



Improvin' Movin' in the Arrowhead

March 2007 Volume 5, Issue 4

"Working to guide transportation decisions in Northeast Minnesota"

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The next meeting of the RTAC is scheduled for April 5, 2007, at 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM. The meeting will be held at the Hermantown Public Safety Building - 5111 Maple Grove Road, Hermantown, MN



Grand Lake Township Roads Plan

The Grand Lake Comprehensive Road Plan is proceeding. Background information has been collected and ARDC has begun inventorying township roads. Using GPS, exact road locations are being documented and is entered into a GIS database for the development of an accurate road map, a great township resource. While traveling

the roads, addressing the public, and having discussions with the Township officials the barriers and obstacles within the community have been identified and recommendations will soon be developed.

For more information contact Ben at bvantassel@ardc.org or 218-529-7513.

International Falls Gateway

The International Falls Gateway Corridor Task Force is making progress. The group has finished a physical review of the corridor and fully developed the list of issues to address. Now the group is reviewing a draft document, which lists recommendations. These recommendations include actions steps that will be recommended to the City of International Falls and Koochiching County. The most prevalent recommendation is a design project for the corridor.

design project will include hiring a landscape architect to develop design drawings for road design, building and signage designs, and also the development of a welcome area that will greatly enhance the Gateway Corridor. This design project would need more funding which is yet to be determined. The group is currently discussing the current recommendations, which will determine the next steps and future of the project.

For more information contact Ben at bvantassel@ardc.org or 218-529-7513.

NE MN Active Living Community Vision Assessment and Engagement

The Assessment phase of this Project kicks off at the end of the month in six pilot communities. These communities are: Grand Marais, Grand Portage, Silver Bay, Hibbing, Fond du Lac, and Northeast corner of Carlton County. ARDC and Northeast Minnesota Obesity Prevention Project (NEMOPP) will survey community members to assess the attitudes and perceptions towards active living during daily routines. The assessment will also include key informant interviews with city

administrators and Tribal Councils, school administrators, large employers, and community groups leaders. The interviews will assist ARDC and NEMOPP in evaluating the current environment, policies, and practices related to active living.

The results from the assessment will be used during the second phase of engagement.

For more information contact Ellen Pillsbury at epillsbury@ardc.org or 218-529-7554.

RTAC Planning Grant

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.

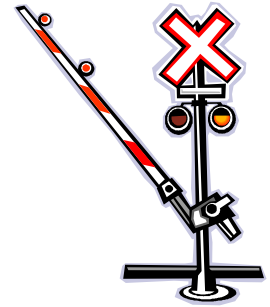
Eligible Projects

The RTAC in-kind grant program is available for transportation planning. "Transportation" is defined similar

to the federal eligibility guidelines.

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 indexes



For more information contact Bryan at banderson@ardc.org or 218-529-7529.

New ARDC GIS Specialist



Kara Kent grew up in central and eastern Wisconsin and started pursuing her Bachelor's Degree at UW-Stevens Point. After moving to Green Bay she started the Microcomputer Specialist program and received her Associate's Degree in Computer Science. She

worked for the local phone company in technical support and data training.

Presently, Kara moved to the area to finish her Bachelor's Degree at UW-Superior with a major in Aquatic Biology and minor in Geographical Information Systems. Kara started as an intern in July 2006 and was hired permanently in January 2007 as the GIS Specialist for the Regional Planning Division.

Please feel free to contact Kara at kkent@ardc.org or 218-529-7539 with any GIS questions.

Mn/DOT Outreach Meeting

Mn/DOT is hosting an outreach meeting between the ATP and RTAC meeting on April 5th. The purpose of this meeting is to:

- Give new Mn/DOT leadership opportunity to meet and greet both District staff leadership as well as local officials/stakeholders;
- Provide staff and stakeholders an overview of Mn/DOT 10 year investment plans and priorities given current revenue outlook, cost trends, performance trends;
- and Listen to interests and concerns of stakeholders.

For more information contact Denny Johnson with Mn/DOT at denny.johnson@dot.state.mn.us 218-725-2794.



Improv'n' Movin' is a quarterly publication of the Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC). For more information, please contact:
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