



Duluth I-35 : Community Access Revitalization Study

City of Duluth, Minnesota 2023 RCN Planning Grant Request

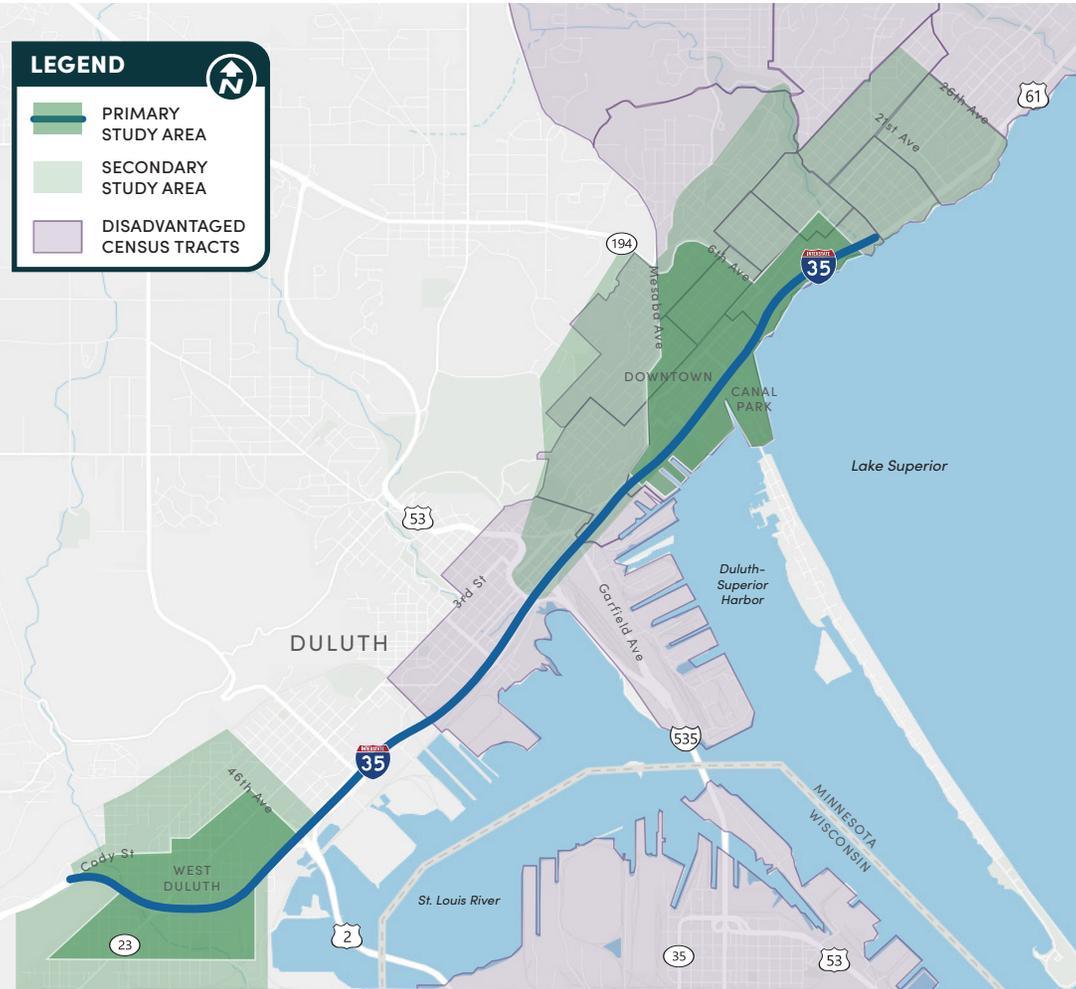
A \$1.8 million RCN Planning Grant will foster a community-led vision for purposeful transportation connections within the City of Duluth's neighborhoods and economic districts most divided by the I-35 corridor. Within the study areas, I-35 currently obstructs access between historically underserved populations, core business districts and job centers, health services, and vast recreational and natural resources that draw millions of tourists to Duluth's Lake Superior shore each year.

KEY STUDY GOALS

As I-35 gateways to the City of Duluth, Downtown and West Duluth have similar goals to revitalize community connectivity.

- » A vision for removing the physical and psychological transportation barriers at neighborhood and regional levels, particularly for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit access.
- » An environment that supports both neighborhood and regional economic development goals and encourages continued public/private partnerships, particularly for small and BIPOC owned businesses.
- » A guide for the transportation system community livability needs including:
 - Desired housing and public space.
 - Multimodal neighborhood connectivity.
 - Transit access investments, particularly for Bus Rapid Transit.
- » Smart City and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) improvements, with a focus on right-sized infrastructure that can support the nearly 7 million tourists that travel to Duluth each year.
- » Implement the partner's Climate Action & Resiliency Plan goals.

STUDY AREA



LEGEND

- PRIMARY STUDY AREA
- SECONDARY STUDY AREA
- DISADVANTAGED CENSUS TRACTS

STUDY AREA STATS

- Federally recognized areas of persistent poverty
- 16% are without vehicle access
- 15% BIPOC residents
- 14 regional transit routes
- 39% cost-burdened households

* census tracts with poverty rate of at least 20% measured by the 2014-2018 American Community Survey. The study area exceeds that with 40% of incomes less than 185% of the federal poverty threshold. Statistics source: American Community Survey.

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