THE NEW OS
2019-2020 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA
An inclusive economy that expands access and accelerates mobility for everyone
GREATER MADISON IS EXPERIENCING A SURGE OF ECONOMIC MOMENTUM, RANKING AMONG THE TOP METRO AREAS FOR ADVANCED INDUSTRY JOB GROWTH, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND TALENT ATTRACTION. YET DISPARITIES EXIST FOR MANY. TRUE INCLUSIVE GROWTH IS THE ONLY ROUTE TO SUSTAINED PROSPERITY.

IT IS TIME FOR A NEW OPERATING SYSTEM (OS).

AN OS THAT ALIGNS AND OPENS INDIVIDUAL AND INSTITUTIONAL NETWORKS.

AN OS BUILT WITH COORDINATED ACTION AT ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT TO ENSURE ANYONE, AND EVERYONE, PROFITS FROM GREATER MADISON’S MOMENTUM.

WHERE ACCESS, INCLUSION AND MOBILITY ARE INTENTIONALLY HARDCODED.

THIS IS OUR AGENDA.
2019–2020 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Actively support the acquisition of F-35 next-generation aircraft, preserving more than 1,200 Wisconsin jobs, $100 million in annual economic impact and vital emergency response services.

Prioritize economic development strategies that support advanced industry growth, which imports wealth into our communities.

Enhance and leverage economic development financing tools – including Jobs TIF, land banking and Opportunity Zones – to catalyze economic growth in key corridors.

Ensure Greater Madison and Wisconsin remain inclusive places of opportunity for all talent.

Support the growth of new business ownership among women and people of color, leveraging public and private partnerships to provide equitable access to capital, mentoring and community resources.

Encourage policies that support the breakthrough discoveries emerging from UW-Madison and Greater Madison’s bioscience, healthtech and software businesses.

Support digital equity through technology expansion and investment in fast and reliable broadband access.

Support the growth and modernization of Madison Metro transit services by upgrading infrastructure, technology and new service, including dedicated Bus Rapid Transit.

Support and leverage public and private investment in bicycle infrastructure.

Enable communities across Wisconsin to coordinate transportation services through the creation of Regional Transit Authorities.
2019–2020 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Increase service, access and business use of Dane County Regional Airport and establish non-stop connections to new and vital business hubs including Houston and Boston.

Encourage public-private collaboration and investment in strategies with the greatest impact to improve water quality in the Yahara watershed.

Support the modernization of the Alliant Energy Center campus, with a focus on environment, equity and employment. In addition, enhance the physical connection between the AEC campus and downtown Madison.

Support personalized pathways in area schools, including the delivery of high-impact experiential, work-based learning, to ensure all students graduate with the skills needed to be college-, career- and community-ready.

Support our future workforce by making significant facility and technology investments in Madison’s public high schools.

Assist Madison children in developing a college-bound identity by supporting the City of Madison, Madison Metropolitan School District and the Foundation for Madison Public Schools in launching the Madison Youth Savings Accounts (MYSA) program.

Adopt a presumptive approval policy to ensure that once project plans are submitted, decisions are made in a timely, predictable way with necessary public input, while minimizing the costs associated with lengthy delays.

Support the implementation and enhancement of the Business Assistance Team, as recommended in the City’s Connect Madison economic development strategy.

To ensure an increased and diverse supply of workforce housing, the city should pursue creative approaches to the development process, including the application of REACH codes, layering targeted incentive programs and financing tools and reducing burdensome zoning restrictions and duplicative process approvals.
Create a statewide refundable tax credit to catalyze private research and development spending.

Resolve insufficiencies in the state’s transportation fund by providing meaningful finance reform and sustainable funding sources.

Support federal skilled-worker immigration reform to grow and retain talent, foster entrepreneurship and drive economic growth.

Pursue important federal immigration reforms that encourage entrepreneurship, support our growing workforce needs and boost our nation’s competitiveness.

Enact a permanent solution that allows undocumented immigrants brought to the United States as children (“Dreamers”) to remain in the country.

Bolster government-funded research to ensure the United States remains the world’s dominant innovation economy.

Support innovative ways to expand charitable giving that make philanthropy more accessible and inclusive.
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