



DMI Director's Report – April 2023

From Jason Ilstrup, DMI President

Creating Connections and Community:

- DMI hosted several events including New Faces, New Places events at Maydm in March and Operation Fresh Start in April, a Behind the Scenes at the Madison Children's Museum, a Virtual Speed Networking Event, and a What's Up Downtown Breakfast with Dane County Executive, Joe Parisi.

DMI Media Mentions:

- March 10 – Isthmus - [A New Madison](#)
- March 16 – WMSN/WISC TV – [City considers pedestrian mall on part of State Street this summer](#)
- April 10 – NBC15 – [MPD: Argument over woman led to Madison shooting](#)

Economic Development:

- The Economic Development Committee met in March and heard a panel discussion on "How Madison and Downtown Can Best Support Growth and Recruitment." The panel included Katie Boyce with Exact Sciences, Carey Gehl with UW Health, and Katie Lee with Epic Systems.

Challenge Committee:

- The Challenge Committee did not meet in March.
- The leadership of the committee met to discuss the scope and mission of the committee moving forward.

Membership Development:

- The Membership Development Committee gathered for lunch at CIRC in The Madison Concourse Hotel & Governor's Club for their March meeting.
- DMI is excited to welcome several new members this month:
 - 1848 Construction, Inc. – 1848construction.com – contact: Sam Blahnik
 - American Heart Association – www.heart.org – contact: Nicole Hudzinski
 - JT Engineering, Inc. – www.jt-engineering.com – contact: Caleb Van Horn
 - Safe Harbor Child Advocacy Center – www.safeharborhelpskids.org – contact: Jennifer Ginsburg
 - Vegan Haven Central Inc. – contact: Cheryl Elkinton

Transportation:

- The Transportation Committee met in March and heard updates from Zia Brucaya with the Greater Madison MPO, Stefanie Cox with City of Madison Parking, Renee Callaway with City of Madison Traffic Engineering, and Helen Bradley with Madison BCycle.
- In April, the Transportation Committee met and heard a presentation from Chris Ott with the High Speed Rail Alliance - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rXIJso2Ozpw>.

Quality of Life:

- The Quality of Life Committee met in March and heard from Captain Michael Hanson and Lieutenant David Meinert with the Madison Police Department.

Inclusiveness:

- The Inclusiveness Committee did not meet in March.
- The Beyond Compliance Task Force continues their work with the City of Madison on how to assist Streatery users with their outdoor spaces.

Government Relations:

- DMI conducted endorsement interviews for the City of Madison Mayoral and Common Council races.
- The Government Relations Committee met in March to make candidate endorsement recommendations.
- The DMI Board of Directors endorsed candidates in the Mayoral and 18 Common Council races. The Mayoral and 14 Common Council races were won by DMI Board endorsed candidates.

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