

From: [Maia Fischler](#)
To: [Benton Public Comment](#)
Subject: Opposition to LU-24-027
Date: Sunday, April 20, 2025 12:34:42 PM

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DATE: April 20, 2025

TO: Benton County Planning Commission

FROM: Maia Fischler, 37269 Helm Drive, Corvallis
45-year Benton County resident

RE: Opposition to Application #LU-24-027

Respected members of the Benton County Planning Commission:

What a difficult position you are in! You are being asked to approve a land-use application that will permanently impact our beautiful county – not only in terms of the health and environmental quality of life here, but also the perception of Benton County as a pleasant place to live and do business.

You have to weigh, on the one hand, the implications of degrading air and water quality for not just today's children but generations hundreds of years beyond ours. You must consider the potential lawsuits, and also the moral burden that Benton County and those associated with this decision will face in the decades to come. You have to be willing to defend the economic impact of Corvallis becoming "Trash Town," a place that people drive through as quickly as possible, joke about, and dismiss as a place to settle their families and businesses.

On the other hand, you have ... money? Not much money, in reality. A couple million a year? Is that really worth the true cost of approving this application?

To me, it's clear that the proposed dump expansion would significantly interfere with the character of the Highway 99W approach to Corvallis (in violation of BCC 53.215(1).) The existing dump is unsightly and smelly, yes, but if it's allowed to expand across the road and up the other side of the valley, it will look and stink like doomsday. "Conditions of Approval" will not mitigate this nightmare; history shows that Benton County does not have the resources or will to enforce conditions, and Republic Services does not and will not comply.

Before you make your decision, I hope you will have driven around the Soap Creek area, a historic and stunningly beautiful part of our county. Your decision will have long-lasting impacts. Please don't opt for short-term gains and cynical corporate promises. Vote no.