From: <u>Victoria Fridley</u>

To: <u>Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals</u>

**Subject:** Opposition to the Landfill Expansion **Date:** Sunday, October 19, 2025 3:15:17 PM

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## Benton County Board of Commissioners:

Thank you for giving the community an opportunity to express our concerns about the proposed expansion of our landfill.

We sent an earlier letter expressing our concern regarding the potential impact of this proposed expansion on Bit by Bit, the important horse therapy nonprofit program for children and adults, and on Peavy Arboretum. But Bit by Bit has already been so negatively impacted by the landfill that they will have to close or seek funding for a different site for their important work in our community. You have also already heard a respected scientist's testimony regarding the negative impact on the air quality over Adair Village.

What we want to focus on in this letter is the negative impact on the entire Corvallis community. We have had to close Cheldelin Middle School this year and there is talk about closing Crescent Valley High School in a year or so if we continue to have a shortage of young families choosing to live in our community. The high cost of housing has been identified for a long time as one of the reasons for our growing retired population and the decline in young families. However, one of our greatest strengths in attracting people of all ages to our community has been our passionate commitment to our environment—not just to clean air, water, and soil but control over urban sprawl, the preservation of natural environments, and our city parks program. There are alternatives to this landfill expansion—but once we allow this kind of environmental degradation of our community, it is difficult and expensive to reverse—if such a reversal is even possible.

We urge you to keep your original response to the landfill proposal and say no to its proposed expansion.

Sincerely, Victoria Fridley Cheryl Johnson