



DMI Director's Report – August 2026

From Jason Ilstrup, DMI President

Creating Connections and Community:

- DMI hosted a New Member Coffee at Strang in early August.
- DMI welcomed Kevin Luecke and Colleen Hayes from the City of Madison's Pedestrian and Bike transportation team to the July edition of the DMI Advocacy Update:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uJcM-Wufh9Q&t=29s>
- Vicki and Scott Hirshfeld from CT Access joined Jason for an edition of the Downtown Happenings Podcast:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HjSLj4Mthr8>

DMI Media Mentions:

- July 25 – WMTV - [Live it Up with Lee and Friends](#)
- July 30 – Wisconsin State Journal - [Developer Plans Overhaul of 2 State-Owned Downtown Madison Office Buildings](#)

Presentations:

- Jason and Christof Spieler, City of Madison's Director of Transportation, gave two tours of Downtown Madison, from a transportation perspective to groups from the Upper House.
- Jason toured leaders from Lincoln, Nebraska around Downtown Madison as part of their civic leader visit.
- Emily gave a tour of Downtown Madison for a group from Upper House.

Economic Development:

- The DMI Economic Development and Transportation Committee's met jointly in July to discuss how the City of Madison Planning and Transportation Divisions work together. Christof Spieler and Liz Callin from Transportation, and Dan McAuliffe and Colin Punt from Planning presented and then hosted the discussion.
- The Regent Street Business Association met in July with Tom Mohr from the City of Madison's Engineering Department to discuss the 2027/28 Regent Street reconstruction project.

Membership Development:

- The DMI Membership Development Committee attended a Mallards game for their July team outing.
- DMI welcomed several new members, including:

Caleb S. Chasteen	N/A
DayMark Wealth Partners	https://www.daymarkwealthpartners.com/
Range Hill Partners	www.rangehillpartners.com
Strategic Growth Group	www.StrategicGrowthGroup.coach

Transportation:

- The Transportation Committee hosted a joint meeting with the DMI Economic Development Committee in mid-July. Please see the Economic Development section for more information.

Quality of Life:

- Jason participated in a Downtown safety meeting with leaders from local businesses, nonprofit organizations, and government to discuss current safety concerns downtown and find potential solutions.

Beyond Compliance:

- The Beyond Compliance Sub-Committee did not meet in August.

Government Relations:

- The DMI Government Relations Committee met with City of Madison 13th district Alder Tag Evers at their early August meeting.

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