

From: [Quinn Butler](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: Please Uphold Planning Commission Denial of LU-24-027!!!
Date: Saturday, October 18, 2025 10:11:01 PM

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Dear Benton County Commissioners Wyse, Malone and Shepherd,

My name is Quinn Butler. I live at 3050 NW Lynwood Cir, Corvallis, OR 97330.

I am writing because I strongly oppose any expansion of the Coffin Butte landfill and urge you to uphold your Planning Commission's unanimous denial of LU-24-027, Republic Services' application to expand the Coffin Butte Landfill. The Planning Commission carefully considered all evidence provided by the applicant, as well as considerable testimony, and concluded unanimously that the application did not meet the required Burden of Proof.

I am a father of two young boys and we greatly enjoy hiking, biking, fishing, and being in the outdoors. I'm concerned that the excessive leachate in the Willamette River adversely impacts the health of the millions of people and the fish and wildlife that rely on it. I'm concerned that you will go against the unanimous decision of the planning commissioners because you will be pressured by corporate interests. Republic Services does not need to expand this dump. Expanding it provides no benefit to Benton County, it does the opposite by causing irreparable harm. Harm to the environment and harm to the people that rely on a clean and safe environment. The expansion would only add a few years, certainly less than a decade of life to the landfill and will only allow Republic Services to continue importing trash from across the PNW into our beautiful county. It only serves their bottom line. It's not about jobs or about rates.

I urge you to uphold the planning commission denial of LU-24-027 for the following reasons (yes, the below is a template from a group that vehemently opposes the expansion of the landfill, but I am a part of that group and I agree with every single one of the points below and you should too. Thank you for doing the right thing):

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 that threaten local and global ecosystems and community health
- Massive quantities of leachate trucked offsite (40 million gallons in 2024) containing PFAS and other toxic industrial chemicals that end up in our waterways and generate PFAS-laden biosolids which are spread on land
- Potential catastrophic fire danger from ignition sources inside and outside the landfill (after-hours/unmonitored hot loads, equipment fires) (windblown wildfire embers, lightning strikes) catching uncontrolled methane leaks on fire
- Undue burden on local fire department health and safety (to fight landfill fires) and community (to monitor and report fires after hours – even on red flag days)
- 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.

I believe Benton County should invest in protecting its reputation for agritourism, outdoor recreation, clean air and water, high tech and higher education, not expand a landfill that is already a huge visual blight, perpetuates pollution and places a long-term burden on local communities!

Please reject LU-24-027. Thank you for your consideration and for protecting the health and future of Benton County. Thank you for doing the right thing and looking out for current and future generations! Go Beavs!

Sincerely,

Quinn Butler

Corvallis, OR, 97330