stakeholders from:

- Government
- Natural Resources

“Working Port” Operations

Government
- Cities of Duluth & Superior
- St. Louis & Douglas County
- MnDOT, WisDOT
- Duluth Seaway Port Authority
- WLSSD
- US Coast Guard
- US Army Corps of Engineers

Natural Resources
- MnDNR, WisDNR
- MPCA
- MN and WI Sea Grant Programs
- US Fish & Wildlife Service
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- St. Louis River Alliance
- Save Lake Superior Assoc.
- Izaak Walton League

“Working Port”
- Shipping/docks
- Dredging
- Pilot & harbor services
- Cargo/warehousing
- Iron ore
- Grain
- Coal
- Rail
- Marinas/Recreation

HTAC Diverse Issues

- Public Interest
- Private Business
- Multimodal Freight
- Habitat Preservation/Restoration
- Regulatory Oversight–Maritime
- Regulatory Oversight–Environmental
- Infrastructure Investments
- Scientific Research
- Economic Development
- Tourism / Recreation
- Legislative Initiatives
- Citizen Advocacy

“Silos” of separate and competing interests?

Ron Chicka
Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council
HTAC as a Model for Stakeholder Collaboration

- MIC (MPO) provides a setting for multiple stakeholders to address port- and harbor-related issues
- To promote the harbor’s economic and environmental importance to the region

HTAC

“...a committee that actually gets work done”

Subcommittees (Working Groups)
- Dredging
- Brownfield Redevelopment
- Duluth-Superior Port Land Use Plan
- Great Lakes Ports Advocacy
- Landside Port Access Study
- Navigation
- Open Water Mitigation

Ron Chicka
Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council
HTAC Members
Stakeholders
Government
Key Issues
• Land use and zoning
• Economic development
• Port security
• Inter-agency coordination
• Stakeholder participation

HTAC Members
Stakeholders
Harbor/Estuary Issues
• Environmental remediation
• Habitat restoration
• Legacy contamination
• Invasive species
• Public trust doctrine

Ron Chicka
Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council
HTAC Key Accomplishments

- Erie Pier Management Plan
- Duluth-Superior Port Land Use Plan
- Duluth-Superior Truck Route Study

Project Characteristics

- Inter-agency coordination
- Leverage multiple funding sources
- Spur new possibilities
- Encourage public-private partnerships

New Paradigm for Dredged Material Management

BEFORE
2003 Confined Disposal Facility

AFTER
2010 Processing and Reuse Facility
Duluth-Superior Port Land Use Plan

A guide for public and private development of lands and properties along the ‘working waterfront’ of the Duluth-Superior Port.

Future Land Use Map

A guide for Duluth and Superior to incorporate into their Comprehensive Plans, by:

• Prioritizing maritime uses for lands adjacent to the shipping channel;
• Maintaining industrial lands with road and rail access for compatible maritime uses;
• Retaining established commercial, residential, recreational and natural areas.
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<th>Duluth-Superior Port and Freight Planning</th>
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**Questions? Comments?**

**Ron Chicka**  
Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council