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Thirteen More High-Tech Trash Cans Installed in the Yerba Buena Community Benefit District

Yerba Buena Now Has 22 Bigbelly "Smart" Waste Receptacles

San Francisco, Calif., June 3, 2019 — Following a successful pilot program, the <u>Yerba Buena Community Benefit District</u> (YBCBD) has added 13 new high-tech Bigbelly waste collection receptacles to the nine already in place in the Yerba Buena cultural district as part of its efforts to keep neighborhood streets cleaner and more inviting.

"Bigbellys have proven to be a smart strategy all across our city," said Supervisor Matt Haney. "These trashcans work. They are smart, attractive, more hygienic, and they keep trash in the cans and off our streets. This investment by YBCBD will improve the vitality of local businesses and the quality of life for everyone."

The Bigbelly's built-in solar-powered compacting capability allows it to digest five times more trash than traditional receptacles. The contained design eliminates liquid spills and overflowing garbage. The units signal collectors with a Wi-Fi to notify when the trash cans are ready to be emptied.

The YBCBD added 13 more Bigbellys recently after evaluating results from the nine installed at the end of 2017. In 2018, collections required from the nine new receptacles dropped 38 percent compared to traditional cans and waste collected totaled 7.4 tons.

Businesses consider the areas around Bigbellys to be cleaner than around traditional trash cans. "There's a noticeable difference," said Frank Miskus, property manager of 685 Market Street, "and everyone benefits from sidewalks free of debris and stains."

The addition of Bigbelly units is an element of the YBCBD's updated Street Life Plan to improve district public spaces and improve overall quality of life in the neighborhood. The YBCBD is using a combination of private funding and a city grant secured with the support and leadership of former Supervisor Jane Kim to fund installation and maintenance. The YBCBD has been coordinating installation of the new units with the San Francisco Public Works. Recology will empty the bins. The units are positioned throughout the district and adorned with brightly colored YBCBD branding to draw attention to information on how to contact YBCBD to request cleaning services.

"The Bigbellys are another tool we use to keep our sidewalks clean, which makes our district even more enjoyable for residents, workers and visitors," said YBCBD Executive Director Cathy Maupin. "Given how quickly technology changes, we're always keeping an eye out for innovative ways to keep our streets clean."

The YBCBD was the first community benefit district in the city to offer a mobile app and web-based program to report and track district service cleaning and safety requests, along with texting, phone or email options to request services to remove refuse, graffiti, stickers and more. In 2018, its Clean Team removed more than 191 tons of trash from district streets, cleaned up more than 133 overflowing public garbage cans, and addressed more than 566 sidewalk sweep requests by merchants and residents, among its many services.

About the YBCBD

The Yerba Buena Community Benefit District is a community-based nonprofit organization working to improve the quality of life in the Yerba Buena neighborhood, encompassing roughly Second to Fifth and Market to Harrison streets. Yerba Buena is a dynamic district that features world-class museums, convention space, hotels, educational institutions, and more than 400 shopping, dining and entertainment venues. The YBCBD began implementing programs in 2009, such as a Community Guides program, SFPD bike patrol officer program, graffiti removal, street and sidewalk cleaning, neighborhood marketing, public art projects and other improvement efforts. Learn more at www.YBCBD.org and on Facebook.

About Bigbelly Inc.

<u>Bigbelly</u>, Inc. is the world-leading provider of smart waste & recycling management solutions with more than 1,500 customers in 47 countries. Solar powered, the Bigbelly Smart Waste & Recycling System combines cloud computing with smart compacting waste and recycling stations. The system helps customer beautify their public space and reduce operational costs by 70-80 percent. Visit http://bigbelly.com. Follow on Twitter (@BigBellySolar), Facebook and LinkedIn.

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New Bigbellys are installed throughout the Yerba Buena District as part of their mission to keep the neighborhood clean. These cans hold more trash and are more economically friendly than the previous units they replaced.