

## ***Attend the 2010 MWITE Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, even if...***

*... you can't drive 65 mph through two feet of snow during a raging blizzard without flinching.  
... you don't think ketchup is a little too spicy.  
... your local Dairy Queen isn't closed from November through March.  
... you've not worn shorts and a parka at the same time.  
..."Down South" to you does not means Iowa.  
...you didn't know that the four major food groups are Schell's Beer, walleye, lefse and venison.  
...you can't claim baseball MVP Joe Mauer, Olympic skier Lindsey Vonn, Rock 'n Roll Hall of Famer Prince, and, of course, Vikings Quarterback Brett Favre as hometown heroes!*

Even if you're not Minnesotan, the North Central Section of ITE invites you "Up North" for part of your summer! Come and experience a few days (and nights) of "Minnesota Nice"! The **2010 Midwestern ITE District Annual Meeting** is being held in **Downtown Minneapolis** from **Sunday, June 27 through Tuesday, June 29, 2010**.

The site of the meeting will be the **Minneapolis Marriott Depot Hotel**. For nearly seven decades, the Depot has stood as a monument to the classic travel experience. The Depot now boasts an award-winning hotel, a full service bar and restaurant, a variety of unique banquet and meeting spaces, heated underground parking, and an enclosed seasonal pool and ice rink. The Depot has served to spark the revitalization movement of Minneapolis' Riverfront District.

Our conference hotel is located within walking distance of the reconstructed I-35W Bridge, the Hiawatha Light Rail, downtown shopping and dining, bustling Warehouse entertainment district, the Mill City Museum, the Guthrie Theatre and both the Metrodome and Target Field -- new outdoor ballpark of the Minnesota Twins.

Our conference theme "**Building For Tomorrow**" will highlight the impacts of recent stimulus funding of infrastructure projects, multi-agency comprehensive traffic safety plans, complete streets, one-way to two-way street conversions, bike facilities, ITS and traffic management projects. We are also planning **Technical Tours** of the new Northstar Commuter Rail line, Urban Partnership Agreement (UPA) projects and Downtown Minneapolis walking tour. We will also offer a **Training Opportunity** on Tuesday afternoon. Our **Exhibitor Area** will host a variety of vendors eager to show you what's new in traffic and transportation products and services.

Our keynote speaker is **James F. Charlier, AICP**. Jim is a nationally recognized transportation planning professional with over three decades of experience in local, regional and statewide settings across the country. He has provided transportation planning services to clients throughout the United States and is a frequent speaker, lecturer and facilitator on urban transportation planning challenges and opportunities. Jim is a certified planner (AICP) and is active in the Congress for New Urbanism, the Urban Land Institute, the American Planning Association and the Institute of Transportation Engineers. Jim will share his thoughts on Complete Streets and Context-Sensitive Solutions.

On Monday afternoon, we will host the **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual MWITE Traffic Bowl**. A full slate of teams representing university student chapters from throughout the district will vie for the MWITE Traffic Bowl crown, with the winning team moving on to represent our district at the International Traffic Bowl Competition in Vancouver this August. Come cheer on your team while you enjoy social hour refreshments.

On Tuesday, we invite you to stay and join us as we attend the **Minnesota Twins vs. Detroit Tigers** baseball game at the new Target Field ballpark. (NOTE: We have secured a limited block of seats for this sellout game. Register early for this event!) We will also host a **Pre-game Tailgate Party** near the hotel prior to the game.

So join us in Minneapolis this June, as we enjoy the surroundings of transportation past while we discuss, learn and discern issues of transportation future. Watch for additional registration information found elsewhere in this issue, and sent to you via e-mail. **Register by June for the best rates!**

P.S...Keep up with us on our **Facebook** and **LinkedIn** group pages. We'll be posting the latest news and information in the lead-up to the meeting. Also, feel free to post questions or comments regarding the meeting and events. Link to us under "**Midwestern ITE District 2010 Annual Meeting**".