



## DMI Director's Report – July 2025

From Jason Ilstrup, DMI President

### Creating Connections and Community

- DMI hosted several events this month including a New Faces, New Places at Tinsmith and a What's Up Downtown Breakfast at the Edgewater Hotel. The Breakfast included a panel discussion about the new Greater Downtown Economic Investment Strategy:
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6uiXMktZFTk&t=959s>
- Jason and Emily participated in Madison's Central Business Improvement District (BID) property walk. Jason also participated in the BID's crisis de-escalation workshop.
- The June Advocacy Update featured Chris Ott, Deputy Director of the High Speed Rail Alliance. Chris discussed both present and future passenger rail service in Wisconsin.
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NtWIRVPUeog>

### DMI Media Mentions:

- June 13 – CW - [Live It Up - Downtown Madison and Rotary Updates](#)
- June 13 – WMTV - [State Street Businesses, MPD Prepare for Large Crowds Ahead of 'No Kings' Protest](#)
- June 16 – Wisconsin State Journal - [Once Blighted, the 100 Block of State Street Is Being Revived](#)
- June 22 – Wisconsin State Journal - [Our View: Downtown Madison Gets Its Mojo Back](#)
- June 25 – Isthmus - [City Planners Unveil Designs for Top of State Street](#)
- June 27 – WMTV - [Regent Street Expected to See Economic Growth from Morgan Wallen Concerts This Weekend](#)
- June 27 – WMTV - [Regent Street Restaurant Prepares for Crowds Ahead of Morgan Wallen Concerts](#)
- July 3 – Isthmus - [Downtown Madison Fills Out](#)
- July 3 – Isthmus - [Scraping By](#)

### Presentations:

- Jason appeared in a promotional video for the Madison LakeWay project.
- Jason emceed the Madison Reading Project's Ready to Wear event.
- Jason attended and moderated a panel discussion connecting Madison, Milwaukee, and Green Bay. The event, hosted in Green Bay, included a panel discussion on economic development cooperation between the three regions.

### Economic Development:

- The Economic Development Committee heard a presentation from the Alliant Energy Center's Executive Director Kevin Scheibler on the future of the campus.

- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LGM\\_HFmCqhU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LGM_HFmCqhU)

### **Membership Development:**

- DMI welcomed several new members:

AMASIAN	<a href="https://www.amasian.life/">https://www.amasian.life/</a>
Gabriell Hamele, First Weber Realtors Inc.	<a href="https://gabriellhamele.firstweber.com/">https://gabriellhamele.firstweber.com/</a>
Klaas Financial Asset Advisors	<a href="https://klaasfinancial.com/">https://klaasfinancial.com/</a>
Marbury Hutchinson	<a href="https://www.marburyhutchinson.com">https://www.marburyhutchinson.com</a>
Pres House	<a href="https://preshouse.org/">https://preshouse.org/</a>
Review Genie Pro LLC	<a href="https://reviewgeniepro.com/">https://reviewgeniepro.com/</a>

### **Transportation:**

- The Transportation Committee welcomed the team from the Greater Madison Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to discuss their Active Transportation Plan for Dane County.
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o90a0q9DCVY>

### **Quality of Life:**

- DMI hosted our monthly Beacon Discussion Group with key Beacon stakeholders.
- The Quality of Life and Membership Development Committee's hosted a joint summer outing at a Forward Madison game.

### **Beyond Compliance:**

- DMI hosted the first meeting of the new Accessible and Affordable Housing Task Force. The group heard a presentation on accessible housing from The Kelsey, a national organization working to build and promote more accessible housing.

### **Government Relations:**

- The Government Relations Committee met with City of Madison 2<sup>nd</sup> district Alder Will Ochowicz.

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