

From: [Greg Shiffer](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: Please uphold the Planning Commission Denial of LU-24-027
Date: Tuesday, October 7, 2025 4:58:34 PM

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Dear Benton County Commissioners Wyse, Malone and Shepherd,

I am a resident of Corvallis with B.S. and M.S. degrees in Civil and Environmental Engineering, and a Master of City Planning degree from the University of California, Berkeley. I am writing to urge you to uphold the unanimous decision of the Benton County Planning Commission to deny the Conditional Use Permit application LU-24-027 submitted by Republic Services to expand the Coffin Butte Landfill. The Planning Commission carefully considered all evidence provided by the applicant, as well as considerable public testimony, and concluded unanimously that the application did not meet the required Burden of Proof.

The proposed expansion will seriously interfere with the character of the surrounding area and impose an undue burden on public resources, in violation of Benton County Code 53.215 (1) and (2). The applicant does not adequately address major concerns about:

- Uncontrolled landfill gas leaks containing methane and PFAS
- Leachate potentially breaching containment systems and seeping into groundwater
- Potential catastrophic fire danger
- Undue burden on local fire departments
- Traffic increases that pose safety risks on nearby highways, roads, and bike paths
- Odor and noise issues that degrade quality of life for residents and visitors alike
- Litter on roadsides, farmers fields, pastures and other private property
- Negative impacts on wildlife, recreation, and property values
- Long-term climate and environmental consequences for future generations

The proposed expansion also does not align with Benton County's 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative Core Values. The existing landfill already undermines our shared goals for responsible environmental stewardship, prioritizing public health, and sustainable waste management; an expanded landfill would not change this metric.

Thank you for your consideration and for protecting the health and future of Benton County residents.

Sincerely,
Greg Shiffer
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Corvallis, OR 97330