

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cart-share for binners coming to Vancouver

November 30, 2017 (Vancouver, BC) - The Binners' Project got a boost today, with a \$75,000 grant approved by the City of Vancouver to support the development of a proposed cart-sharing program.

The motion was passed on Wednesday, November 29 as part of an update to the city's Healthy Action Plan.

"Since we started the project in 2014, binners have told us they need an alternative to the carts they get on the street," says Anna Godefroy, Director of the Binners' Project. "Carts are meant to boost their capacity to do safe, legal, and environmentally responsible work, but the ones people get on the street inevitably have defects or cause friction with law enforcement and local businesses who see them as stolen property. Next year that will change."

By the end of 2018, the Binners' Project will launch a pilot cart-sharing program, where binners will be able to legally obtain purpose-built carts to boost their efficiency on-the-job and improve the legitimacy of their work.

"Binners can make around \$45 per day refunding bottles and cans, but they could make more if they had access to a safer and faster way of transporting their bottles and cans, " says Davin Boutang, binner and Outreach Coordinator for the organization. "It means a lot that the City wants to see this happen. Binning is hard enough work as it is without having to find and protect a cart someone will just take away from you anyway."

The carts, specifically designed for binning and are sturdy and oversized, such that they cannot fit inside buildings or be broken down for scrap metal. The design includes a trailer hitch for attaching to the back of a bicycle. The precise location of the stations is still to be determined, but they will be on City property where binners can pick-up and return carts when they're ready.

"Our prototype cart should be arriving in early 2018," says Boutang. "When it does, we'll do some testing, make some changes, and take it from there."

To learn more about donating to or sponsoring the cart-share, visit:

www.biddersproject.org/universalcartspilot.html.

ABOUT BINNERS' PROJECT

[Bidders' Project](http://www.biddersproject.org) is a group of waste-pickers aided by support staff dedicated to improving their economic opportunities, and reducing the stigma they face as informal recyclable collectors.

Binners' Project is a project on Tides Canada's shared platform, which supports on-the-ground

efforts to create uncommon solutions for the common good. [Tides Canada](#) is a national Canadian charity dedicated to a healthy environment, social equity, and economic prosperity.

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