

**Madison's Central Business Improvement District (BID)
Board Statement on Central Library**

April 1, 2010

Madison's Central Business Improvement District (BID) represents business and property owners in the greater State Street and Capitol Square area. The mission of Madison's Central BID is to increase the vitality and health of the District and promote business within it. BID programs support the economic vitality of central downtown as a regional destination for shopping, dining, entertainment, arts and culture. Both the current Central Library site and the proposed West Washington library site are within the BID.

The proposed Central Library project on West Washington Ave. that included redevelopment of the current Library site had multiple benefits for not only the block but also the central downtown: a much-needed new Library; leveraging private investment with city dollars; adding to the downtown tax base and business activity; and more lighting, parking, and activity in a key area near Overture Center, State Street and the Capitol Square.

The BID strongly encourages the City to further explore the West Washington Ave. Central Library project, and vision for the block, before abandoning it in favor of renovation of the current Library.