



## DMI Director's Report – February 2024

From Jason Ilstrup, DMI President

### Creating Connections and Community:

- DMI recorded our January Advocacy Update with Madison Public Schools Foundation President Melinda Heinritz - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LhaEYUF4e7g&t=9s>.
- DMI recorded another episode of the Downtown Happening's podcast with Big Brothers, Big Sister's of Dane County's Tracy Anderson - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6KGIkUeHYAQ&t=15s>.
- DMI hosted several events in February including our first New Member Coffee of the year at von Briesen & Roper and a New Faces, New Places at the Adria apartment building. Both events were very well attended.

### DMI Media Mentions:

- January 10 – City of Madison - [Madison Housing Wins in 2023](#)
- February 1 – Isthmus - [Nate Helbach Is a Fresh Face in Madison's Development Scene with Big Ideas](#)
- February 7 – Badger Herald - [New Minnesota Statutes Are Shielding Students from Housing Woes. Can Madison Follow Suit?](#)

### Presentations:

- Jason presented a Downtown Madison update to the Madison Club Board of Directors.
- Jason and Heather presented a DMI and Downtown Madison update to the team at Epic.
- Jason presented a DMI and Downtown Madison update to the Rotary Breakfast Club.
- Jason presented a Downtown Madison update to the C4 networking group.

### Economic Development:

- The Economic Development Committee met in January to discuss the importance of connectivity (internet, travel, place, infrastructure, etc.) in Downtown Madison, what is the current status and future outlook.
- DMI, in partnership with Alder's Bennett and Govindarajan, hosted two meetings of the Student Affordable Housing Working Group. The Working Group is tasked by the City of Madison's Housing Strategy Committee to make recommendations to the City Council on ways to create more student affordable housing in Madison.
- The Regent Street Group met in January. The Group discussed area development updates, DMI's density project, a review of the Group's stated goals, and a review of a new SketchUp model of the corridor.

**Membership Development:**

- The DMI Membership Development Committee met in January at Breese Stevens Field to review last month's new members and discuss potential new members.
- DMI welcomed lots of new members:

Ayres Associates Inc	Keely Campbell	<a href="https://www.ayresassociates.com/">https://www.ayresassociates.com/</a>
Bike Parks for Kids Foundation	Lindsay Suttin	<a href="http://www.sarisfoundation.org">www.sarisfoundation.org</a>
Carnelian Art Gallery	Evan Bradbury	<a href="http://www.carnelianart.com">www.carnelianart.com</a>
Embassy Suites Madison	Michael Luehrs	<a href="http://www.raymondteam.com">www.raymondteam.com</a>
JD McCormick Properties	Colin Smith	<a href="https://jdmccormick.com/">https://jdmccormick.com/</a>
Kairos Coaching & Consulting, LLC	Josh Kosnick	<a href="http://www.joshkosnick.com">www.joshkosnick.com</a>
Kyle Wachter (Veridian Homes)	Kyle Wachter	<a href="https://veridianhomes.com/">https://veridianhomes.com/</a>
Madison Hospitality Consultants	Derek Morrison	<a href="http://www.madisonhospitalityconsultants.com">www.madisonhospitalityconsultants.com</a>
OPN Architects	Wesley Reynolds	<a href="http://www.opnarchitects.com">www.opnarchitects.com</a>
Perkins Coie	Maria Shay	<a href="http://www.perkinscoie.com">www.perkinscoie.com</a>
Quarles & Brady LLP	Bernard Frenzer	<a href="http://www.quarles.com">www.quarles.com</a>
ResTech Services	Dan Romens	<a href="http://www.restechservices.net">www.restechservices.net</a>
Rochelle Moaddel	Rochelle Moaddel	<a href="https://www.auctiontechnologygroup.com/">https://www.auctiontechnologygroup.com/</a>
Speditit Enterprise	Spencer Johnson	<a href="https://spedititenterprise.org/">https://spedititenterprise.org/</a>

**Transportation:**

- The Transportation Committee met in January to review their 2023 work and discuss their plans for 2024.

**Quality of Life:**

- The Quality of Life Committee heard a presentation on MMSD's (Madison Metropolitan School District) student and staff support: support for our students and families - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1xx7oW6Ddpc>.

**Inclusiveness:**

- The DMI Inclusiveness Committee met in January to discuss the new role of the Committee and the creation of the new IDEA series.
- The Beyond Compliance Task Force met and continued their work on the Streatery video project.

- DMI assisted in the hosting of the February meeting of the Madison Area Diversity Roundtable (MADR).

**Government Relations:**

- The DMI Government Relations Committee met with City of Madison 11<sup>th</sup> District Alder Bill Tishler.

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