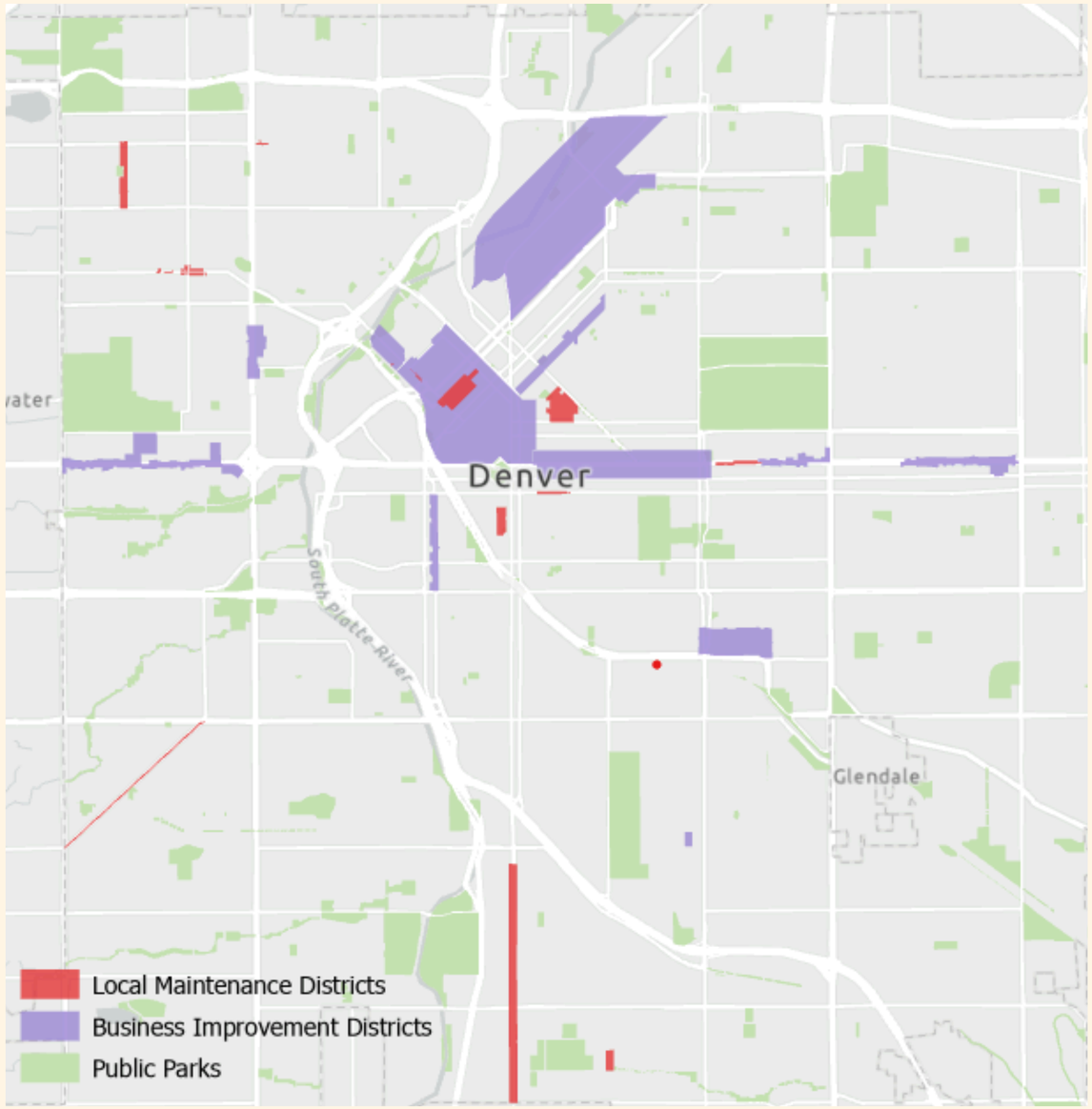
Zoe Costello

# Let's Talk Trash

*Creating cleaner streets and increasing public sanitation access in Capitol Hill*



# Where are all of the public trash cans?




***City and County of Denver***
only provides public trash cans within city-owned parks. They do **not** provide cans on public sidewalks and streets.

***Business Improvement Districts***
collect fees from businesses to fund services such as public trash receptacles and garbage pickup

***Local Maintenance Districts***
pay for the maintenance of specialty streetscape items such as public trash receptacles

**Outside of these areas, public trash service relies on individual residents and businesses who choose to provide and maintain them.**

# The Problem

## *RTD Bus Stops*

Bus stops generate concentrated waste from commuters, and studies show that urban bus stops average 14-15 pieces of litter at any given time. Despite this, many of the bus stops in Capitol Hill do not have a trash can. This often leads to accumulated trash ending up on sidewalks.

### *Capitol Hill Context*

The area is characterized by mixed-use, multi family housing, transit accessibility, and walkability. These factors increase sidewalk traffic.

### *Trash can supply does not meet demand*

Many blocks fall outside park and BID boundaries, leaving long stretches without city-maintained cans. This leaves residents and visitors with no convenient, sanctioned place to dispose of waste.

### *Increased litter and decreased cleanliness*

With no accessible public trash receptacles, residents and visitors often resort to illegal dumping or leaving trash on the ground.





# The Plan:

Advocate to implement public trash cans at the 12th and Washington bus stops to reduce litter and improve overall neighborhood cleanliness.

# Objectives

## Document Status

Take photos of litter on the street and around the bus stops, document number of passengers and nearby sources of trash

## Identify Owner

RTD only maintains 300 of the 9,700 bus stops .Other stops are maintained by the CIty of Denver, private advertising agencies, or through ‘Adopt-A-Stop’ groups.

## Gather Support

Gather 15-20 signatures from neighbors and transit riders to reflect public demand for the project

## Report Problem

Submit a request through Denver 311 with photos and reasoning why a trash can should be implemented at the bus stop. Notify city council representative of the request and petition.

## Build Alliance

Contact Neighbors for a Greater Capitol Hill, Capitol Hill United Neighbors, local apartment complexes and businesses to garner support.

## Explore Options

If the 311 request is denied, utilize support garnered to organize and apply for the ‘Adopt-A-Stop’ program. Continue to advocate to city council for city maintained public trash cans.

