



## DMI Director's Report – June 2023

From Jason Ilstrup, DMI President

### Creating Connections and Community:

- DMI hosted several events and committee meetings this month including our What's Up Downtown Breakfast. At the Breakfast, Anne Neujahr Morrison of New Year Investments and Larry Kilmer, II of the City of Madison, presented on planning for the future at the Community Development Authority (CDA) Triangle Properties. DMI also hosted a New Faces, New Places event at the recently renovated Madison Club in downtown.
- Jason attended the International Downtown Association Placemaking Conference and Board meeting in Minneapolis. The conference discussed several important placemaking themes including the essentials of placemaking, safety and the surprise/delight of placemaking. Several connections were made to other national and midwestern downtown organizations.
- Jason joined the Destination Madison Foundation Board of Directors.

### DMI Media Mentions:

- May 9 – TVW - [Appearance on Live it Up](#)
- May 14 – Wisconsin State Journal Editorial - [Our View: State selloff in Downtown Madison makes sense](#)
- May 17 – NBC 15 – Metro Transit Network Redesign and Downtown Madison
- May 18 – Wisconsin Business - [Madison Reading Project Read\(y\) to Wear Madison's most memorable fundraiser](#)

### Presentations:

- Heather and Jason presented a DMI and downtown update to Dupaco Credit Union.

### Economic Development:

- The Economic Development Committee hosted a panel discussion on economic development best practices from around the country. We welcomed leaders from Hartford, St. Paul and Tulsa to hear their thoughts and ideas for downtown vitality and economic strength.
- The Regent Street Group met in early June. At the meeting, the Group listened to updates on local development projects, heard a presentation on Tax Increment District (TID) 50's project plan with Matt Mikolajewski, City of Madison's Economic Development Division Director, and discussed potential projects for future amendments to the TID project plan.
- The Economic Development Committee hosted a Task Force to discuss ideas for a future RFP for the Brayton Lot (E. Washington and Butler).

### Challenge Committee:

- The Challenge Committee did not meet in May.

**Membership Development:**

- DMI welcomes several new members this month:

350 Wisconsin	Nikki Darga	<a href="http://www.350wisconsin.org">www.350wisconsin.org</a>
Gallatin Real Estate, LLC	Jon Kemman	<a href="http://www.gallatinre.com">www.gallatinre.com</a>
Guardian Whiskers Inc.	Michelle Livanos	<a href="http://www.guardianwhiskers.org">www.guardianwhiskers.org</a>
Ideal Builders	Beth Vander Meulen	<a href="https://idealbuilders.com/">https://idealbuilders.com/</a>
Macaroni KID Madison	Aaron Seligman	<a href="https://madisonwi.macaronikid.com/">https://madisonwi.macaronikid.com/</a>
RSM US LLP	Shari Kathe	<a href="http://www.rsmus.com">www.rsmus.com</a>
Special Olympics Wisconsin	Christin Ferrall	<a href="https://www.specialolympicswisconsin.org/">https://www.specialolympicswisconsin.org/</a>
Sun Prairie Chamber of Commerce	Christina Williams	<a href="http://www.sunprairiechamber.com">www.sunprairiechamber.com</a>
Wisconsin Environmental Initiative	John Imes	<a href="http://www.weigogreener.org">www.weigogreener.org</a>
Wisconsin Public Radio	Terri Hoberg McCarthy	<a href="http://www.wpr.org">www.wpr.org</a>

**Transportation:**

- At their May meeting, the Transportation Committee hosted a presentation on all future transportation projects downtown from Chris Petykowski with the City of Madison. The Committee also joined the Quality of Life Committee for a joint meeting to discuss Vision Zero and the Rave system during their June meeting. The intention was for all to attend the Lunch Time Live concert but then it poured rain suddenly.
- As a member of the Beltline Policy Advisory Committee, Jason attended their quarterly update meeting.
- As Chair of the Dane County Regional Airport Commission, Jason attended the ribbon-cutting for the new airport wing. The additional space includes more gates, business areas, a pet relief space and a kids’ area. Overall, the new space will allow for additional flights from more destinations.

**Quality of Life:**

- DMI, along with our partners from Catholic Charities, hosted our quarterly committee on homelessness. Dozens of local public and private leaders discussed their projects and how we can all work together.

**Inclusiveness:**

- The Beyond Compliance Task Force met to continue their work assisting the City with accessibility and the Streatery program. The Inclusiveness Committee did not meet.

**Government Relations:**

- The Government Relations Committee met in early June and heard a presentation on the Madison Metropolitan School District budget from Jason Stein, the Vice President and Research Director for the Wisconsin Policy Forum.

For questions and more information, contact Jason Ilstrup, DMI President at 608-512-1330 or [jilstrup@downtownmadison.org](mailto:jilstrup@downtownmadison.org).