

MIC Director Nominated for Freight Systems Panel

(Duluth, MN) 4.2010

Ron Chicka, Director of the Metropolitan Interstate Council (MIC) has been nominated by staff at University of MN Duluth and the Great Lakes Maritime Research Institute (GLMRI) to be a panel member for a project sponsored by the National Cooperative Freight Research Program via the Transportation Research Board. The project is entitled "Great Lakes Region Impacts on the Intermodal Freight System." Panel members have backgrounds in multimodal transportation in the public and private sectors. The purpose of the 12-18 month process will be to oversee the \$300,000 project which is funded out of the research arm of the federal transportation bill. The full scope of the proposed research is to be determined; however it will describe the current state of freight movements in the Upper Midwest and identify needs and solutions toward raising the profile of freight performance in the region, with a particular emphasis on enhancing maritime transportation. The first task as a panel member will be to select the lead consultant that is anticipated to be completed by July.