



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 17, 2009

For more information, contact:
Megan Doern, 503.552.6754

More Solar-Powered Trash Compactors Headed to Downtown Portland
Local companies sponsoring 11 additional units for downtown

Portland, Ore. – Through a partnership between the City of Portland and the Portland Business Alliance, some more of the city's trashcans are being upgraded to solar-powered trash compactors. Eleven new units will be placed on downtown streets Portland later this week. The units are cordless and completely solar-powered with an efficient energy-management system that allows the units to operate even during cloudy weeks. Sponsors for the new additions are:

- Melvin Mark and City Center Parking properties, Bank of California and Crown Plaza;
- Clean & Safe program funded by downtown property owners; and
- Northwest Natural Gas.

The Portland Business Alliance facilitates the donation of BigBelly units to the City of Portland. Once the units are installed, the city maintains them. The units will help city cut back on trash pickup and prevent overflow of waste. These effects also lead to better air quality for the city; if all trashcans were converted to BigBelly units, the city could reduce CO₂ emissions by at least 25,000 pounds per year.

"Portland is excited about this opportunity and appreciates the efforts of the Alliance to put this program together," said Mayor Sam Adams. "This project reflects the City's commitment to sustainability and presents exciting opportunities for future efficiencies and savings."

"Adopt-a-Belly demonstrates how business and the city can work together and implement creative ideas to improve our downtown," said Michelle Martin, President of the Downtown Business Improvement District and a Senior Property Manager with Ashforth Pacific, Inc. "We are working with more businesses and property owners to bring more BigBellies to our city's streets."

The program was started last year at the urging of Greg Goodman of City Center Parking who purchased and installed two units at Broadway and Morrison and 5th Avenue and Morrison. The Portland Business Alliance will be working with businesses to donate more units. If interested, contact Lisa Frisch at 503-224-8684. More information about the program and how to donate and sponsor a BigBelly can be found at: www.portlandadoptabelly.com.

The following is a list of new locations and sponsors:

Bank of California

- SW Stark and Broadway featuring nonprofit Pioneer Courthouse Square and an image of Pioneer Courthouse Square.
- SW Stark and Park featuring non-profit OSU Foundation with an image of the tram.

- SW Washington and Stark featuring nonprofit Self Enhancement Inc. and an image of a farmers' market.
- SW Washington and Broadway featuring nonprofit LifeWorks NW and an image of the dragon boats.

Crown Plaza

- SW 2nd and Clay featuring MS Society and an image of the Portland Art Museum.
- SW 1st and Clay featuring LifeWorks NW and an image of Pioneer Courthouse Square.
- SW 2nd and Columbia featuring LifeWorks NW and the Portland Art Museum.
- 1st and Jefferson featuring nonprofit LifeWorks NW, and an image of the Portland Art Museum.

Clean & Safe (funded by downtown property owners)

- SW Broadway and Yamhill, featuring an image of the Max.
- SW 9th and Alder also featuring Max.

Northwest Natural Gas

- SW Broadway at Clay featuring an image of Mt. Hood.

The Alliance has commitments for 15 more machines slated for a November deliver date and sponsors will include Hoffman Construction, TMT Development, Zimmer Gunsel Frasca, Gerding Edlen Development, US Bank, Portland General Electric, and Aspen Investments.

Early adopters of the BigBelly trashcans were the Oregon Zoo, City Center Parking, and Unico Properties.

###

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.