



Downtown San Diego Clean & Safe Board Media Update

The San Diego Union-Tribune.

Dogs Welcomed at Work High-rise Allows Cats...



By Roger Showley | midnight March 21, 2016 | Updated, 8:07 a.m.

<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/2016/mar/21/tp-dogs-welcomed-at-work-high-rise-allows-cats/>



San Diego – Downtown is going to the dogs.

Not only does every other resident seem to have a dog, but now a major downtown high-rise office owner also is declaring one of its buildings pro-pet.

Emmes Realty Services has established its own "Bark Park" in the breezeway between the parking garage and its 707 Broadway building. Tenants are allowed to bring cats and dogs to work if they sign a form that lays out the rules and regulations. And a new deli opening next week, Nosh Express, plans to stock pet treats. This may be San Diego's first high-rise with an official dog-friendly policy.

"It's one of the many amenities that the more innovative, millennial-focused firms are looking at as a benefit for their employees," said Emmes vice president Jordan Johnson.

He said several other companies are moving in, partly because of the new policy.

"One of the dogs may be a company mascot, an integral part of the team, and allowing that in the building is helpful to their culture," Johnson said.

However, the policy is not planned to be extended to Emmes' three other high-rises downtown; 1 and 2 Columbia Place at Columbia and West B streets, and 710 B Street. It also doesn't apply to other pets, like snakes and gerbils, at least not yet.

The thinking is that employees who spend half their lives at the office, coding and designing on the computer, will stay longer if they don't have to rush home to feed Fido or take him for a walk.

At the game developer Psyonix on the 16th floor, about six of the 80 employees regularly bring dogs to work.

"It has an overall positive effect, especially on the dog owner," said Thomas Silloway, 30, director of development.

But he leaves his black lab Sparky at home when he has serious meetings with clients.

"I don't want him interrupting me," Silloway said.

A friendly Corgi named Gary (named after actor Gary Busey) spends most of the day on the floor next to his owner, Dallas Hayes, 28.

"He's not very active," Hayes said.

At the Stitch Music offices on the ninth floor, chief operating officer Craig Stevens, 44, takes Toby, a Labrador Rhodesian Ridgeback mix, to the Bark Park three times a day.

"I think it's great," Stevens said. "The employees really like having the dogs around. It gives them a little break."

However, some days he leaves Toby home alone.

"The first time I left him he gave me a little guilt," Stevens said.

Dogs in offices is not new. Pet Sitters International started Take Your Dog to Work Day in 1996 in Britain and launched it in the U.S. three years later. (It's scheduled for June 24 this year.) Allen Matkins attorney Erin Murphy in Los Angeles penned a set of guidelines for landlords in 2009.

Lynn Hulbert, president of the local chapter of Building Owners and Managers Association International, said dogs are becoming more common in commercial offices, especially in single-tenant buildings.

But she said landlords are concerned about liability, insurance problems, maintenance and damage issues that arise if dogs don't behave. Her company, Providien Property Management, enforces a strict no-pet policy.

"People try to bring their dogs but, sorry, they're not allowed," Hulbert said.

(A sign on the front door at the Union-Tribune building in Mission Valley reads, "Assistance dogs only.")

The Emmes pet policy requires animals to be "fully vaccinated and well-trained." They have to be kept on leashes in common areas and be removed upon the landlord's request.

"Pets of a vicious or dangerous disposition - i.e. pit bulls - shall not be permitted," the policy says.

Mackenzie Ooms, general manager of the Camp Run-A-Mutt dog day care center on India Street, said office dogs probably should not exceed 60 pounds. She also warns against mixing them with cats.

"Not every dog wants to chase cats, but a lot do," Ooms said.

Kris Michell, president and CEO of the Downtown San Diego Partnership business group, has a poodle mix that her landlord does not allow her to bring to work. But she would welcome the trend. She said the 707 Broadway Building may be the first local, multi-tenant tower with a pro-dog policy, and several others are looking into the concept.

"When you bring a pet into the office, it really calms everyone down," Michell said. "Emmes is so smart to do this."

But as millennials get married and have children, Michell predicted the pressure will be on to become kid friendly, too.

"All the building owners are looking at this," she said. "Amenity-rich buildings are the key. ... Pet-friendly places are really the beginning."



Padres and Partnership host a community clean up fit for the Major Leagues



NBC 7 News Today
March 23, 2016, 6:28am



The San Diego Padres and the Downtown San Diego Partnership team up for a community clean up around Petco Park



Wednesday, March 23, 2016



The Padres Volunteer Team, the Downtown Partnership, and local volunteers participate in a Downtown community clean up event



Wednesday, March 23, 2016

Downtown Development Skews Toward Commercial

FEBRUARY 19, 2016 | BY [CARRIE ROSSENFELD](#)

SAN DIEGO—Developers are beginning to show interest in building spec office, not just build-to-suits, in the Downtown San Diego market, Downtown San Diego Partnership CEO Kris Michell tells GlobeSt.com in this **EXCLUSIVE** interview.

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Michell: “We have the talent and the workforce in Downtown, and companies are seeing that and are interested in this market.”

SAN DIEGO—**Developers** are beginning to show interest in building **spec office**, not just build-to-suits, in the Downtown San Diego market, **Downtown San Diego Partnership** CEO **Kris Michell** tells GlobeSt.com. There has been unprecedented level of **development** activity occurring or in the pipeline for the Downtown market, with more than 9,000 **apartment** units either under construction or approved for construction currently and **hotel** construction off the charts as well. But Michell says the area is

beginning to eye office development, too. We spoke with her exclusively about the Downtown development market and what to expect over the next couple of years.

GlobeSt.com: What stands out for you the most with all of the development projects currently in the pipeline for Downtown San Diego?

Michell: There are a total of 3,700 hotel rooms in the pipeline for Downtown San Diego—that's good and helps to fuel the **economy**. Also, the **Manchester Pacific Gateway** project, a *planned* \$1.2-billion redevelopment of the 13.7-acre **Navy Broadway Complex**, will produce 1.7 million in commercial office that's going to jumpstart that waterfront area, the front porch of our Downtown. It will completely transform the area. Also, Downtown has approximately 10,000 apartment and condo units in the pipeline.

In addition, **Nat Bosa's [Pacific Gate](#)** project is notable. The architecture is great. We met with Nat two years ago, and he was talking about this project. He said he had a model, but he didn't like it—he didn't think the architecture was good enough. He discarded all of it and had his architect start over to create what could be a truly world-class project. He was willing to take that risk. Downtown is a world-class city, so it deserves world-class architecture.

Also, the **Pendry** will be such a cool hotel—I'm very excited about that. I really feel like Downtown San Diego is getting hip and cool. I see quality projects coming up. **7th & Market** is going to be one of the most stunning projects—**Cisterra** is going to build it, and they have a reputation for such quality. In that project, they're looking at putting in a **Whole Foods** and **Ritz Carlton**, the first five-star hotel in Downtown San Diego. When you combine that with the commercial, **residential** and on-site **affordable**, as well as the waterfront (it's rumored that **Rob Lankford** is building an **Intercontinental Hotel** there), we're seeing quality, and that is exciting. The choices developers are making for Downtown are the right choices; they're putting Downtown's needs first.

GlobeSt.com: What type of development do you expect to dominate in 2016 and 2017 in this market?

Michell: What I'm hearing is that development is skewing to building commercial. For the first time, we're having discussions with developers who want to build spec office

Downtown, not just build-to-suits. This is changing. We have the talent and the workforce in Downtown, and companies are seeing that and are interested in this market. I think over the next few years, you will see more commercial construction here.

GlobeSt.com: What do you see as the greatest hindrance to development in this market?

Michell: Processing time is a concern—getting decisions made and being able to move forward. There was some statewide legislation being considered that would have neutered the effectiveness of **Civic San Diego**, and this could have had a quelling effect on those who want to develop here, but that didn't come to pass. Having a yes or no answer is important; that certainty and a process is what they are really craving. Besides unparalleled beauty, we have Civic San Diego to help bring that process to fruition.

GlobeSt.com: What else should our readers know about development in this market?

Michell: Development Downtown is on fire right now. If you've ever thought of developing in Downtown, now is the time.

April 5, 2016

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Downtown Neighborhood Clean Up presented by Downtown Ace Hardware

Community and Business Volunteers to Join Forces to Keep the Gaslamp Quarter Vibrant

GASLAMP QUARTER (SAN DIEGO, CA) – Keeping Downtown San Diego beautiful is no easy task. The Downtown San Diego Partnership’s Clean & Safe Program (Clean & Safe) works diligently to accomplish this on a daily basis through their Maintenance and Safety Ambassadors, ensuring that the Gaslamp Quarter and East Village continue to be a premier destination for locals and visitors. The Gaslamp Quarter Association invites you to be part of the **Downtown Neighborhood Clean Up presented by Downtown Ace Hardware** to give back and thank Clean & Safe for their year-round efforts, coming up on **Saturday, April 9, 2016 from 8:00AM to 11:00AM** throughout the **Gaslamp Quarter and East Village**, in the heart of Downtown San Diego.

More than 200 volunteers from Gaslamp Quarter businesses and local schools, community, and corporate groups, including San Diego City Council candidates Anthony Bernal, and Chris Ward, US Navy, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, San Diego City College, Pacific Beach Rotaract, and Students for Change, 9* expected to lend a hand towards keeping Downtown pristine. Volunteers will be working alongside Clean & Safe Ambassadors to remove/ collect trash and clean graffiti throughout the Gaslamp Quarter and East Village. The first 200 volunteers will receive a free t-shirt and goodie bag with special offers from Downtown businesses. Volunteers are welcome to sign up either individually or as a group at [http:// gaslamp.org/events](http://gaslamp.org/events)

“The Gaslamp Quarter often serves as the face of San Diego, welcoming more than eight million locals, conventioners, and leisure travelers annually with our uniquely San Diegan-blend of outdoor dining, dynamic arts and entertainment, stylish shopping, all in a historic and walkable urban environment. The beautification and maintenance of the district is crucial to each visitor’s experience here. The Gaslamp Quarter knows the Downtown San Diego Partnership’s Clean & Safe team does a phenomenal job throughout the year. It’s time for the community to give back

and thank Clean & Safe for their tireless efforts,” states Gaslamp Quarter Association Executive Director, Michael Trimble. “Through the Neighborhood Clean Up, we aim to join forces with our dedicated volunteers and Clean & Safe in keeping the Gaslamp Quarter gleaming.”

“The Clean & Safe team works day in and day out to keep our Downtown clean, safe, and beautiful. But for Downtown to continue to thrive, it’s going to take more than the efforts of Clean & Safe – it’s going to take all of us,” adds Weichelt Real Estate Services broker Robert Weichelt. “Initiatives like this bring the community together, build pride, and help deliver on the true promise of our urban center. We are proud to work with the Gaslamp Quarter Association to make our Downtown a great neighborhood to live, work, and play.”

“It doesn’t seem to rain much in San Diego, but on the off chance that the weather looks dire, The Gaslamp Quarter Association will alert those who have signed up for the clean-up by Friday the 8th and will have an alternate future date for the event.” says Gaslamp Quarter Director of Operations, Alex Ward.

The Gaslamp Quarter Association would like to thank Presenting Sponsor, Downtown Ace Hardware, for generously providing the necessary supplies and tools for the Neighborhood Clean Up, and would also like to acknowledge the following partners and sponsors for their support of this event: Weichelt Real Estate Services, Trilogy Real Estate Management and Barleymash.

For more information on the Gaslamp Quarter Neighborhood Clean Up, visit, Gaslamp.org/events or call (619) 233-5227. Gaslamp Quarter Association staff will be available for comment, interview, or for Neighborhood Clean Up site tours leading up to, and on Saturday, April 9, 2016.

Also available for comment or interview:

- Christina Chadwick of the Downtown San Diego Partnership, (619) 234-0201, cchadwick@downtownsandiego.org

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About the Gaslamp Quarter Association: The Gaslamp Quarter Association is a 501(c)6 non-profit association whose mission is to promote and protect the historic Gaslamp Quarter as San Diego’s premiere Shopping, Dining and Entertainment District, using advocacy, community relations, and promotional programs to present an exciting, sophisticated, world-class destination for the residents of, and visitors to San Diego, for the prosperity of the Association’s Membership. The Gaslamp Quarter Association is partially funded by The City of San Diego’s Small Business Enhancement Program.

Learn more on how to get involved with Clean & Safe: <http://sandiegodowntownnews.com/keeping-downtown-clean-and-beautiful-together/>



Tuesday, April 5, 2016

By Kristina Bravo



CREDIT: [TRIBAL PETS, INC.](#) / FLICKR

A dog hangs out in Balboa Park in this undated photo.

A [new study](#) has ranked San Diego as the fourth most dog-friendly city in the U.S.

The website SmartAsset looked at data from 100 cities to determine dog accessibility and quality of life for pet owners. Factors include the number of dog parks, dog-friendly shopping areas, walkability and housing costs.

With 187 local restaurants listed on [BringFido.com](#) as places where pet owners can bring their pooches, San Diego topped the survey's list of cities with the most dog-friendly eateries.

Overall, San Diego ranks behind San Francisco, Las Vegas and Denver as the best city for dog owners.

Still, housing issues may make it a challenge to own a pet in the city.

“Although San Diego is a very pet-friendly city, housing has not always kept up with that,” said Stacey Zeitlin of the [San Diego Humane Society](#). “Housing can be expensive and there are often breed restrictions that make it a challenge for pet owners to find appropriate housing with their pets.”

For those looking for a furry companion, Zeitlib strongly recommends visiting local shelters.

“By adopting an animal from a shelter, community members support [a] commitment to help all healthy and treatable animals find homes and create space in the animal welfare organizations so that they can help even more animals,” she said.



Rank	City	Dog Parks per 100,000 Residents	Dog-Friendly Restaurants	Dog-Friendly Shopping Centers	Walk Score	Annual Average Precipitation Days	Index
1	San Francisco, CA	3.46	174	3	84	49.0	100.00
2	Las Vegas, NV	3.65	42	2	39	14.2	94.20
3	Denver, CO	1.69	76	4	56	43.5	90.67
4	San Diego, CA	1.11	187	7	49	28.1	89.74
5	Albuquerque, NM	2.16	46	2	40	28.0	86.84
6	Sacramento, CA	2.08	58	3	43	39.7	86.53
7	Chicago, IL	0.77	144	4	75	61.7	85.91
8	Minneapolis, MN	1.75	42	2	65	57.0	84.46
9	Tucson, AZ	0.95	43	2	39	22.7	81.14
10	New York, NY	1.62	141	3	88	76.0	79.38
11	Tampa, FL	2.83	59	0	46	71.8	78.96
12	Austin, TX	1.36	164	6	35	50.4	74.61
13	Long Beach, CA	1.28	38	0	66	25.1	74.30
14	Portland, OR	5.41	70	2	63	115.9	73.37
15	Seattle, WA	2.15	102	2	71	107.8	72.64
16	Washington, DC	1.70	76	2	70	76.0	72.12
17	Saint Louis, MO	1.57	32	0	60	68.6	71.09
18	Los Angeles, CA	0.28	147	4	64	25.1	69.64
19	Arlington, VA	3.56	52	0	67	76.0	68.39
20	Philadelphia, PA	0.32	116	6	77	74.2	67.88
21	Milwaukee, WI	0.50	25	3	59	66.4	66.11
22	Pittsburgh, PA	1.96	21	0	60	80.3	64.04
23	Bakersfield, CA	1.93	10	2	34	23.7	62.38
24	Saint Petersburg, FL	2.40	15	0	40	70.5	62.18
25	Fresno, CA	0.98	17	0	42	32.9	60.93

This analysis also considered the median home price in each city, which does not appear in this table.

PHOTO BY SMARTASSET

The website SmartAsset looked at data from 100 cities to determine dog accessibility and quality of life for pet owners.

