



DMI Director's Report – August 2022

From Jason Ilstrup, DMI President

Creating Connections and Community:

- DMI hosted several events this month including a What's Up Downtown Breakfast on the current and future states of transportation with the City of Madison Director of Transportation, Tom Lynch (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GnSnhAsr2wY&t=2s>); a Nosh at Noon at the [Hilton Garden Inn - Downtown Madison](#) featuring a discussion on the future of downtown public spaces with Tiffany Kenney, Ken Saiki, Eric Knepp and Aaron Williams; a New Faces, New Places at the new lounge at [Breese Stevens Field](#); and a New Member Coffee at [von Briesen](#).
- DMI Announced the date for this year's Annual Celebration, September 19 from 4:30 to 8p on the rooftop of the Monona Terrace. Please find registration information [here](#).

DMI Media Mentions:

- July 11 – NBC15 - [The Impact of Theft on Madison Businesses](#)
- July 18 – Wisconsin State Journal - [Madison's Most Controversial Project, Monona Terrace Turns 25](#)
- July 18 – NBC15 - [Monona Terrace Celebrates 25 Years, Boasts Economic Impact Downtown](#)
- July 23 – WISC Channel 3 – Live Interview from Monona Terrace 25 Anniversary Party
- July 25 – Wisconsin State Journal - [UW Shares 6 Million Concept to Dramatically Reimagine Library Mall](#)
- July 26 – WISC and Fox 47 - [State Street Businesses' Post-Pandemic Recovery Slowly Continues](#)
- August 2 – Wisconsin State Journal - [Madison Readies Isthmus Safety Initiative to Address Gun Violence, Sexual Assault](#)

DMI Presentations:

- Jason emceed part of the Monona Terrace's 25th anniversary celebration.
- Jason participated as a panelist in a Commercial Association of Realtors, Wisconsin (CARW) presentation on the state of downtown Madison with Heather Ewing and Tracy Johnson.
- Jason spoke to and toured this year's class of Leadership Greater Madison (LGM) on downtown and downtown safety.

Economic Development:

- The Economic Development Committee met in July and heard a presentation on construction supply chain and labor issues with John Tucker, Senior Preconstruction Manager, Findorff – (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GzbhcKlkjEU>)

Challenge Committee:

- The Challenge Committee met in July to review the new DMI strategic plan.

Membership Development:

- The Membership Development Committee met in August to discuss new members, ambassador assignments and the Annual Celebration.
- DMI welcomed several new members this month, including:

JAMAICAN FAIR TRADE LLC	Dave Bent	www.jamaicanfairtrade.com
Promega	Amy Schuch	www.promega.com
Leonard Auction & Appraisal	Laura Duguid	www.leonardauction.com
Preston Tokheim (resident)	Preston Tokheim	
Breese Terrace Group, LLC	Barry Perkel	
Festival Foods	Jake Donohue	https://www.festfoods.com/stores/madison
Designs to Thrive	Jane Nemke	www.designstothrive.com
Landlord Counsel LLC	Chan M. Stroman	www.landlordcounsel.com

Transportation:

- The Transportation Committee met in August to hear a presentation from the City of Madison’s Director of Transportation Tom Lynch on their plans for the Lake Street parking ramp/intra-city bus station project.

Quality of Life:

- The Quality of Life Committee met in July to discuss their sub-committee work. The Committee also heard a presentation from Emily Devore with the [Lakefront Porch on Wilson Street](#) project, a placemaking initiative to transform Crawley Station. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PkW6mSTNQv4>)
- The DMI University Relations Committee met and reviewed the new DMI strategic plan.
- The City of Madison Common Council formally approved the project plan for the Isthmus Safety Initiative, a project working to reduce gun crime and sexual violence downtown. DMI is a member of the steering committee and advisory committee.
- Jason continues to serve on the International Downtown Association (IDA) Public Policy Committee. As part of the Committee work, we’re analyzing ways to support more Federal funding for locally based grant programs, including Madison’s own Isthmus Safety Initiative.

Inclusiveness:

- The Inclusiveness Committee met in August and heard a presentation from Law Forward’s Nicole Safar on voting rights and diversity, equity and inclusion work.
- The Beyond Compliance Task Force and the DMI Inclusiveness Committee hosted the first Accessibility Design Forum on July 26th. Partnering with [Access to Independence](#), the [City of](#)

[Madison Department of Civil Rights](#), [AIA Wisconsin](#), [Ho-Chunk Gaming Madison](#), [Boardman Clark](#), and our main sponsor [CUNA Mutual](#), we hosted three virtual panels in the morning and a live happy hour after the event.

- Panel 1 – Understanding the Process:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=twSD6j83a_o&t=51s
- Panel 2 – The Value of Accessibility - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bBx8M-Ka-SQ>
- Panel 3 – Multi-family Housing with Universal Appeal -
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F8en_XvCxf&t=1s

Government Relations:

- The Government Relations Committee met in August, hosting a presentation and discussion with Crystal Potts, Director of State Relations for UW.

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