



# Twin Ports Interchange Reconstruction Project Monthly Update

September 24, 2018

# Purpose of project

- Enhance safety by eliminating blind merges and left exits
  - Moving left exits to the right
  - Relocating merges
- Replace aging infrastructure
  - Reconstructing weight restricted and non-redundant bridges
  - Reduces maintenance and closures
  - Eliminates some bridge structure
- Improve freight mobility
  - Allow oversize/overweight freight on the Interstate
- ***Create Community Connections***

- Community Connections discussion (now)
- Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and findings (October)
- 2019 Project components
- Full project completion

# Community Connections

- What we have heard-
  - The western part of Duluth feels slighted – type of freeway design
  - Do not like “back door” access to Lincoln Park
  - Prefer direct connections to and from I-35
  - Community connection (between Lincoln Park and Canal Park area is very important)
  - Bikes and pedestrians are important
  - Would like water access

# Project constraints

- Several good ideas that have been determined to not be feasible:
  - Ramp from I-35 directly to Lincoln Park
  - Direct ramp connection to 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue W
  - Interchange at I-35 and Garfield
  - Placing roadway underground (tunnels)
  - Providing direct access to the St. Louis River

# Community Connections Brainstorming

## Adam Fulton – City of Duluth Planning

- What are community connections
- Boundaries to be evaluated (project limits)
  - I-35 from 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue W to 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue W
  - Michigan Street to 3<sup>rd</sup> Street
- Discussion process:
  - Big picture questions:
    - What do we hope to accomplish?
    - Why are proposed solutions important for the neighborhood?
  - Community mobility: by car, by bicycle, by foot, by other modes
  - Environmental attributes: ecological, recreational, aesthetics

# Community Connections Brainstorming

## Adam Fulton – City of Duluth Planning

### Lincoln Park SAP

- Courtland Street (now determined infeasible)
- Parking & impr
- Improvements
- Safety improve

**S3. Seek to ensure that reconstruction of the Twin Ports Interchange at US Hwy 53 and Interstate 35 meets the competing needs of freight transportation, safety, and neighborhood connectivity and improvements, particularly in Lincoln Park.**

**DULUTH20**  
FORWARD TOGETHER

A ULI Advisor

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# Mobility – car based



## Imagine Duluth 2035 - Cars

- Courtland Street (now determined infeasible)
- Parking & improvements below freeway areas
- Improvements for freight traffic in neighborhood
- Safety improvements along Cross City Trail

# Mobility – bicycle based



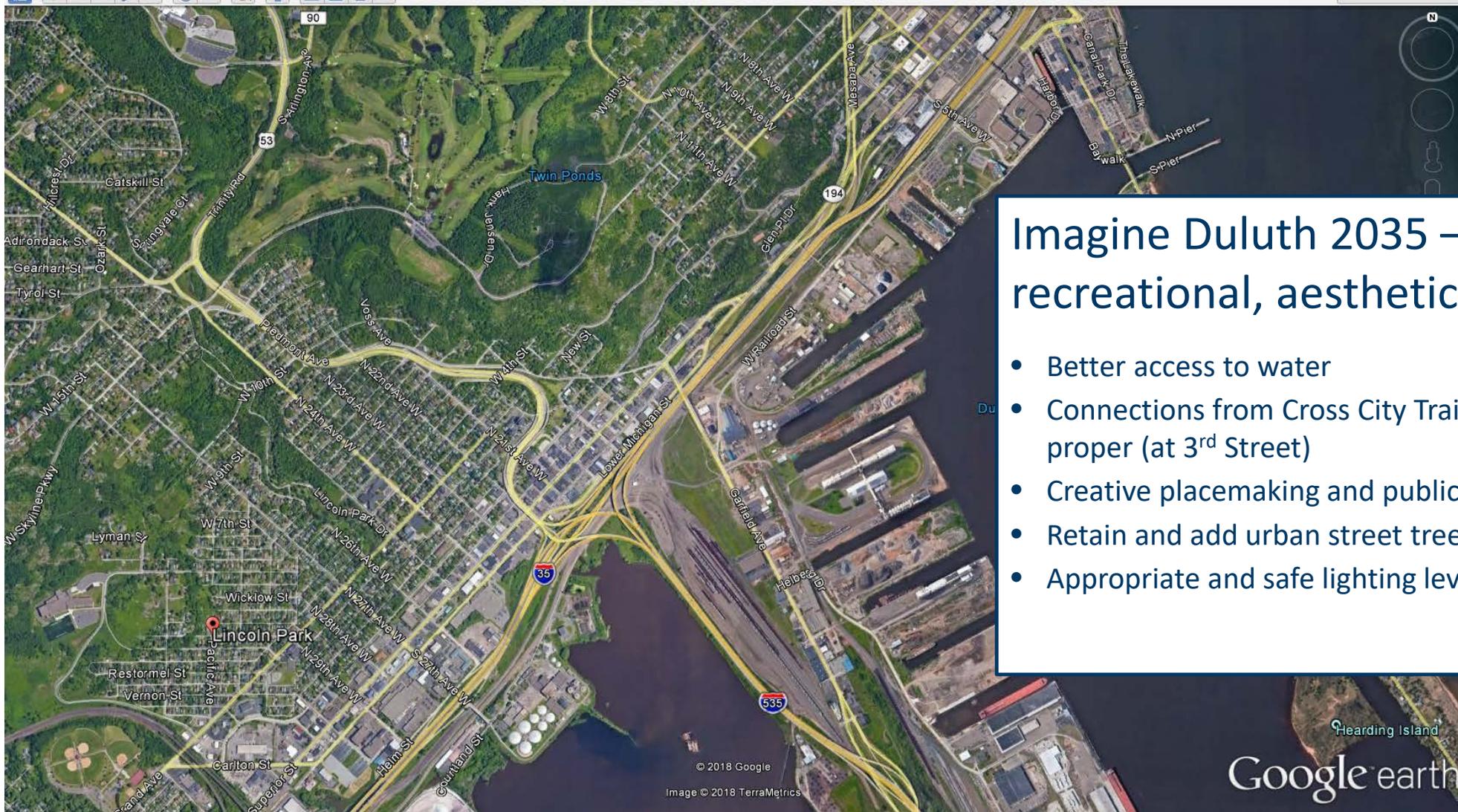
- ### Imagine Duluth 2035 – bicycles
- Street design to include bike lanes
  - Addition of bike parking areas
  - Routes (example: Railroad Street to Michigan on Cross City Trail, including bridge over I-35)
  - Improve safety of bike route street crossings
  - Consider options for separated, protected bike routes (whether on-street or trails)

# Mobility – pedestrian or other modes



- Imagine Duluth 2035 – pedestrians and other modes
- Implement ADA transition plan
  - Safer streets / with green infrastructure
  - Bus stop improvements
  - Improvements for freight traffic in neighborhood
  - Safety improvements along Cross City Trail

# Environmental attributes



## Imagine Duluth 2035 – ecological, recreational, aesthetic

- Better access to water
- Connections from Cross City Trail to Lincoln Park proper (at 3<sup>rd</sup> Street)
- Creative placemaking and public art
- Retain and add urban street trees
- Appropriate and safe lighting levels

# Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, October 22, 2018
  - Formal Public Hearing on EAW
  - Clyde Iron
  - 5:30-6:30 Open House
  - 6:30 pm Presentation and Comments
- October 4, Advisory Committee
- Week of October 15 – Visual Quality Committee

- Next Public Informational Meeting
  - Monday, November 26
  - 11:30-12:30
  - 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Same meeting at both times

Clyde Iron

2920 West Superior Street

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d1/projects/twin-ports-interchange/index.html> or Google Twin Ports Interchange

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