

A message to our ratepayers

July 2023

With the support of Metropolitan Improvement District ratepayers and the approval of the Seattle City Council and mayor, the MID was renewed in May for another 10 years. Seattle Mayor Bruce Harrell signed legislation to reauthorize the MID at a formal signing ceremony on May 18. This action came after nearly 70% of MID ratepayers signed petitions to renew the MID.

The new MID went into effect July 1 and will expand to include several additional blocks at the south end of Pioneer Square near downtown Seattle stadiums. The boundary expansion is a testament to the MID's effectiveness and importance to the health and vibrancy of downtown. This is a big win for downtown and a huge vote of confidence in the MID. I'd like to thank all of you who signed petitions to renew, testified before the Council and wrote letters of support.

With your support, we continue to see improvement in downtown revitalization and recovery. Visitors are returning to the center city at levels approaching pre-pandemic, with more than 2.5 million coming downtown in May 2023. The average daily worker foot traffic count is the highest since 2019. Visitors and workers join the record number of residents who now live downtown. We

continue to see progress on public safety downtown, with violent crime in the first five months of 2023 down by nearly 20% compared to the same period in 2022. More information about downtown's recovery is available at downtownseattle.org/programs-services/research.

As we head into the busy summer months and continue to welcome more people to the center city, MID funding will support hundreds of hours of summer programming in our urban parks and public spaces, including free outdoor concerts, midday food truck festivals and weekend family activities. With additional funding and a full staff of ambassadors, we will also be increasing cleaning services throughout MID neighborhoods.

As a new program year begins July 1, I will be stepping down as chair of your MID Advisory Board, and turning the reins over to a new chair who will be announced later this month. I want to thank you for your investment in making downtown Seattle safe, clean and welcoming; for your support in bringing employees back to work; for helping our small, medium-sized and large businesses thrive; and for your belief that Seattle will continue to lead the nation as a diverse, equitable and inclusive city, setting an example for others.



Lisa Nitze

*MID Ratepayer Advisory Board Chair
Principal, Nitze-Stagen*

Your Assessment at Work

June 2022-May 2023



1,233,855
Gallons of
trash and debris
removed



53,673
Graffiti tags removed



33,173
Incidents of human/
animal waste removed



5,159
Syringes collected



32,206
People given
directions



8,706
Hours of programming
and activation in
downtown parks



Visitors enjoying the food trucks at Westlake Park

Celebrating MID Ambassador of the Year

Each year, MID supervisors select an ambassador of the year from the group of 12 ambassadors who have been nominated throughout the program year as ambassadors of the month. The 2023 Lee Townsend Ambassador of the Year award goes to Stacie Jackson, morning dispatcher. If you've ever called in a service request between the hours of 6 a.m. and 2 p.m., it's likely you talked with Stacie. She triages incoming requests for cleanups, welfare checks, graffiti removal and more, answering more than 4,000 calls a year.

Stacie began as an ambassador on our Clean Team in 2017 and took on her current role in January 2020. As the front line for MID services, she goes out of her way to deliver impeccable customer service not only to downtown stakeholders but to her fellow employees.

Stacie was formally recognized at the DSA/MID Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 29.

Congratulations, Stacie!



MID Funds Summer fun in Downtown Seattle

Funding from MID ratepayers is helping create a vibrant and welcoming downtown Seattle all summer long. With more workers returning to their offices and an influx of visitors expected for MLB All-Star Week, cruise season and a host of other major events, DSA/MID staff are planning a variety of public realm activations and events.

Downtown parks will host lunchtime Food Truck Festivals, which have consistently been drawing hundreds of people, along with kid- and pet-friendly events and even a pop-up roller-skating rink. Buskers will perform weekly at two downtown parks, and in July, Downtown Summer Sounds returns for its 44th year. The series will feature 37 free outdoor concerts featuring artists from across the Pacific Northwest from July 7-Sept. 8.



The Black Tones performing in summer 2022 in Westlake Park

MAKE A SERVICE REQUEST

206-441-3303
downtownseattle.org/service

Service Hours

Clean Team

Daily: 7 a.m.-9 p.m.

Public Realm Operations Team

Daily: 7 a.m.-9 p.m.

Community Safety

and Hospitality Team

Daily: 7 a.m.-9 p.m.