



DMI Director’s Report – February 2025

From Jason Ilstrup, DMI President

Creating Connections and Community

- DMI hosted a New Member Coffee at von Briesen & Roper and a Behind the Scenes event at Metro Transit’s satellite facility on Hanson Road.
- The January DMI Advocacy Update featured Madison Police District Captain Angela Kamoske to discuss Downtown safety.
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sC14ppOgGMY>
- Jason participated in the Madison Metropolitan School District’s (MMSD) strategic planning group.

DMI Media Mentions:

- January 17 – Television Wisconsin - [Downtown Madison Update on Live It Up with Lee Acker](#)
- January 17 – WISC - [What's "Up" in Downtown Madison in 2025?](#)
- January 27 – Civic Media - [John and Gordy Show - Go in Back to Mad City](#)
- January 27 – WISC - [Coldplay, Morgan Wallen Concerts Expected to Bring "Big Money" for Madison Area](#)

Presentations:

- No presentations in February.

Economic Development:

- During the January Economic Development Committee meeting, the group heard a presentation on the 2024 State of the Downtown Report and then discussed the committee’s plans for 2025.
- DMI is actively working to create a Regent Street business association. The group will start to meet in February.

Membership Development:

- DMI welcomed several new members:

Alan Koa Salon	www.Alankoa.com
CJ & Associates	www.cjassociatesinc.com
Creative Business Interiors	https://creativebusinessinteriors.com/
Fortune Favors LLC	https://fortunefavorsnuts.com/

Journey Mental Health Center	https://www.journeymhc.org/
JPMorgan Chase	www.chase.com
MP-Squared Structural Engineers	https://mpsgrd.com/
Northwestern Mutual Southern Wisconsin	https://southernwi.nm.com
Vesta	https://vesta.cpa/

Transportation:

- In February, the DMI Transportation Committee will hear a presentation from WisDOT on their plans in the southwest region.

Quality of Life:

- The Quality of Life Committee’s January meeting included partner updates and a presentation on Porchlight Products with Drew Niedercorn, Director of Kitchen Programs for Porchlight.
- DMI hosted a discussion with major Beacon shelter stakeholders. Partners gave updates and discussed ways to work together. DMI also hosted a conversation with Jim O’Keefe from the City of Madison and the Cap East Business Association (CEBA)’s Board of Directors.

Beyond Compliance:

- The Beyond Compliance Sub-Committee met in February to discuss the Downtown Madison strategic visioning plan and prepare for their joint committee meeting on accessible affordable housing.

Government Relations:

- DMI’s Government Relations Committee continues to meet with City of Madison Alder candidates as part of DMI’s endorsement process.

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