



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, July 21, 2022

5:30 PM

Via Virtual Meeting

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Michael E. Verveer; Patrick W. Heck; Adam J. Plotkin; Ted Crabb; Barbara Harrington-McKinney; Sandra J. Torkildson and Dominic Zappia

Excused: 1 - Davy Mayer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Harrington-McKinney, seconded by Crabb, to Approve the April 28, 2022 Minutes. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. [61242](#) Public Comment
None

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

2. [69766](#) Report of Mall Maintenance and Special Events 2022
Mark Kiesow, Parks Division, gave a brief update on mall maintenance staff activities, event coordination, and Streatery coordination with cafes that leave their equipment outside. He said that they have had good luck working with cafes to coordinate power washing.
3. [48742](#) Downtown Police Update
Caleb Odorfer, Community Development Division, gave a presentation on the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Grant. He outlined the work done so far and the next steps. Alder Harrington-McKinney said that she hopes that this same model could be expanded to other parts of the city. Alder Verveer asked about the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) process with Traffic Engineering and Forestry, noting that he has heard there is a lack of camera coverage in the 300 block of State Street. Odorfer said that they have been looking at foliage trimming, cameras and lights in the Buckeye Lot, but may also look elsewhere if there is enough camera coverage there. Alder Verveer asked if it was possible to change the funds to have

cameras elsewhere. Odorfer said they would need to get input from the Grant Advisory Council for any changes. Alder McKinney asked if there was push back from the Council on camera use. Odorfer said that once the Advisory Council heard that the City doesn't use facial recognition software, the Advisory Council was less concerned about their use.

Officer Ryan Jeffries, MPD, gave an update on the Downtown Safety Initiative, and came to get input on the "camera in use" signs that Officer Enstrom was pursuing. The DCC generally was not in favor of the signs, especially if they have bright colors and are conspicuous. DCC members were not sure that signs were very effective as most people know that they are there already.

4. [71088](#)

Downtown Economic Development

Rebecca Cnare, Planning Division, said that the Economic Development Director would be available to answer questions about the new State Street TID at the August meeting. Alder Verveer provided some context that TID #50 includes \$15 million for the State Street - Campus Parking Garage, \$600,000 for State Street/Mall furnishings, and \$4.2 million for business grants. Additional funds may come when/if there is additional development.

Crabb said that he thinks it is very important that the DCC start discussing the future of State Street once the busses go off the lower blocks. He added that if BRT starts in 2023, there is less than a year for the DCC to help shape the future. Torkildson said that there are several blocks where the sidewalk has failed and needs significant reconstruction. Crabb and others had several questions/issues for staff that they want to discuss at the August meeting:

1. Verification of timing for when buses will be removed from the 400 to 600 blocks of State Street
2. If buses are removed in 2023, that only gives the City 9-10 months to prepare for what happens next, so the City needs to move quickly.
3. What about delivery issues if the 400 - 600 blocks were designated to be pedestrian only?
4. What are the City Council issues to consider?
5. What is the position of the State Street merchants regarding a pedestrian mall?
6. What can the DCC do to prepare for this possibility?
7. Is there a possibility of testing a closure of the street once the buses are removed?
8. Verification that Fire might be open to alternate widths for fire access.
9. What would need to happen regarding ADA, if bicycles and pedestrians were moved to the middle of the street?
10. Several sidewalks need significant repair, could that be coordinated with an effort to change the street?

Cnare said that such an effort would take a large inter-agency staff team, time to understand how the street dynamics will change upon the start of the BRT, as well as time to develop budgets, understand potentially available TID funds, and policies regarding deliveries, ADA, pedestrian, and bicycle issues. She added that staff would likely not be able to answer all of these questions by the next meeting, and reiterated the need to coordinate work plans and available/needed staff.

ADJOURNMENT

**A motion was made by Crabb, seconded by Torkildson, to Adjourn at 7:00 pm.
The motion passed by voice vote/other.**