



## CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

September 8, 2010

CONSENT

Subject: Purchase of Big Belly Solar Powered Trash Compactors

FROM: David H. Ready, City Manager

BY: Michele Mician, Manager, Office of Sustainability

---

### SUMMARY

The City of Palm Springs purchased and installed ten (10) Big Belly solar powered trash compactors as part of a pilot program that was funded partially through the County's COLMAC grant program. The purchase of ten (10) additional Big Belly compactors fulfills the City's match for this grant. By compacting trash, City workers will make fewer trips to empty bins, thus reducing greenhouse gas emissions. A Big Belly compactor can compact trash at a five to one ratio. This compacting can eliminate three out of five trips by City staff to empty the containers. No General Funds will be used for this purchase.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the purchase of ten (10) Big Belly Solar Powered Trash Compactors from Waxie Sanitary supply of Thousand Palms, CA a distributor for Big Belly Solar, a sole source of this product, for \$42,956.25 to fulfill the City's grant obligations.

### STAFF ANALYSIS:

The City received a COLMAC grant in March 2008 and purchased the Big Belly solar powered trash compactors as part of a pilot program. The purchase of the additional compactors completes the matching criteria required by the grant agreement.

The Big Belly receptacles are fully enclosed cordless solar powered trash containers that provide point of disposal trash compaction in much the same manner as a kitchen trash compactor does. The fully enclosed system design eliminates trash overflow, hides unsightly trash, controls pests and vectors, and reduces litter. The design also eliminates any noise that might emanate from the compaction ram. The units do not require any special equipment to operate or service and are fully compatible with current operations.

ITEM NO. J.P.

Because trash is compacted at the point of disposal, the Big Belly containers require less service by City street crews. A five to one ratio of needed service can be achieved by utilizing the Big Belly trash containers. This means less servicing by the street crews which provides additional hours to perform other needed tasks in the downtown area. Less needed service also results in less vehicle trips and lower emissions, particulates, smog, and toxic air pollutants.

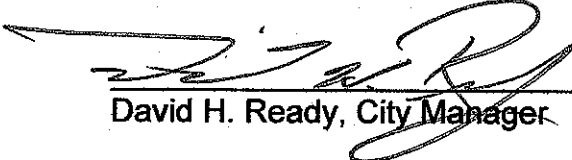
The Big Belly solar powered trash compactor is the only product of its type on the market that we have been able to find.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The City of Palm Springs was awarded a COLMAC grant in the amount of \$42,700 for the purchase of Big Belly Solar Powered Trash Compactors. The grant requires that the City purchase ten (10) additional compactors as the "match" for grant. The cost of ten (10) Big Belly compactors, including shipping and taxes, is \$42,956.25. The AB 939 funds in Account No. 125-1280-51530 will be used to complete the purchase.

  
for Michele Mician, Manager,  
Office of Sustainability

  
Tom Wilson  
Assistant City Manager

  
David H. Ready, City Manager

**Attachments:**

1. Big Belly Solar Powered Trash Compactor Quote for ten (10) Containers



**CITY OF PALM SPRINGS – PARKS DEPARTMENT**

*Attn: Michele Mician – MS Manager  
Sanitary Maintenance Supplies Price Proposal  
August 18, 2010*

WAXIE Sanitary Supply is pleased to present you with the following price proposal for your review. **This proposal replaces any and all previous quotes. These prices are valid for 30 days**, at which time they will be subject to manufacturer's increases. Proof of increase will be provided upon request.

Item #	Description	U/M	Unit Price
<b>~TRASH RECEPTACLES~</b>			
SPECIAL ORDER	BigBelly Trash Receptacles – Basic BigBelly Receptacle Terra Cotta Panels – Includes Freight	EA	\$3,950.00
		10 ea @ 3,950.00 =	\$39,500.00
<b>SUBTOTAL:</b>			<b>\$39,500.00</b>
<b>TAX (8.75%):</b>			<b>\$3,456.25</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>			<b>\$42,956.25</b>

Should you have any questions, please contact me at (760) 272-0581 or via email at [jolinger@waxie.com](mailto:jolinger@waxie.com).

*Thank you,*

*Jeff Olinger  
Senior Account Executive*