



**PRESS
RELEASE**

City of Martinez
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Subject: Environmentally Sustainable “Bigbelly” Recycling and Landfill Waste Stations Installed in Downtown Martinez

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MARTINEZ – Three automated recycling and landfill waste stations have been installed by the City on Main Street to enhance public space cleanliness and reduce the carbon footprint of trash collection. The new downtown “Bigbelly” stations are located at the intersections of Main at Castro, Main at Estudillo, and Main at Ferry. These locations were selected for this pilot project based on visibility and waste volume.



Left to Right: Councilmember Brianne Zorn, Mayor Rob Schroder, Councilmember Mark Ross, Vice Mayor Debbie McKillop. (Not pictured: Councilmember Lara DeLaney)

These Bigbelly stations are anticipated to improve sanitation and reduce litter around

trash containers and on downtown sidewalks and streets, due to the compaction mechanism inside the receptacles and the stations’ design which makes it nearly impossible to access waste once it is inside the containers. As shown in the photos below, the Bigbelly design also improves the aesthetic and modernization of our downtown.



Each Bigbelly station is outfitted with solar panels to power the compactors and wireless technology that reports capacity status to the phones and computers of Public Works staff. These technologies triple the capacity of each waste receptacle (from 50 gallons to 150 gallons) and also reduce the carbon footprint of trash collection through fewer trash pickups (less truck usage) and fewer recyclables going to the landfill.



As an added bonus, all sides of the BigBellys can accommodate decals or posters, providing opportunities for public art, a downtown map, local business marketing, and special event announcements. If this pilot project is successful and well-received by businesses owners and the public, then additional stations may be considered by the City for other areas of downtown as well as City parks.

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