Madison’s economy is changing.

The City is becoming larger, more complex, more innovative, and more private-sector oriented. Madison’s historic economic foundation of reliable government jobs and a few stalwart companies is giving way to a new economic structure. This new structure is driven by small businesses, nimble startups, and fast-growing companies in key high-growth industries. Madison’s workforce is becoming larger, younger, and much more diverse. As our economy evolves, issues of racial economic disparities and unequal access to economic opportunity are becoming more pronounced.

The Connect Madison Economic Development Strategy (Connect Madison) is focused on moving Madison’s economy forward in this era of new challenges and opportunities.

The overarching philosophy of Connect Madison is that a stronger economy is also a more inclusive economy. For Madison’s economy to prosper, the City needs to CONNECT the goals economic growth and economic equity.
Components and Inputs

Data
The foundation of the CONNECT MADISON Strategy is a detailed analysis of economic data. This data reveals emerging trends and important structural shifts in our workforce, mix of businesses, growth patterns, demographics, and housing preferences. A summary of data is provided in this document and a complete analysis is available in an Appendix #1.

Community Input
The content of the Connect Madison was shaped by a robust process of community input. The City hosted several rounds of public participation and engaged hundreds of community members, public officials, business leaders, and representatives from the education community. This input process directly led to the specific strategies and projects that are the focus of CONNECT MADISON. A summary of the input process is provided in this document and a complete analysis is available in Appendices #2 and #3.

Strategies and Projects
Connect Madison identifies five broad strategies to guide economic development actions and policies. Within each of the five strategies is a set of projects and initiatives. Each strategy includes one “Priority 1 Project” (identified as high-value yet feasible initiatives to undertake within the next three years) as well as one or more “Priority 2 Projects” intended to be implemented on a longer timeframe or if additional capacity is created.

Equity Lens
The five strategies are evaluated through an “equity lens” to ensure consideration is given to how they contribute to the City’s goals of expanding economic opportunity to low income populations and communities of color. The selected strategies and projects prioritize efforts with positive equity impacts.

Implementation
The CONNECT MADISON Strategy is designed to guide citywide programs, projects, and policies. It will serve as a cross-agency plan that informs City decision making. The Strategy will also form the basis of the work plan for the City’s Economic Development Division (EDD). EDD will be responsible for leading implementation. It is important to note that EDD already has a full plate of responsibilities. The work plan will outline how the projects identified within Connect Madison align with and fit with EDD’s ongoing work.
Data Summary

Note about Scales and Sources:
The City evaluated data at several different scales including the Madison Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA: federally-defined multi-county region), Dane County, and the City of Madison itself. The scale used for any particular indicator was largely a function of the data's availability. Most of the data in this summary comes from publically-available state and federal sources. A more detailed analysis is available as an appendix.

Growing Population:
- Madison grew from 172,000 in 1970 to 233,000 in 2010 (62,000 new residents in 40 years).
- Madison will grow to at least 281,000 by 2040 (43,000 new residents over the next 25 years).
- Dane County will add 100,000 residents between now and 2040
- Between 1970 and 2012, Madison went from 59% of Dane County’s population to 46%

Growing Economy:
- The Madison area’s GDP grew from $23 billion to $39 billion from 2001 to 2012 (6.5% annual growth).
- The Madison MSA has added 30,000 new jobs over the last five years
- 1,100 new businesses formed in Dane County from 2000 to 2012

Growing Taxbase:
- The total value of all taxable real estate in Madison was grew by $6 billion from $15 billion to $23 billion over the last fifteen years (including the “great recession”)
- The average value of a single family home in Madison grew from $135,366 in 1999 to $237,678 in 2014
- The total value of 50-unit+ apartment buildings in Madison has grown by over $250 million from 2011 to 2014

Changing Workforce:
- Madison’s job growth is concentrated at the top and bottom ends of the economic spectrum - lower-wage service sectors like food service, food preparation, health aides, nurses, and high-skilled technology sectors like computer specialists, software engineers.
- 76% of the Madison area workforce works in the private sector and that percentage is growing
Increasing Diversity:
- Between 2000 and 2012, Madison’s total annual population growth rate was 1.1%. The growth rate was 3.3% for African American, 5.6% for Latinos, and the 3.6% for Asians.
- 20% of Madison’s white/non-Hispanic population is under the age of 20 compared to 41% of African Americans, 27% of Asians, and 38% of Latinos.

Economic Disparities
- The median household incomes for African Americans and Latinos are $30,000 and $22,000 less than white households.
- The poverty rate for Madison households is 15% for whites, 38% for African American’s, 27% for Asians, and 22% for Hispanic/Latinos.

Changing Housing Preferences:
- 52% of Madison residents are now renters.
- The City is adding $140 million in value of new apartments per year.

Emerging Industries, Innovation, and Competitive Advantages
- Madison has strong competitive advantages in industries related to Knowledge Creation (i.e. research and teaching), Biotechnology, Information Technology, Agri-Business/Food, and Financial Services.
- The University of Wisconsin-Madison attracts nearly $1.2 billion in annual federal research money recieves $54 million in annual licensing income.
- Between 2000 and 2011, there were 3,244 patents issued to inventors in Dane County.

Exports
- The total value of all goods and services exported from Madison in 2012 was approximately $2.2 billion. This is up from about $1.2 billion in 2005 (12% annual growth).
Key “Takeaways” from the Data

1. The local and regional economy is increasingly private-sector driven. Job growth in the Madison area economy is driven by small businesses, fast-growing companies in key high-growth industries.

2. Madison’s growing economic strength is increasingly vital to the statewide economy. Madison is out-pacing the rest of the state in all key economic indicators including job creation, business growth, and construction activity. Madison and the Madison region is a critical economic engine for Wisconsin.

3. The industries driving Madison’s growth and innovation are biotechnology, information technology, health technology, agribusiness/food, and precision manufacturing.

4. The growth in our workforce is occurring at the opposite ends of the economic spectrum – high-wage, high-skill specialized jobs in technology-based sectors and low-wage, low-skill jobs in service sectors. There are fewer and fewer job opportunities in the middle.

5. Madison is on the cusp of a massive demographic realignment as the “baby-boom” generation heads toward retirement and the “millennial” generation continues to fill the ranks of new jobs.

6. Madison continues to face deep racial disparities in economic opportunities and outcomes.

7. Changing demographics are driving changing housing preferences and development patterns toward demand for higher-density rental units in walkable neighborhoods with amenities.

Overall, the data shows that Madison’s economy is changing. Our economic future will be different from our past. The City’s economic development policies, programs, priorities, and projects need to align with and respond to our new challenges and emerging opportunities.
Community Input

First Round of Input
In September of 2014, the City launched this strategy with an “Economic Development Symposium” and a series of community meetings to get early input. These events consisted of small group “mind mapping” exercises designed to encourage broad thinking about economic development.

Second Round of Input
In May of 2015, the city hosted a “Priorities & Partners Summit” and a second series of community meetings. The purpose of these forums was to vet an initial draft set of goals and projects. Participants engaged in a series of interactive exercises and were issued “Connect Madison Priority Cash” to “spend” among an initial set of potential goals to help identify top priorities.

Community Advisory Papers
Mayor Soglin enlisted community members to prepare brief Community Advisory Papers. The initial draft of the Connect Madison Strategy identified eight broad goals and the Advisory papers are focused on each of these eight topics. The full text of the Advisory Papers is provided is available in Appendix #3.

Economic Development Committee (EDC) Leadership
The City of Madison Economic Development Committee is officially charged with overseeing the City’s Economic Development Plan. The EDC provided periodic feedback during the process and an EDC Strategy Subcommittee played a key role in developing the framework for Connect Madison.

Youth Intern Interviews and Video
During Summer 2015, the Economic Development Division’s Wanda Fullmore Intern, Lee’Angelo Lane, interviewed his peers and created a brief video sharing feedback on how high school age Madison residents see their future in the city and their priorities for economic development. Video available at www.cityofmadison.com/economicstrategy.

SUMMARY OF INPUT FEEDBACK:
Over 300 people participated in this process. What clearly emerged from these conversations is that the community’s highest economic development priority is addressing racial disparities and expanding economic opportunity to populations that have historically not shared in Madison’s successes. In particular, community members emphasized the importance of addressing equity issues at a young age by focusing on career pathways and work experience opportunities for Madison’s youth. Other topics that were often identified as key priorities include building a modern regional transit system, strengthening the food system, supporting small businesses, and encouraging cooperative business models. The five strategies that became the focus were in part selected based on this feedback.
### Action Plan

#### Strategies and Priority 1 Projects

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<th>Strategies</th>
<th>Priority 1 Projects</th>
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<td><strong>STRATEGY 1:</strong> Support small businesses,</td>
<td><strong>Business Assistance Team (BAT):</strong> Create a multi-agency city staff team to help</td>
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<td>Promote new business models, and cultivate</td>
<td>existing and potential businesses navigate municipal licensing and regulatory</td>
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<td>diverse business startups</td>
<td>requirements, and connect them to outside business support resources</td>
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<td><strong>STRATEGY 2:</strong> Grow tax base and encourage</td>
<td><strong>Madison Development District Program</strong> Identify areas of the city and specific</td>
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<td>targeted redevelopment in priority areas</td>
<td>sites to prioritize for redevelopment (based on existing plans). Combine a robust</td>
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<td>land banking program, leveraged with private funding, to purchase and reposition</td>
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<td>these sites. Then recruit developers to implement projects that fulfill the City’s</td>
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<td><strong>STRATEGY 3:</strong> Create Good Jobs by Building</td>
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<td>on Competitive Strengths in Key Economic</td>
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<td>Sectors</td>
<td>Technology, Biotechnology, Food Systems, and Precision Manufacturing)</td>
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<td><strong>STRATEGY 4:</strong> Make the Economic Case for</td>
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<td>Investing in Modern and Efficient</td>
<td>to create a private sector driven coalition to research and advocate for investment</td>
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<td><strong>STRATEGY 5:</strong> Strengthen the long term</td>
<td><strong>Work-Based Learning Opportunities for Youth</strong> Work with community partners (</td>
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<td>workforce by supporting career pathways for</td>
<td>particularly the education community) to coordinate, align, and build on programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>young people</td>
<td>focused on creating work-based learning opportunities for young people</td>
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STRATEGY OVERVIEW:

The data shows that Madison’s economy is increasingly driven by small business growth and entrepreneurship. It is critical that Madison supports a healthy business environment that supports the success of small businesses. Strategy 1 is focused on creating a positive climate for business development in the City. This includes work the city is already doing through efforts like launching a Technology Business Fund, supporting StartingBlock Madison, supporting retail businesses with the State Street Retail program and façade grants, creating a program to support new cooperative businesses, and cultivating public market businesses through the “MarketReady Program”, and providing CDBG funding to organizations that package small business loans. The City already has a robust set of programs and tools focused on supporting business growth. The thrust of Strategy 1 is building on and aligning these efforts, and doing more to ensure that Madison is a place where small businesses can start and can thrive.

How Strategy #1 Connects to Equity Goals

Enhancing opportunities for people to start successful businesses is a powerful force for upward mobility and financial independence for communities of color, immigrant communities, and low income populations. Creating more stable and successful businesses in Madison that are owned by people of color can propel families into the middle class and create businesses that are statistically more likely to hire other people of color.

The complexity of regulatory, permitting, financing, and licensing has the unintended consequence of disproportionately creating barriers to business ownership for communities of color, low-income populations, and immigrants. These systems favor business owners that may already know how to navigate these processes, have networks with attorneys, bankers, and other experts that can help them, speak English as a first language, and feel comfortable interacting with government officials. By improving business assistance services and focusing on breaking down these barriers, Strategy 1 will improve opportunities for people of color and low income populations to start businesses in Madison.
STRATEGY #1: Support Small Businesses, Cultivate Entrepreneurship, Champion New Business Models

PRIORITY 1 PROJECT:
Create the Business Assistance Team (BAT)

The Madison Business Assistance Team (BAT) will help businesses sort through regulatory challenges and connect with resources. It will create a single point-of-entry into the city government and a staff team that includes all city agencies that interact with businesses. The BAT would help businesses navigate municipal licensing and regulations, while helping businesses connect with other resources and programs in the community (including the City-sponsored programs that help finance small businesses). Built on the successful model of Madison’s Development Assistance Team (DAT), The Business Assistance Team (BAT) would establish a process of regularly-scheduled opportunities for small businesses to meet with a multi-agency staff team. The BAT would be managed by the City’s Office of Business Resources (OBR).

First Few Steps:
1. Convene a staff workgroup with representatives from every city department that interacts with businesses
2. Meet with representatives of the business community to gather input
3. Develop a process within the Office of Business Resources for how the BAT would be coordinated
4. Coordinate with community partners that provide business services (WWBIC, SBDC, MDC, The Latino Chamber, the Black Chamber, etc.) to make BAT a connection point to these resources

PRIORITY 2 PROJECTS:

- **Become a Kiva City** - KIVA is a non-profit organization that provides micro-lending to entrepreneurs and small businesses by using crowd funding techniques. Working in Partnership with the Wisconsin Women’s Business Initiative Corporation (WWBIC), the City should explore establishing Madison as a KIVA city. This would require an upfront investment to establish the program and ongoing work to promote and manage the process.

- **Minority Contractor Pipeline Development** – Madison has very few minority-owned businesses in a position to compete for city projects (as demonstrated by the City’s Disparity Study completed in 2014/15). Madison should develop a program focused on creating a pipeline of businesses that can be ready to take on this type of work.

- **Increase Coordination with UW Madison** – The University is Madison’s most powerful engine for innovation, business startups, and talent attraction, particularly in science and technology-based fields. The City should make a stronger effort to partner with the University on projects and initiatives focused leveraging the University’s vast research portfolio, deep expertise, and innovation capacity to help support the creation and retention of businesses in Madison.
STRATEGY #2: Grow tax base and encourage targeted redevelopment in priority areas

STRATEGY OVERVIEW:

Strategy 2 focuses on driving real estate development and tax base creation into key sites, commercial corridors, and employment areas that can support growth and investment. Maintaining a healthy and growing tax base is critical to staying economically strong. Sustaining a healthy tax base requires having a strong real estate market, encouraging development where appropriate, and maintaining competitive position for development in the greater region. Right now, Madison’s real estate development market is robust. The City is seeing low vacancy rents in rental housing, high demand for single family homes, increasing rents, and ample new construction. It is an opportune time to take advantage of strong market demand and use tools and resources to drive investment toward priority areas where development will achieve the greatest benefits for the City.

How Strategy #2 Connects to Equity Goals

For the last several years, development activity in Madison has been concentrated in and near downtown. Meanwhile, many other parts of the City have seen little new investment. By encouraging development in other areas of the City, this strategy will help bring more investment into more of Madison’s neighborhoods, including those neighborhoods with limited job opportunities and concentrated poverty.

In addition, tackling the City’s racial disparities and inequitable access to economic opportunity will require financial resources. With increasingly restrictive state level policies on municipal revenue generation and the steady decline in state and federal financial support for cities, Madison’s only significant way to bring in revenue is by growing the amount of taxable real estate in the City. This means we need to support construction, encourage density where appropriate, and take advantage of the opportunities to grow our tax base. New construction is vital to giving the city the financial tools necessary to take action on disparity issues. By focusing on unlocking sites for redevelopment, this strategy will help grow the City’s tax base. It will also encourage job growth and investment in parts of the City where those things are most needed.
STRATEGY #2: Grow tax base and encourage targeted redevelopment in priority areas

PRIORITY 1 PROJECT:
Madison Development Districts

The proposed Madison Development District program is a multi-tiered effort to spark housing, commercial, and business development in designated areas (Development Districts) that will be identified as targeted opportunities to grow our tax base, create jobs, foster commercial development, and create quality housing. The focus will be on key locations that are well-suited and planned for development. The program will first designate areas and Development Districts (based largely on previous and ongoing plans). Then, the city will identify high priority properties for redevelopment within these districts. For these sites, the City will concentrate resources including; a robust land-banking fund leveraged with outside financial resources, a proactive Tax Increment Financing Strategy, the City’s Affordable Housing Fund, and other tools. When necessary, these tools will be used to acquire property, reposition sites to make them development-ready, and support high-quality development projects. One key to the program will be layering city land banking and TIF resources with other financing. The resulting pool of funds would then be used to acquire and hold key properties, prep sites, and recruit strong developers to implement the City’s vision.

First Few Steps:
1. Research models from around the country
2. Identify potential financial partners and begin discussions with them about the framework for the fund and how it will be implemented.
3. Develop an initial structure for the program including a process for prioritizing the areas and sites to be designated as “Development Zones”
4. Set clear parameters for acquisition targets and outcomes (e.g. require that a portion of units be affordable, mixed-use, enhance design standards for these sites, set targets for number of jobs created, etc)

PRIORITY 2 PROJECTS:

- **Quarterly and Bi-Annual Data Reviews** – Part one of the CONNECT MADISON Strategy involved a detailed analysis of economic data affecting Madison. This data provided valuable insights. Moving forward, the City should conduct periodic data analysis updates to continue monitoring issues that affect development and economic health in the City. This could include a brief, quarterly-report that summarizes a few key variable combined with a more detailed bi-annual report that is updated every other year and includes a much more detailed look at a wide range of economic data. These reports would be shared with the Economic Development Committee, Common Council, and various partners.

- **Real Estate Professionals Roundtable** – As the City’s real estate market continues to evolve and the City continues to strive to improve its development services, communication with the development community is important. The City should consider creating a quarterly “Real Estate Roundtable” where members of the real estate community (developers, brokers, financiers, etc.) come together for a casual conversation about development trends and issues in Madison.
STRATEGY OVERVIEW:

Strategy 3 is about building on Madison’s existing economic strengths and taking advantage of emerging opportunities. The strategy is focused on leveraging Madison’s assets and competitive advantages in key industry sectors. The City has identified four key economic sectors to target based on Madison’s existing strengths, competitive advantages, and growth opportunities. The four sectors are:

1. Food Systems
2. Information Technology (with a focus on Health IT & Gaming)
3. Biotechnology
4. Precision Manufacturing (with a focus on custom fabrication and bicycle-related equipment manufacturing)

To a large degree, these sectors align with the “Advance Now” strategy developed by the Madison Region Economic Partnership (MadREP) and the City should work with MadREP on this effort.

How Strategy #3 Connects to Equity Goals

A key focus of economic development and workforce development efforts in Madison needs to be identifying the companies and economic sectors that show the greatest potential to create long term high-quality jobs. Then we need to connect those companies and sectors to the programs and services in the region that focus on preparing young people, displaced workers, and underemployed populations for the workforce. Making progress on expanding economic opportunity requires not only connecting people with jobs, but connecting people with good jobs that pay living wages, provide stability, offer benefits, and create opportunities for career advancement. These good jobs tend to be in industries where the region is strong and has competitive advantages. Connecting the sectors of the local economy that show the greatest strength and opportunities for growth to the people in the community with the greatest economic need is a critical piece of the City’s long range component of the City’s effort to address racial disparities and inequitable access to economic opportunity.
STRATEGY #3: Create Good Jobs by Building on Competitive Strengths in Key Economic Sectors

PRIORITIZE 1 PROJECT:
Targeted Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) Toward the Identified Industries

The City of Madison’s Economic Development Division has an ongoing “Business Retention & Expansion (BRE)” program in which staff meets with individual businesses to learn about their issues and concerns. This project amplifies the City’s BRE effort and focuses it on the four target industries. Going beyond simply talking to the businesses, this effort will focus on “getting to know” these industries in depth. The City will strive to work with local companies in these sectors to better understand their supply chains and possibly make direct appeals to recruit their customers and suppliers.

For the next four years, the City will identify one of the four sectors and direct it’s BRE efforts specifically to that sector for an entire year. This includes not only conducting meetings with these sectors, but potentially developing “state of the industry” reports, evaluating data, identifying potential companies in these sectors to recruit, and attending industry-related conferences, events, trade shows, etc.

First Few Steps:
1. Create a four year schedule with each of the four target industries the focus of a year-long effort
2. Compile a list of all businesses in the target industries and conduct one-on-one outreach to key large employers and
3. Convene focus groups with key businesses, industry groups, and stakeholders in the sector
4. Research the industry, attend industry conferences, read trade publications, etc. and develop reports and summaries
5. Provide feedback to City staff and policy makers on key themes, trends, and shared concerns

PRIORITIZE 2 PROJECTS:

• Coordinate Greater Madison Convention and Visitors Bureau On Destination Marketing Linked to Target Clusters – The City should work with the GMCVB to integrate sector-based economic development strategies with efforts to promote Madison as a destination. This could include focusing on attracting events, conferences, and conventions related to specific target industries. This can not only bring tourism spending to Madison, it can introduce people and companies to City who are in our key economic sectors. These interactions can then lead to more connections for our businesses, access to potential workers, and possibly long term business relocations to Madison. The GMCVB should be a partner with Priority 1 Project identified above.

• Create “Innovation Districts” aligning with geographic concentrations of activity in the four identified clusters - The Madison local economy exists in a spatial context. The four identified targeted industries are not evenly distributed across the City. Different areas of the City have different economic strengths and assets. The City could create a series of “Innovation Districts” to give a spatial geographic dimension to target, high-growth sectors. The Innovation Districts would become areas where the City will target economic development programs and resources toward cultivating innovation and supporting the growth of businesses in these specific industry clusters based on existing assets and emerging opportunities of the district. Led by neighborhood business leaders, this is already happening with the “Northside Food Innovation District.” There are other similar opportunities for similar types of sector-focused economic development districts. This concept could dovetail with the “Development Districts” project described in Strategy #2.
STRATEGY #4 Make the Economic Case for Investing in Modern and Efficient Transportation Solutions

STRATEGY OVERVIEW:

Strategy #4 is focused on the links between transportation and economic development. As Madison continues to grow, moving toward the creation of a modern, efficient, and regional transit system will be essential. Without this, Madison’s central core will face increasing traffic, investment in the downtown will become increasingly difficult to support, and the city will lose more employers to outlying communities.

From an economic development perspective, having a modern, regional, high-capacity, and multi-modal transit system is vital to connecting under-employed populations to jobs, supporting continued real estate investment in the core of the City, and attracting the high-skilled and highly-mobile workforce the city needs to compete in the 21st century global economy.

The City is currently exploring an investment in Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). This effort should be supported. Beyond BRT, the City should work with partners in the business community and throughout the region on a long range strategy to build a regional transit system.

How Strategy #4 Connects to Equity Goals

From an equity standpoint, people need to be able to get to jobs, training programs, educational offerings, social services, food retail, etc. This includes people who do not own or cannot afford a personal automobile. In Madison, the neighborhoods that have the highest concentrations of people of color, and the highest concentrations of poverty and chronic unemployment tend to be neighborhoods toward the perimeter of the City. These areas are often the most disconnected from employment opportunities and have the lowest quality transit service. Survey’s conducted by Madison Metro show that people of color in Madison face much more complicated and much longer commute times than white residents. Implementing transportation solutions targeted to providing affordable and convenient options to connect Madison’s most economically challenged neighborhoods to areas where there are job and educational opportunities is critical to making progress on equity.

Recent research highlights the links between transportation and economic mobility in cities. In particular, cities that had higher average commute times, fewer transportation options, and greater degrees of “spatial mismatch” have been shown to be cities in which poor residents are least likely to find good paying jobs and pathways to economic wellbeing. Transportation is an economic development issue and it is a critical piece of addressing the City’s equity challenges.
**STRATEGY #4** Make the Economic Case for Investing in Modern and Efficient Transportation Solutions

**PRIORITY 1 PROJECT:**
Create a Business Coalition Focused on Transportation Needs

To support the implementation of transit investments, this project would launch of a sustained business-driven effort to make the *economic development case* for why Madison needs a regional transit system. The City will help convene a coalition of business and community leaders to work on this issue, explore options, analyze needs, and lay the groundwork to create a funding mechanism needed to implement long range regional transit improvements.

To the greatest extent possible, this should be a business-led effort steered by a taskforce of Madison’s key private-sector leaders. The potential environmental and community benefits of transit are well-known. However, the focus of this effort should be on why a regional transit system is necessary from an economic and workforce perspective. The goal should be to analyze needs and work toward creating a long term funding mechanism that will support a transit system designed to meet economic needs. The City’s role should be to help provide resources, information, coordination, and alignment, but the project should be private-sector led.

**First Few Steps:**
1. Develop and distribute transportation needs survey for the Madison business community
2. Conduct an economic analysis to evaluate the impacts of transit investments and the economic consequences of failing to invest in regional transit
3. Meet individually with key business leaders who may have a vested interest in this top
4. Assemble a private sector led taskforce to lead this effort

**PRIORITY 2 PROJECTS:**

- **Create a staff team and committee focused on integrating emerging transportation technologies and services** – Technology is changing the way people move through urban environments. This includes things like point-to-point car sharing networks, driverless cars, smart traffic signaling, real time parking information, variable pricing for tolls and parking, and more advanced transit systems. The City should consider creating a staff team and/or committee of experts to focus on how Madison can lead in integrating these new technologies into our transportation systems. Madison should strive to position itself as a leader in redefining urban mobility for the twenty-first century.

- **Airport Improvements** – The Dane County Airport is a key piece of economic infrastructure in Madison and is increasingly busy. It was one of the few airports nationwide that saw growth in annual passenger boardings during the recession and continues to see growth now. Between 2001 and 2013, the airport’s total number of passenger boardings increased by over 150,000 per year. This represented 22% growth in use of the airport during a period when most mid-sized airports saw a decline. With a growing airport, the City should explore opportunities to partner with Dane County, the State, and the regional business community on potential long range airport improvements. This could include exploring opportunities for improved access into the airport (such as shuttle service to downtown), as well as looking for ways to leverage the airport – and related assets like the nearby Foreign Trade Zones – as catalysts for commercial development activity.
STRATEGY #5: Strengthen the long term workforce by supporting efforts to create career pathways

STRATEGY OVERVIEW:

Strategy 1 is focused on supporting efforts to help Madison residents find pathways to jobs and careers. In an evolving 21st century economy, maintaining a strong workforce requires developing and deploying all of the City’s human capital. Further, addressing racial disparities and increasing economic mobility for populations historically excluded from Madison’s growth is an inter-generational challenge that will take decades. A key focus must be placed on ensuring that young people, particularly young people of color, have opportunities to develop their talents and pursue rewarding and productive careers.

The Madison Metropolitan School District is leading on this issue with the Personalized Pathways Initiative. The City should work with MMSD to support this effort however possible.

Meaningful progress on racial equity is a decades-long undertaking and need to focus on fostering inter-generational economic mobility for young people of color. Madison’s young population is much more diverse than its elder population and the future of Madison’s workforce is far more diverse than its past. Improving career prospects, educational outcomes, workforce readiness and overall economic conditions for Madison’s young people of color is critical to Madison’s future economy. Finding ways to inspire young people to explore a variety of career options is vital to ensuring that Madison has a strong workforce over the long term.
STRATEGY #5: Strengthen the long term workforce by supporting efforts to create career pathways

PRIORITY 1 PROJECT:
Support Work-Based Learning Opportunities for Youth

This effort would focus on connecting with the Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD), South Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board, the Greater Madison Chamber, Madison College, and other community partners to build on existing and future efforts to create internships, apprenticeships, mentorships, etc for Madison’s youth. MMSD is in the process of a multi-year strategic effort focused on creating individual “pathways” for each student to align their educational experience with particular career interests. Creating and supporting work-based learning opportunities is part of this initiative. The City can be a useful partner by coordinating and building upon work-based learning opportunities in Madison. The City’s role could be forging partnerships, aligning resources, and filling gaps in these programs. The City itself can be a useful laboratory and source of work-based learning opportunities by building on internship and mentorship programs within the City government and the City’s many wide-ranging agencies and departments.

First few steps:
1. Support MMSD’s Pathways initiative and work with MMSD to add value
2. Adjust and expand City-sponsored youth internship program’s to align with the Pathways initiative
3. Help align related programs and resources and connect the Business Community

PRIORITY 2 PROJECTS:

- Workforce Training Program Alignment and Assessment – There are dozens of organizations in the Madison area that provide services, training, and programming focused on workforce development with an emphasis on helping disadvantages populations achieve jobs. These efforts include non-profit organizations and government agencies. Some of these programs are directly led and/or funded by the City. These organizations and programs are doing important work in the community. However, these programs are not always communicating and coordinating with one another. The result can be overlap, inefficiencies, and confusion for the users. The City should lead an effort to assess, coordinate, and align these various workforce and business development programs and services.

  Neighborhood-Based hiring program – In many cities, the residential neighborhoods that have the highest concentrations of poverty, chronic unemployment, and disinvestment are also areas that are “jobs deserts” with few employment opportunities nearby. In Madison, this is not the case. Many of the City’s most economically disadvantaged neighborhoods also happen to be located within a mile or two of the City’s highest growing and most successful companies. The City could lead a partnership effort with local companies to encourage more neighborhood-based hiring among companies in the City. With City support and coordination, a neighborhood-based hiring program could help local companies find and develop talent while connecting with the community.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategies</th>
<th>Project Categories</th>
<th>Projects</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Support small businesses, Promote new business models, and cultivate diverse business startups</td>
<td>Priority 1 Project</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Related EDD projects already underway</td>
<td>Cooperative business development program</td>
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<td>Technology business fund</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Priority 2 Projects</td>
<td>Become a Kiva City</td>
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<td>Minority Contractor Pipeline Development</td>
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<td>Increase Coordination with UW Madison Commercialization Efforts</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Grow tax base and encourage targeted redevelopment in priority areas</td>
<td>Priority 1 Project</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Related EDD projects already underway</td>
<td>Capitol East District</td>
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<td>Judge Doyle Square</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Priority 2 Projects</td>
<td>Quarterly Data Review</td>
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<td>Real Estate Roundtable</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Create Good Jobs by Building on Competitive Strengths in Key Economic Sectors</td>
<td>Priority 1 Project</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Related EDD projects already underway</td>
<td>Madison Public Market and Market District</td>
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<td>Coordination with MadREP cluster work</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Priority 2 Projects</td>
<td>Coordinate Convention and Visitors Bureau On Destination Marketing Linked to Target Clusters</td>
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<td>Create “Innovation Districts” aligning with geographic concentrations of activity in the four identified clusters</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Make the Economic Case for Investing in Modern and Efficient Transportation Solutions</td>
<td>Priority 1 Project</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Related EDD projects already underway</td>
<td>None</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Priority 2 Projects</td>
<td>Create a staff team and committee focused on integrating emerging transportation technologies and services</td>
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<td>Airport Improvements</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Strengthen the long term workforce by supporting career pathways for young people</td>
<td>Priority 1 Project</td>
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<td>Related EDD projects already underway</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Priority 2 Projects</td>
<td>Workforce Training Program Alignment and Assessment</td>
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<td>Neighborhood-Based hiring program</td>
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</table>
Progress and performance in implementation of the Connect Madison will be evaluated and monitored with a series of measurable “outputs” and “outcomes” for each Priority 1 project. The outputs will be baseline measures of the work getting done, people being reached, and products and deliverables being completed. The “Outcomes” will attempt to measure the extent to which the projects are ultimately effective in terms of having a positive economic impact.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority 1 Project</th>
<th>Next Steps</th>
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| Create the Business Assistance Team (BAT)           | 1. Develop whitepaper describing details of how the BAT will function  
2. Convene a staff workgroup with representatives from every city department that interacts with businesses  
3. Meet with representatives of the business community to gather input  
4. Develop a process within the Office of Business Resources for how the BAT would be coordinated  
5. Coordinate with community partners that provide business services (WWBIC, SBDC, MDC, The Latino Chamber, the Black Chamber, etc.) to make BAT a connection point to these resources |
| Madison Development Districts                        | 1. Research models from around the country  
2. Develop a report with specific recommendations to move forward and budget implications  
3. Identify potential financial partners and begin discussions with them about the framework for the fund and how it will be implemented  
4. Develop an initial structure for the program including a process for prioritizing the areas and sites to be designated as “Development Zones”  
5. Set clear parameters for acquisition targets and outcomes (e.g. require that a portion of units be affordable, mixed-use, enhance design standards for these sites, set targets for number of jobs created, etc) |
| Targeted Business Retention and Expansion (BRE)     | 1. Create a four year schedule with each of the four target industries the focus of a year-long effort  
2. Compile a list of all businesses in the target industries and conduct one-on-one outreach to key large employers and  
3. Convene focus groups with key businesses, industry groups, and stakeholders in the sector  
4. Research the industry, attend industry conferences, read trade publications, etc. and develop reports and summaries  
5. Provide feedback to City staff and policy makers on key themes, trends, and shared concerns |
| Toward the Identified Industries                     | 1. Develop and distribute transportation needs survey for the Madison business community  
2. Conduct an economic analysis to evaluate the impacts of transit investments and the economic consequences of failing to invest in regional transit  
3. Create communications/marketing materials describing the need  
4. Meet individually with key business leaders who may have a vested interest in this top  
5. Assemble a private sector led taskforce to lead this effort |
| Create a Business Coalition Focused on Transportation Needs | 1. Support MMSD’s Pathways initiative and work with MMSD to add value  
2. Adjust and expand City-sponsored youth internship program’s to align with the Pathways initiative  
3. Help align related programs and resources and connect the Business Community |
| Support Work-Based Learning Opportunities for Youth  | 1. Support MMSD’s Pathways initiative and work with MMSD to add value  
2. Adjust and expand City-sponsored youth internship program’s to align with the Pathways initiative  
3. Help align related programs and resources and connect the Business Community |
1. Present the Connect Madison Strategy to the community (partnering organizations, neighborhood organizations, education leaders, business groups, etc.)

2. Present and discuss the Connect Madison Strategy with the City’s Racial Equity and Social Justice Initiative (RESJI) core team and evaluate Strategy utilizing the City’s Equity Tool.

3. Introduce a Common Council Resolution to accept Connect Madison as the City’s Economic Development Strategy

4. Present to any interested city Committee/Commissions as directed by the Council

5. Develop a detailed work plan for EDD, identifying specific personnel, timelines, and deliverables for projects

6. Create a “whitepaper” for each Priority 1 Project that lays out how the project would be implemented, who would be involved, timelines, and budget implications

7. Continue to coordinate with inter-departmental City staff on how the Connect Madison Strategy aligns with other City plans and strategies in development, most notably the upcoming Comprehensive Plan

8. Create a system and schedule quarterly and annual data summaries and reports. This work should tie-in to the RESJI initiative and the City’s ongoing efforts to develop more robust data-sharing protocols.
LEADERSHIP:

**Madison Economic Development Committee**
Current and previous members of the Economic Development Committee who contributed to this process

- Mark Greene, Chair
- Joe Boucher, Former Chair
- Julia Stone
- Craig Stanley
- Alder Denise Demarb
- Meghan Blake-Horst
- Pat Schramm
- Alder Rebecca Kemble
- Alder Market Clear
- Alder Steve King
- Ed Clark
- Eric Steege
- Meghan Blake-Horst
- Craig Stanley
- Alder Mark Clear
- Alder Scott Resnick
- Frank Staniszewski
- Alder John Strasser
- Matt Yonkle

**Economic Development Committee Strategy Subcommittee Committee**
The following members of the City’s Economic Development Committee (EDC) served on the Strategy Subcommittee. The Subcommittee met numerous times early in this process to develop a framework for the **Connect Madison** Strategy and an initial set of goals and strategies

- Mark Greene, EDC Chair
- Ed Clark, Subcommittee Chair
- Meghan Blake-Horst
- Pat Schramm
- Craig Stanley
- Alder Mark Clear

**Authors of Community Advisory Papers**
The following community members volunteered in response to Mayor Soglin’s request for economic development “Advisory Papers” focused on key topics. Full text of the Advisory Papers are available as in Appendix #3.

- Paul Jadin
- Betsy Lundgren
- Bill White
- Dr. Rubin Anthony
- Jeff Vercauteren
- Angie Black
- Michael Gay
- Anne Reynolds
- Susan Schmitz
- Gary Peterson
- Peggy Gunderson
Thanks!

PARTICIPANTS:


Questions / Feedback

Dan Kennelly, City of Madison
608.267.1968
dkennelly@cityofmadison.com