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Downtown Miami dogs get to play under Metromover's shade

MIAMI – Miami-Dade County Commissioner Eileen Higgins said it wasn't easy to open Miami's new "Downtown Dog Spot." Don't call it a "dog park" she said.

Higgins said the county even had to get permission from the federal government to get the dog-friendly space under the shade of the Metromover.

"I use the word purposely ... because I don't want to be arrested," Higgins said. "Because we are under transit infrastructure we are not allowed to call it a park, so don't use that word people, but we can build spots."

The new Dog Spot is open to the public at the Metromover station at Northeast First Street and Second Avenue, west of Biscayne Boulevard.

Higgins said a "Connect Spot" is in the works nearby and a "Play Spot" will soon open under the Fifth Street Metromover station.

The county partnered with the Miami Downtown Development Authority, which focuses on the area's capital improvements, to create the "Spots."