

From: [M. E. Braun](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: Attention: Benton County Board of Commissioners
Date: Tuesday, October 7, 2025 12:45:36 PM

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7 October 2025

Landfillappeals@bentonCountyOR.gov

Subject: Oppose/Deny LU-24-027

Dear Benton County Commissioners Gabe Shepherd, Nancy Wyse, and Pat Malone:

I am writing to strongly urge you to deny Republic Services' appeal for a Conditional Use Permit LU-24-027 to expand the Coffin Butte landfill. This dump is already polluting air and water, and violating environmental laws; why permit its expansion and make things even worse? It is not owned, operated, or controlled by Benton County, and no "Conditions of Approval" attached to previous landfill expansions have ever been enforced (See the Benton County Trash Talks final report). And less than 10% of the dump materials even come from Benton County.

The proposed expansion would continue to seriously negatively affect the character of the surrounding area, and place an undue burden on public resources, in violation of Benton County Code 53.215(1) and (2). Specifically, I have serious concerns about the following:

- Air, soil, and water pollution, e.g. methane emissions, leachate, PFA's, etc.
- Increased vehicular traffic, obstructed public rights-of-way
- Offensive, noxious odors and disruptive noise
- Harmful impacts on wildlife, recreation, and property values
- Long-term environmental and climate consequences

I urge you to heed the advice of Benton County's own Environment and Natural Resources Advisory Committee (ENRAC), who voted 5-1 to recommend denial of the proposed landfill expansion. Take seriously the League of Women Voters of Corvallis, strongly urging denial of the proposed expansion because of grave concerns about the health of Benton County residents. Read carefully the thoughtful, detailed testimony from the Mid-Willamette Bird Alliance, which unequivocally opposes any further expansion of the Coffin Butte Landfill and urges you all to reject this application. Note that even the Republican, Democratic, and Green parties of Benton County agree the expansion should be denied.

And perhaps most importantly of all, heed the careful, intelligent, unanimous decision of the Benton County Planning Commission to deny/reject Republic Services' application.

After reading pages and pages of testimony, and listening to hours and hours

of testimony from highly educated, professionally experienced community members, and the heartfelt and disturbing testimony of people detailing the deleterious impact of the dump on their lives, health, farms, and businesses, I have become even more convinced that this dump expansion needs to be rejected.

Please, please reject LU-24-027. Thank you for your consideration of these comments. This is your opportunity to protect the health and future of Benton County residents, rather than benefit the profits of Republic Services.

Sincerely,
Mary Elizabeth Braun
Corvallis, Oregon 97330