



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved DOWNTOWN COORDINATING COMMITTEE

*Consider: Who benefits? Who is burdened?
Who does not have a voice at the table?
How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?*

Thursday, September 18, 2025

5:30 PM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room 206 (Madison Municipal Building)

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm.

Present: 6 - Michael E. Verveer; Will Ochowicz; Jonathan D. Cooper; Adam J. Plotkin;
Ted Crabb and Sophia M. Hague

Excused: 1 - Davy Mayer

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Crabb, seconded by Ochowicz, to Approve the June 26, 2025 Minutes. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

Public Comment

1. [61242](#) Public Comment
None

Disclosures and Recusals

None

2. [86694](#) Report of Mall Concourse Maintenance and Special Events 2025

Mark Kiesow gave an update on the activities of Mall Concourse Maintenance since the last meeting in June. Engineering's sidewalk repair program is about to begin shortly and work is expected to take a month and a half. MCM painted pedestrian light poles on State Street; the wet paint was damaged by flyers being posted to them. Verveer asked about Traffic Engineering painting their poles and wondered if MCM could paint them and bill TE. Kiesow discussed the presence of unhoused individuals at the top of State Street. There has been a lot of trash collection, plant damage and human waste in this area. There has also been an increase in graffiti. MCM staff began using horticulture vinegar for weed control. It's more expensive but safer and quicker. Kiesow also mentioned a furniture vendor has not submitted their required Affirmative Action Plan so they may need to find a new vendor.
3. [89855](#) Approving the schedule of Special Charges for the State Street Mall/Capitol Concourse for 2024/2025 Maintenance Charges. (District 2, District 4, and District 8)

Jen Stoiber, Parks Division finance manager, presented the schedule of charges for properties within the Mall Concourse Maintenance service area. Properties owners are

charged half of MCM's actual annual expenses, which were approximately \$1.5 million. This is a 7% increase over last year's charge due to salary and supplies cost increases. There was one property owner that had an incorrect frontage measurement impacting their charge, but this was resolved.

A motion was made by Crabb, seconded by Ochowicz, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the FINANCE COMMITTEE. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

4. [89539](#)

Curb Management and Delivery/Parking Restrictions

Liz Callin and Stefanie Cox gave a presentation about the City's Curb Management Plan. Ochowicz asked about the Carbon Reduction Grant funding the plan and if the federal money been distributed to state. Callin stated it was their understanding the funds are in WisDOT's control. Cox added if the funds don't materialize the Parking Utility would cover the difference from enterprise funds. Ochowicz asked how far along the City is with evaluating RP3 permit changes. Cox said the City is still evaluating options and looking at what other cities have done. The current program is outdated and goal is to make the new system user friendly. Crabb asked about restrictions on State Street. Cox stated there was an effort to update the ordinance 20 years ago, but that process stalled after discussion about what State Street should be. Cox stated the ordinance can be changed but we need to know the City wants State Street to be. The Parking Utility and can work on making minor amendments in the interim but also needs to make sure we have enough side street loading zones. Callin mentioned a larger overhaul would benefit from the larger curb management plan and a better understanding of how other cities are handling pedestrian only areas. Crabb stated long-term goal is to get rid of curbs and asked what can be done now to address delivery problems on State Street. Cox stated there would likely need to be some engagement with business owners and asked if there is value with the pass program. Ochowicz stated the Downtown Plan might be a good venue for engagement. Crabb said he hoped you could sense the committee's interest. Verveer stated he doesn't want to lose momentum created after the State Street experiment and would like to look at expanding the lunch hour delivery prohibition. Verveer asked about looking at taxi stands before larger policy discussions. Cox stated they are working on an experiment in the Capitol East district on a similar item and learn from other communities' actions.

5. [83003](#)

Mifflin Plaza

McAuliffe briefly updated the committee on progress being made on the Mifflin and Carroll plazas project. Staff is working on a revised design based on the Radiating and State Street design concepts previously discussed. The revised design will be presented at a public meeting on October 6th. The concept and public feedback heard will be presented to DCC at their October meeting.

6. [89540](#)

Downtown Area Plan Updates

McAuliffe presented an update on the upcoming Downtown Area Plan, discussing major topics, general schedule and public engagement ideas. Cooper asked about reaching students and other under-represented populations as part of the Downtown Plan. McAuliffe discussed DMI's efforts with the Center City Collaborative and the City's efforts in other plans.

Announcements

None

Adjournment

A motion was made by Crabb, seconded by Ochowicz, to Adjourn at 7:30 pm. The motion passed by voice vote/other.