Metropolitan Improvement District Lending Dog Owners a Helping Hand

*Mutt Mitt stations being installed throughout Downtown to assist in cleaning up after our four-legged friends*

SEATTLE (April 15, 2014) – Seattleites love their dogs, and the reputation as a dog-friendly city has been well chronicled. Even as a perennial [top 10 city for dogs](http://www.seattle.gov/doginfo/), there has been a gap in amenities for parents of pooches living and visiting Downtown. The Metropolitan Improvement District (MID) has begun addressing this need, installing Mutt Mitt stations in Downtown neighborhoods, providing a clean solution for what can be a messy situation.

While cleaning up after pets is certainly the responsibility of the dog owner, this doesn’t always happen and MID Clean Team Ambassadors are left...holding the bag. From July to December 2013, the MID Clean Team scooped up 6,727 incidents of waste.

The MID has worked with the community to identify 25 high-traffic areas in which to place a Mutt Mitt dispensing station. Nine stations have been installed, with three more installations slated for April and four per month until 25 station are in position.

“It once Belltown joined the MID (July 2013) the residential population of our service area increased substantially, as did the pet population,” said MID Vice President of Public Area Management Joshua Curtis. “We worked with our Clean Team to identify the most troublesome areas, Seattle Public Utilities provided us...
with the Mutt Mitt stations and we’ve mapped out a placement schedule. They’ve made a dramatic difference. The sidewalks are cleaner, the area is more inviting and it’s a convenience for dog owners.”

Mutt Mitt dispensaries will be in Belltown, Pioneer Square, Retail Core and West Edge. For a schedule of dispensary installation or for more information please contact James Sido at jamess@downtownseattle.org or 206-613-3208.

About Metropolitan Improvement District
The Metropolitan Improvement District is a service district which provides streetscape cleaning, human services outreach, hospitality and public safety services, as well as marketing to increase pedestrian traffic, advocacy for transportation solutions, as well as research and market analysis for businesses interested in locating Downtown. Founded by the Downtown Seattle Association in 1999, the MID is financed through an assessment on Downtown commercial and residential property owners across 285-square-blocks in Downtown Seattle.

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