



DMI Leadership Report – January 2022

From Jason Ilstrup, DMI President

Creating Connections and Community:

- Through DMI's work on the Friends of the Nolen Waterfront Board, we continue to advocate for a vibrant, accessible, and equitable Lake Monona Waterfront. DMI both sits as an executive member of the Board and provides administrative assistance for the Friends group. In 2022, the City, with the help of the Friends, will launch a design challenge to find bold and visionary ways to better connect the downtown, east and south sides to the waterfront.
- DMI hosted several virtual, in person and hybrid meetings in December including an annual DMI review at our monthly What's Up Downtown Breakfast. With our partners at Michael Best, we co-hosted an event on Navigating Vaccination Mandates and Policies. Lastly, we hosted our New Faces, New Places at the top of State Street in conjunction with the Madison's Central Business Improvement District's Night Market.
- DMI continues working on our new strategic plan. In January, we are sending out a survey to our members and partners to help guide the future of the organization.

Economic Development:

- The Economic Development Committee heard a presentation and held a discussion with Deputy Mayor Christie Baumel and the City's Sustainability and Resiliency Manager Jessica Price on the City's potential new building energy strategies.

Challenge Committee:

- The Challenge Committee continues to plan for 2022's work on the strategic plan and the new Civic Engagement Agenda. The Chair and Vice Chair met with the Inclusiveness Committee.

Membership Development:

- The Membership Development Committee hosted their annual holiday get together at Cento.
- DMI welcomes several new members this month: VJS Construction Services, Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc., Middleton Chamber of Commerce, Chrysalis, Inc., and The Huntington National Bank. Welcome!

Transportation:

- The Transportation Committee will meet this week to recap 2021 and discuss the Committee's work in 2022.

Quality of Life:

- The Quality of Life Committee met and heard several partner updates including the BID, the Madison Police Department, and the various sub-committees. The Committee also heard an update from Susan Schmitz on the planning for a new purpose-built men's shelter.
- Peggy Gunderson and I participated in the final interviews for the new Madison Police Department State Street Neighborhood Officer. We're excited to work with Officer Enstrom as he begins his new duties.

Inclusiveness:

- The Inclusiveness Committee met and heard updates from several of their sub-committees including the jobs initiative team. The Committee also held a discussion with the Chairs of the Challenge Committee about how to work more together in 2022.
- The Beyond Compliance Task Force continues their work on creating an accessible building conference for later this year.

Government Relations:

- The Government Relations Committee is working on finding a new Chair for the Committee. We are very close to making an announcement.

For questions and more information, contact Jason Ilstrup, DMI President at 608-512-1330 or jilstrup@downtownmadison.org.