

Access Madison

Timeline

Phase I

5/22/18 Introduction to Commission

6/28/18 Acceptance of campaign

7/26/18 Informational meeting with potential partners

7/26/18 – 9/6/18 Visits to businesses to check access

9/27/18 Begin conversations about possible criteria and next steps

October, 2018 Certification as Certified Community Partners

Invitation letter

The Access Madison initiative focuses on building partnerships for greater access within the Madison business community. Due to recent redevelopment of portions of State Street there has been an increase in physical access to a number of establishments. However, much of State Street still remains inaccessible, 27 years after the passage of the ADA. The Disability Rights Commission recognizes Downtown Madison Incorporated and its member businesses' commitment to increasing diversity and inclusion.

Access Madison is not an enforcement effort, but instead an educational awareness campaign. The Disability Rights Commission hopes to work together with your businesses to educate owners and staff about the benefits of accessibility as well as inform owners about requirements under the law.

This initiative will take place in two phases. The first will focus on partnership building between the Commission and potential partners. In this phase, we will focus on tax incentives for providing increased access, as well as the business arguments for improving access.

The second phase will focus on real solutions to build an accessible business community within a designated corridor of the City of Madison. Building off recent discussions we have had with DMI and Old National Bank the Commission intends to create a set of criteria for improved accessibility, above and beyond what is required by law, which incorporates universal design as a core component of future development.

We would like you to join us in collaborating on this exciting new initiative.

City of Madison Disability Rights Commission