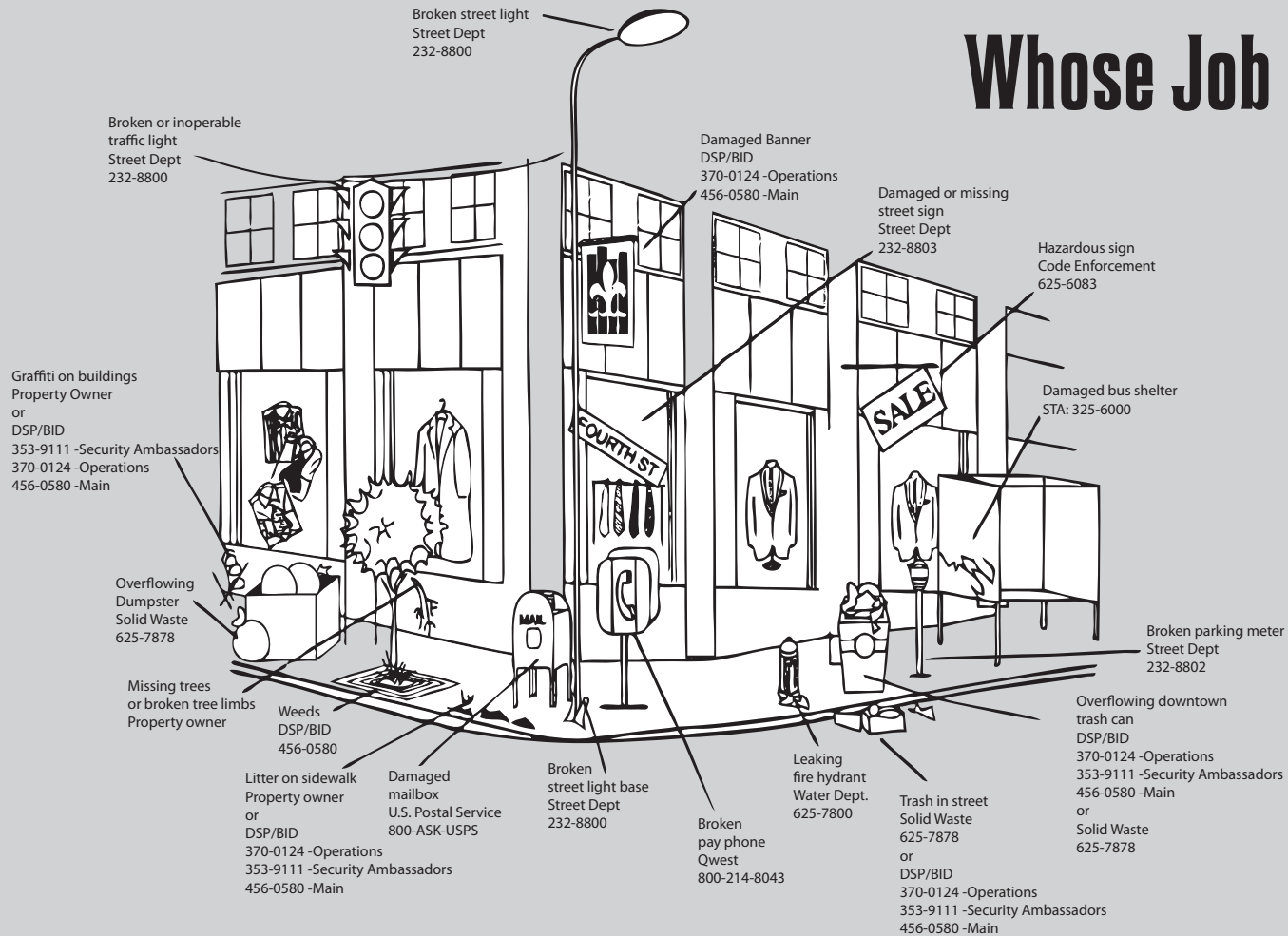


DOWNTOWN SPOKANE



Whose Job Is It?



Collaboration Makes for a Green and Beautiful Downtown

Downtown Spokane is a vibrant place to live, work and play. The Downtown Spokane Partnership (DSP) and Business Improvement District (BID) have put a great deal of effort into the beautification and maintenance of the urban streetscape including the replacement of the overflowing Expo '74 trash cans with sleek, new receptacles with a larger capacity, and new planters, filled with greenery throughout the core. The Clean Team removes over 5,000 bags of litter from Downtown each year, and cleans between 15,000 and 20,000 pieces of graffiti annually. The DSP/BID and Clean Team are here to work with the Downtown community to maintain and improve upon our vibrant and busy sidewalks--helping business is our business. To minimize confusion for a business or property owner, we have provided a resource to guide you to the appropriate facility or organization as you maintain and improve your business facade.

Street trees are another important opportunity to improve our Downtown streetscape. According to the Spokane Parks Department:

56% of Downtown trees fall out of accepted standards for branch architecture

75% of trees are in need of pruning

17.5% of trees are girdled

7.1% of trees are in need of removal

On the opposite side of this handout are some options for planting, irrigating, and improving street trees in Downtown with solid business reasons to do so. If everyone works together doing their part, we can create a green and beautiful Downtown!

For more information on street trees, streetscapes and other Downtown news, visit
DowntownSpokane.net or call 509.456.0580

New Downtown Street Tree Replacement Grant Program Launched



The Downtown Spokane Partnership, the City of Spokane, and the Spokane County Conservation District have launched a grant program to plant new street trees in Downtown Spokane. The program is intended to replace or add up to 50 street trees a year in an area bounded by Spokane Falls Boulevard to the north, Second Avenue to the south, just past Monroe Street to the west, and just past Washington Street to the east.

There are about 500 locations in the Downtown core that are suitable for street trees, but many of these sites are empty or have trees that are in poor health. The grant program is a way to get new trees into these locations.

Property owners can apply for the \$500 grants for tree sites adjacent to their properties. The property owner must agree to remove any existing tree and install a privately connected irrigation system for the site. They also commit to watering and caring for the tree for 25 years.

The City will backfill the tree pit with appropriate planting mix, and the Spokane County Conservation District will plant a new tree in each location. Approved tree species for the program include Green Ash, White Ash, Blue Ash, Little Leaf Linden, and American Linden.

Special thanks to the City and Public Works department for making this program a reality!

For more information or to download an application visit www.DowntownSpokane.net.

*Did you Know?....

- Large canopy street trees help reduce building cooling costs and extend the life of asphalt and pavement.
- Street trees cool and shade Downtown's sidewalks, encouraging shoppers to stay longer.
- Large street trees create a strong "sense-of-place," soften the urban landscape, and are a competitive advantage for Downtown.
- Street trees positively influence the distance people are willing to travel to shop in Downtown -expanding the regional draw of consumer to Downtown.
- For well-established streetscaped trees in a business district, participants in multiple surveys indicated they are willing to:
 - Travel further
 - Pay more for parking
 - Stay longer
- Research indicates people prefer natural views to man-made views, and participants had strong preferences for tree-lined streets.
- Large, well-tended trees receive highest preference ratings.
- **Consumers in a survey, claimed they were willing to pay 9% more in small cities and 12% more in large cities for equivalent goods and services in business districts with an urban forest.**

*Wolf, K. "The Environmental Psychology of Shopping" ICSC Research Review, Vol. 14, No. 3, 2007 pp39-43

Tree Gators Create Some Irrigation Relief

Due to the summer heat, lack of precipitation and the question of who is responsible for watering Downtown street trees, many of the Downtown's street trees are in extreme distress.

In the interest of maintaining a basic level of health the Clean Team will be irrigating a number of street trees throughout the Business Improvement District using a product called Tree Gator Slow Release Water Bags. Tree Gator bags slowly release water to street tree root balls over a several hour period, allowing even root-bound street trees some access to moisture. The purchase price is \$20 per bag.

If you are interested in purchasing this system for your trees, or if you have any questions in regard to street trees please contact Andrew Rolwes at 456.0580 x109 or ARolwes@DowntownSpokane.net.

