



DMI Director's Report – September 2022

From Jason Ilstrup, DMI President

Creating Connections and Community:

- DMI hosted several events this month including a New Faces, New Places at Wisconsin Housing Preservation Corporation (WHPC) and a What's Up Downtown Breakfast with Madison Police Department (MPD) Chief Shon Barnes (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xfy5N4xdXBA&t=771s>).
- DMI is hosting our Annual Celebration on September 19 from 4:30 to 8p. I hope you can join us on the rooftop of the Monona Terrace.
- The 2022 DMI State of the Downtown Report release and event are schedule for Wednesday, November 16 at 7:45a at the Edgewater Hotel.
- Jason was nominated for the international Downtown Association Board of Directors. His three-year term will begin at the IDA conference in September (<https://downtown.org/about-ida/>).
- DMI released two new Downtown Happenings Podcasts, sponsored by [American Family Insurance](#):
 - Lake Front Porch at Crowley Station with Emily DeVore - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g-wuZP-XuSg&t=116s>
 - Community Shares of Wisconsin with Cheri Dubiel - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jPMT6yMGaZo&t=10s>

DMI Media Mentions:

- September – Commonstate Magazine - [Bridging Cities: Jason Ilstrup, the President of Downtown Madison, Inc.](#)
- September 3 – WKOW - [Downtown Businesses Boom on Game Days](#)
- September 8 – Madison 365 - [Madison Common Council President, Vice President Disgusted at Alders Membership on Oath Keepers](#)

DMI Presentations:

- Jason emceed a part of the Wisconsin Latino Chamber of Commerce event at the Monona Terrace.
- Jason and Heather presented everything DMI and downtown Madison to M3's employees and leadership.
- Jason and Heather also presented a DMI/Downtown Madison update to the team at Northwestern Mutual Life.

Economic Development:

- The Regent Street Group is surveying property owners on Regent Street to see about their future property plans. This information will help inform the Group’s future work.

Challenge Committee:

- The Challenge Committee did not meet in August. They are continuing to assist with the DMI strategic plan.

Membership Development:

- DMI welcomed several new members this month. Welcome to DMI!

100 Black Men of Madison, Inc	Floyd Rose	https://www.100blackmenmadison.org/
Lithosphere LLC	Ashley Riha	
Madison Media Partners	Ross McDuffie	www.madisonmediapartners.com
Revive Restoration	Diana Decker	www.revivepros.com
Culex LLC	Taylor Lex	www.Culexrepairs.com
Sass Madison LLC	Kay Millonzi	
RE/MAX Preferred Commercial	Sarah Mohammed	https://linktr.ee/smohammedcommercial
Fetch Rewards	Allison Geyer	https://fetch.com

Transportation:

- The DMI Transportation Committee heard a presentation from the City of Madison Director of Transportation, Tom Lynch, on the City’s plan for the Lake Street parking ramps and intra-city bus terminal.
- The DMI Transportation Committee also met in September and heard updates from the Committee partners.

Quality of Life:

- The DMI Quality of Life Committee met in August and heard a presentation on Destination Madison’s work with Rob Gard, Director of Public Relations and Communications.
- The Safety Committee met in September and discussed downtown safety issues including hearing an update on the Isthmus Safety Initiative.
- The Homelessness Issues Committee met in August and discussed the request for proposal for the new men’s purpose-built shelter.

Inclusiveness:

- The Beyond Compliance Task Force met to discuss their future work. After running a successful Accessibility Design Forum, the Task Force wants to re-examine the DMI Downtown Accessibility Report to both find new work and update the document.

Government Relations:

- Jason travelled to Washington DC to meet with the International Downtown Association (IDA) Policy Committee. As a member of the Committee, Jason helped set IDA's new Federal advocacy agenda highlighted by working on homelessness issues, workforce housing, public safety, and economic development/placemaking. Jason visited with Sen. Ron Johnson, Sen. Baldwin's staff and Rep. Pocan's staff.

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