

# **Public Input Meeting**

## **Potential Downtown Public Restroom**

# Introductions

- Sarah Lerner, Presenter  
City of Madison Parks Division
- Ad Hoc Downtown Public Restroom Committee Members
- City Staff

# Agenda

- Background
- Overview of Ad Hoc Downtown Public Restroom Committee Efforts
- Where do we go from here?
- Questions and Comments

## Background

- Issue
  - *Where to go?*
- Capital Budget - \$300,000 to fund one or more public restrooms in the downtown area
- Downtown Public Restrooms Staff Report - Accepted by Council on July 16, 2014
- Creation of the Ad Hoc Downtown Public Restroom Committee

## Background (cont.)

- Temporary Porta-Johns
  - State Street Campus Parking Garage (2014)
  - Capital Square North Parking Garage (2014)
  - Outside City County Building (2014 and 2015)
  - Dane County Parking Ramp (2014 and 2015)
- Demographics
  - Unsheltered homeless population
    - ~ 100-200 people
- Daytime visitors
  - 48,000 customers helped annually by Downtown Ambassadors
  - 9,000,000 Visits to Greater Downtown Madison
- Late Night Crowd
  - At least 80 bars/restaurants in downtown area/State Street

## Overview of AHDPRC Efforts

- Overview of Ad Hoc Downtown Public Restroom Committee Efforts
  - Map of existing public restroom infrastructure
  - Restroom facility comparisons
  - Focus group discussions
  - Survey
  - Cost estimate to expand Lisa Link Visitor Center hours of operation
  - Signage examples

# Map of Existing Public Restroom Infrastructure



# Map of Existing Public Restroom Infrastructure

Map #	Location <sup>1</sup>	Hours	Facility Type	
			In Building	Portable Sanitation Unit
1	Government East Parking Garage	No Public Restrooms		
2	Lot 88 Parking	No Public Restrooms		
3	Madison Municipal Building	Mon – Fri: 7 am – 5 pm	X	
4	Monona Terrace <sup>2</sup>	Community and Convention Center Mon – Sun: 8 am to 5 pm Rooftop Garden Summer Sun – Thurs: 8 am – 10 pm Fri – Sat: 8 am – 12 am Winter Closed	X	
5	Facilities, Mall & Police	No Public Restrooms		
6	Madison Public Library - Central Library	June - August Mon – Thurs: 9 am – 9 pm Fri: 9 am – 6 pm Sat: 9 am – 5 pm Sept - May Mon – Thurs: 9 am – 9 pm Fri: 9 am – 6 pm Sat: 9 am – 5 pm Sun: 1 pm – 5 pm	X	
7	Overture Center Parking Garage	No Public Restrooms		
8	City of Madison Senior Center	Mon – Fri: 8:00 am – 4 pm	X	
9	Future Transportation	No Public Restrooms		
10	State Street Campus Parking Garage	24 hours/day, 7 days a week (no portable sanitation units in 2015)		X
11	Lisa Link Peace Park Visitor Center	January - April Sun – Wed: 11 am – 2 pm Thurs – Sat: 11 am – 5 pm May – September Mon – Thurs: 11 am – 5 pm Fri: 11 am – 6 pm Sat: 9 am – 6 pm Sun: 12 pm – 4 pm October – December Sun – Thurs: 11 am – 5 pm Fri: 11 am – 6 pm Sat: 9 am – 6 pm	X	
12	Buckeye Parking Lot	No Public Restrooms		
13	State Street Capitol Parking Garage	No Public Restrooms		
14	Capitol Square North Parking Garage	24 hours/day, 7 days a week (no portable sanitation units in 2015)		X

City of Madison Facilities

<sup>1</sup> Most facilities closed on Holidays.

<sup>2</sup> Monona Terrace Rooftop Garden restrooms are integrated with building but can be accessed directly from the Rooftop Garden.

Revised: 12/16/2014

Map #	Location <sup>3</sup>	Hours	Facility Type	
			In Building	Portable Sanitation Unit
15	Portable Sanitation Unit on corner of M.L.K. Jr. Blvd. & W. Doty St.	24 hours/day, 7 days a week		X
16	City County Building	Mon – Fri: 6 am – 6 pm <sup>4</sup>	X	
17	Dane County Sheriff and Public Safety Building	Mon – Sun: 5 am – 10:30 pm	X	
18	Dane County Courthouse	Mon – Thurs: 6:30 am – 5:30 pm	X	
19	Dane County Parking Ramp	24 hours/day, 7 days a week		X
20	Wisconsin State Capitol	Mon – Fri: 8 am – 6 pm Sat – Sun & Holidays: 8 am – 4 pm	X	
21	GEF 1	No Public Restrooms		
22	GEF 2	Mon – Fri: 7:30 am – 4:30 pm	X	
23	GEF 3	Mon – Fri: 7:30 am – 4:30 pm	X	
24	Wisconsin Department of Administration	No Public Restrooms		
25	Risser Justice Center	Mon – Fri: 7:15 am – 4:45 pm	X	
26	Wilson Street State Human Services	No Public Restrooms		
27	Tommy Thompson Commerce Center (WHEDA)	Mon – Fri: 7 am – 6 pm	X	
28	Wisconsin Historical Museum	Admission by Donation Varies by Season and Events Generally Tues – Sat: 9 am – 4 pm	X	
29	Overture Center for the Arts	Mon – Thurs: 9 am – 5:30 pm Fri: 9 am – 9 pm Sat: 10:30 am – 9 pm Sun: 12 pm – 5 pm	X	
30	Wisconsin Veterans Museum	April – September Tues – Sat: 9 am – 4:30 pm Sun: 12 pm – 4 pm October - May Tues – Sat: 9 am – 4:30 pm	X	
31	Bethel Lutheran Church	Restrooms only available in the Homeless Ministry Support Services Mon – Fri: 9 am – 4 pm	X	
32	First United Methodist Church	Mon – Thurs: 9 am – 3:30 pm	X	
33	Madison Children's Museum	Day after Memorial Day – Labor Day Mon – Sun: 9:30 am – 5 pm Labor Day – Memorial Day Tues – Sun: 9 am – 4:30 pm Last Monday of Month: 9 am – 4:30 pm	X	

Private Facilities Open to the Public

<sup>3</sup> Most facilities closed on Holidays.

<sup>4</sup> City County Building restrooms remain open in the evening until all public meetings are adjourned.

Revised: 12/16/2014



## Restroom Facility Comparisons

- **Permanent Stand Alone Restrooms**
  - Portland Loo
  - Victoria, BC Men's Urinal
  - Self Cleaning Public Restroom
- **Non Permanent Stand Alone Restrooms**
  - Porta-John
  - Restroom Trailers
  - Men's Only Portable Facilities
- **Embedded Restrooms**
  - Lisa Link Peace Park Visitor Center
  - Future Development Project

## Restroom Facility Comparisons (cont.)

### • Permanent Stand Alone Restrooms - Portland Loo

Installation Cost: \$\$\$  
Maintenance Cost: \$\$

#### ■ Advantages

- ✓ Does not require attendant
- ✓ Low maintenance
- ✓ Design deters unwanted activities
- ✓ Successful aesthetics
- ✓ Portable
- ✓ Economical
- ✓ Accessible restroom options

#### ■ Disadvantages

- ✓ Requires modifications for Wisconsin climate
- ✓ Not comfortable in inclement weather
- ✓ No sink attached in standard design
- ✓ Requires utility infrastructure
- ✓ Not immediate solution



#### ■ Example Locations

- Portland, OR
- Victoria, BC
- Salt Lake City, UT (Design Phase)
- Esquimalt, BC
- Ketchikan, AK

## Restroom Facility Comparisons (cont.)

### • Permanent Stand Alone Restrooms - Victoria, BC Men's Urinal

Installation Cost: \$\$\$  
Maintenance Cost: \$\$

- Advantages
  - ☑ Does not require attendant
  - ☑ Low maintenance
  - ☑ Design deters unwanted activities
  - ☑ Successful aesthetics
- Disadvantages
  - ☑ Requires modifications for Wisconsin climate
  - ☑ Not comfortable in inclement weather
  - ☑ No sink attached
  - ☑ Requires utility infrastructure
  - ☑ Not immediate solution
  - ☑ Men's urination only
  - ☑ No roof



- Example Locations
  - Victoria, BC

## Restroom Facility Comparisons (cont.)

### • Permanent Stand Alone Restrooms - Self Cleaning Public Restroom

Installation Cost: \$\$\$  
Maintenance Cost: \$\$-\$\$\$

- Advantages
  - ☑ MAY not require attendant
  - ☑ Reduces SOME maintenance costs
  - ☑ Design MAY deter unwanted activities
  - ☑ Comfortable in inclement weather
  - ☑ Includes sink
  - ☑ Accessible restroom options
- Disadvantages
  - ☑ Requires modifications for Wisconsin climate
  - ☑ Requires utility infrastructure
  - ☑ Not immediate solution
  - ☑ May require user fee
  - ☑ Restroom self cleaning feature has limited capabilities
  - ☑ Limits visual access



- Example Locations
  - San Francisco, CA
  - New York, NY
  - Boston, MA
  - Vancouver, BC

## Restroom Facility Comparisons (cont.)

### • Non Permanent Stand Alone Restrooms - Porta - John

Installation Cost: \$  
Maintenance Cost: \$

#### ■ Advantages

- ✓ Does not require attendant
- ✓ Low maintenance
- ✓ Portable
- ✓ Economical
- ✓ Potential for a trial period
- ✓ Accessible restroom option

#### ■ Disadvantages

- ✓ Requires modifications for Wisconsin climate
- ✓ Not comfortable in inclement weather
- ✓ No sink attached
- ✓ Negative perception
- ✓ Poor aesthetics
- ✓ Safety and vandalism concerns



#### ■ Example Locations

- Madison, WI
- Minneapolis, MN

## Restroom Facility Comparisons (cont.)

### • Non Permanent Stand Alone Restrooms - Restroom Trailers

Installation Cost: \$\$  
Maintenance Cost: \$\$

- Advantages
  - ✓ MAY not require attendant
  - ✓ LOWER maintenance
  - ✓ Portable
  - ✓ Potential for a trial period
  - ✓ Includes sink
  - ✓ Accessible restroom options
  - ✓ More welcoming than Porta-John
- Disadvantages
  - ✓ MAY not be comfortable in inclement weather
  - ✓ Requires electrical hookup
  - ✓ Vandal proof options not readily available
  - ✓ Safety and vandalism concerns



- Example Locations
  - Private outdoor weddings/events



## Restroom Facility Comparisons (cont.)

### • Non Permanent Stand Alone Restrooms - Men's Only Portable Facilities

Installation Cost: \$  
Maintenance Cost: \$

- Advantages
  - ✓ Does not require attendant
  - ✓ Low maintenance
  - ✓ Design deters unwanted activities
  - ✓ Portable
  - ✓ Economical
  - ✓ Potential for a trial period
  - ✓ Uses minimum amount of space
- Disadvantages
  - ✓ Not comfortable in inclement weather
  - ✓ No sink attached
  - ✓ Men's urination only
  - ✓ Negative perception
  - ✓ Modesty, privacy concerns



- Example Location
  - Victoria, BC

## Restroom Facility Comparisons (cont.)

### • Embedded Facilities

#### - Lisa Link Peace Park Visitor Center

Modification Cost: \$-\$\$  
Maintenance Cost: \$\$-\$\$\$

#### ■ Advantages

- ✓ Successful aesthetics
- ✓ Comfortable in inclement weather
- ✓ Accessible restroom
- ✓ Potential for a trial period
- ✓ Includes sink
- ✓ Existing infrastructure within planning corridor

#### ■ Disadvantages

- ✓ Requires staffing and potential building modifications to deter crime and vandalism
- ✓ Modifications to building may reduce aesthetics of facility
- ✓ Significant operational expense





## Restroom Facility Comparisons (cont.)

- **Embedded Facilities**

- **Future Development Project**

Installation Cost: \$\$\$

Maintenance Cost: \$\$-\$\$\$

- Advantages
  - ☑ Potential to combine with other service/tourism facilities
  - ☑ Customizable
  - ☑ Potential to bring additional visitors/customers to other facilities the building
- Disadvantages
  - ☑ Requires utility infrastructure
  - ☑ Not immediate solution
  - ☑ Potential significant capital and operational expenses
  - ☑ Requires agreement with potential developer
  - ☑ Businesses may not want to participate
  - ☑ Potential to disrupt other building patrons

## **Cost Estimate to Expand Lisa Link Visitor Center Hours of Operation**

- **Annual Operational Costs for 24/7 Restroom at Lisa Link Visitor Center**
  - City of Madison
    - Up to approximately \$180,000
  - Private Security Firm
    - Up to approximately \$245,000 to staff
  - BID's Downtown Ambassador Program
    - May offset costs, but unable to staff 24/7
    - \$23,000 to expand staffing to 10-11 hours/day
  
- **30 Day Trial Operational Costs for 24/7 Restroom at Lisa Link Visitor Center**
  - City of Madison
    - Up to approximately \$20,000
  - Private Security Firm
    - Up to approximately \$20,000
  - BID's Downtown Ambassador Program
    - May be able to reduce costs

## Focus Group Discussions

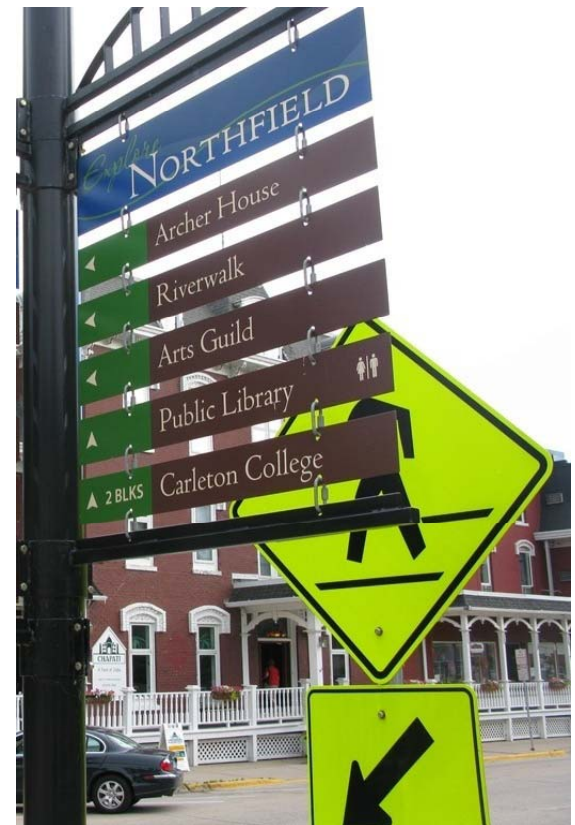
- January 6, 2015 - Invited Members of the Homeless Services Consortium
- January 20, 2015 - Invited Members of Madison Central Business Improvement District

## **Survey**

- **Distributed on January 26, 2015 at Bethel Homeless Ministries Day Center to 42 residents**

- **Where do you sleep?**
  - Emergency Shelter: 27
  - Street: 15
- **What time of day is it difficult to find a restroom?**
  - Generally equal, except 5 pm – 10 pm was least difficult
- **What do you do when you can not find an open restroom?**
  - Streets/Bushes: 22
- **Do you use the Porta-Johns located by the city and county?**
  - City-County Building: 21
  - Near Lower State Street: 11
  - Near Lower Fairchild: 10
- **Where would a good location be for a 24/7 restroom?**
  - State/Mifflin Streets area: 9
  - Anywhere/all over : 6

# Signage Examples



Information kiosks, like those found in downtown Bellevue, could be used to improve wayfinding in the Crossroads neighborhood.



## Where do we go from here?

- Way finding signage
- Expanding hours of existing public facilities
- Partner with developer to include public restrooms as part of future downtown development project
- Stand alone facility

# Questions and Comments