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## Portland Business Alliance, City of Portland announce partnership to make more BigBelly solar units available

*Solar trashcans reduce emissions, maintenance costs*

Portland, Ore. – Ever thought about the environmental footprint of a public trashcan – the emissions from the garbage haulers, the overflowing cans? The City of Portland and the Portland Business Alliance have and they have a solution: a solar-powered trashcan that compacts trash called BigBelly Solar. Two units are currently on Portland streets, but more units may be on their way thanks to a partnership announced today at Portland City Council.

The Alliance has set up a program through their Charitable Institute to facilitate the donation of BigBelly units to the City of Portland. The city will then maintain the units. More information about the new program and how to donate and sponsor a BigBelly can be found at: [www.portlandadoptabelly.com](http://www.portlandadoptabelly.com).

“With the summer festival season upon, you can really see the value of these solar-powered trash cans,” said Greg Goodman of City Center Parking and an Alliance member who donated the first two units to the city. “Overflowing trash, which can get into our streams and rivers, and the increased number of trips by the garbage haulers means more emissions in the air. With BigBelly, trash collections are reduced by 80 percent and more garbage can fit in the container.”

Each public garbage can requires an average of five garbage truck visits per week; BigBelly receptacles, however, require about one. This decrease in truck pick-ups in downtown Portland could ultimately result in 25,000-pound reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions if all cans were converted. Additionally, BigBelly units can be ordered with a recycling compartment, which would enable street level recycling that is not currently available on city streets.

The Portland Business Alliance will be working with businesses to donate more units. If interested, contact Lisa Frisch at 503-224-8684. Photos of the two units are attached.

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*The Portland Business Alliance is Greater Portland's Chamber of Commerce representing more than 1,400 businesses in the region. Our mission is to ensure economic prosperity in the Portland region by providing strong leadership, partnership and programs that encourage business growth and vitality. Visit the Alliance at [www.portlandalliance.com](http://www.portlandalliance.com).*