TENDERLOIN BIGBELLY
NEIGHBORHOOD-WIDE EXPANSION
The Tenderloin has been significantly underserved with regard to public trash receptacles compared to similar dense urban neighborhoods around the country. Furthermore, people experiencing extreme poverty or severe mental health and substance abuse disorders, coupled with uninspiring and inefficient trash receptacle designs, leads to receptacles often overflowing or being consistently rummaged through. The trash dumped from receptacles onto the sidewalks has deeply negative impacts on Tenderloin residents and visitors and also drains sidewalk-cleaning resources throughout the City.

Tenderloin Community Benefit District (TLCBD) is implementing a comprehensive approach by creating the kind of public trash receptacle program that this thriving city center deserves. In all, the Tenderloin will see a saturation of 68 new, durable, and artfully decorated Bigbelly stations, with at least one station per intersection, sending a clear, and impactful message that trash belongs in receptacles and greatly improving sidewalk cleanliness.

Bigbelly stations are solar-powered, with built-in SMART technology components that communicate real-time status to collection crews. Bigbelly stations also offer innovative tamper resistant locking mechanisms. Lastly, each station will feature neighborhood-specific art created by local artists, inspiring pride of place and adding to ongoing beautification programs.

The Tenderloin Bigbelly project builds on the success of the Tenderloin Bigbelly pilot project (2018-2019) and is made possible with support from the Office of Mayor London Breed, District 6 Supervisor Matt Haney in partnership with SF OEWD, Fix-It Team, San Francisco Public Works, Recology, Bigbelly Solar, and community partners and artists.
ARTIST PROFILES
“I hope [our work] brightens people’s days and brings joy to the neighborhood. In an urban environment it’s easy to forget how connected we are to the natural world, so I hope this inspires people to take notice of the beauty and wonder around them.”

- Jane, Ink Dwell
826 Valencia is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting under-resourced students with their writing skills. I hope people feel inspired and activated by the bright words of our local young people.

- Brad, 826 Valencia

Dan Mok is an illustrator that enjoys creating all sorts of fun and engaging visual stories filled with humor, whimsicality, and an unbridled sense of adventure.
“I was inspired by the Tenderloin’s heritage as being a longtime haven for Queer and trans-people. There are so many people living in the TL that deserve to be acknowledged and celebrated and my work aims to do just that.”

- Crystal
“When people see my art, I hope they have a sense of appreciation for the creative and cultural potential that the Tenderloin is capable of. I hope they can appreciate that the Tenderloin is not just a place for drugs, dog feces, and seedy behavior but an actual community of people with dreams and aspirations. I hope they experience fun, serenity, and an immersive and culturally rich story of history, mystery, and diversity.”

-Sylvester
I’m originally from Thailand and I have lived in the Tenderloin for 10 years. I see the beauty of the buildings we walk past all the time and we are in a hurry and don’t look up and appreciate them. My art is a friendly reminder that we live in a beautiful neighborhood. If you spend a little more time here you might see what I see.

- Tan
“When people see my art in the neighborhood I want them to experience joy, and wonder. I want them to see themselves and loved ones. I want them to not only see the past, but the future as well, and all its possibilities. I want them to feel seen. And loved.”

- Wriply
“We are thrilled to partner with TLCBD and Bigbelly to bring art and representation of the transgender community throughout the neighborhood. A big part of our mission at the Transgender District is to create an atmosphere that celebrates the lives, lived experience, and culture of transgender people in the Tenderloin and this project really helps us share a visual of our community in an empowering way. We hope that our community is inspired and feels affirmed that they are powerful, resilient, and are a huge part of the neighborhood. Wriply’s artwork so lovingly embodies the multifaceted nature of the trans and non-binary communities and we are honored to have such an accomplished and talented artist display her vision of a better world for all of us, right here in our own backyard.”

- Transgender District