

From: [Stewart Holmes](#)
To: [Benton Public Comment](#)
Cc: [Stewart Holmes](#)
Subject: Oppose/Deny LU-24-027
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My name is Stewart Holmes. I live at 5888 SW Englewood Ave Corvallis.

My wife and I have lived, worked, hiked and ridden my bike in and around Corvallis since 1985. In the 1980s and early 1990s, many of those rides were out near or past the landfill. Not any more and never again. The noise, smells, and extreme amounts of heavy truck traffic make it physically hazardous to go near the area except in an automobile and never to linger. Even going out to the wildlife preserve has become a hazardous activity.

My wife and I used to ride our bikes on Independence Highway north towards Salem. I think it was back in the early 1990s when that became no longer an option given the truck traffic along the road from the landfill hauling gravel from the landfill to I-5. Trash trucks going the other way to the landfill created another huge safety hazard. We stopped riding that road years ago because of that. Too many close calls with trucks. **That seriously interferes with one of the healthy lifestyle choices hundreds or perhaps thousands of residents partake in daily.**

Now the hazard is located primarily at the landfill. The amount of pollution of the air, soil and eventually groundwater that will impact people all the way to the Willamette River and eventually all the way to the Columbia, has reached untenable proportions.

I just read yet one more article (this one in The Economist) about the manner and location in which humans are dealing with their waste. This article talked about how, decades ago, the US would be able to ship mostly its plastic and electronic and similar waste to China, other countries in SE Asia and the poorest African countries where the inhabitants of those countries would have to live with the pollution of their air, soil and drinking water. Nowadays, however, most of those third-world developing countries have developed enough that they are no longer accepting OUR waste. They are telling us in the US to deal with it ourselves. We are struggling to do that. By not allowing others to foist more of their waste on us by allowing an

expansion of the landfill, we can do the same to others elsewhere who are treating us residents of Benton County like a third-world dumping site. We can start to deal with this issue by not allowing an expansion of the landfill at this time, and perhaps ever.

My understanding is that about 93% of the waste going into the landfill – especially the plastics and electronics and other toxic materials being dumped legally or not in the landfill – is from people who don't live here, the image that comes to my mind is of we tax-paying residents of Benton County being in the same situation as the poorest people in the most underdeveloped countries of the world years ago.

The situation in the landfill is already untenable for these reasons and many more that the members of the Planning Commission are well aware.

IF THE PLANNING COMMISSION ALLOWS AN EXPANSION OF THE LANDFILL, you will be allowing a harm to our community that will never be able to be remedied, EVER!

It seems to me that no amount of money would be worth that especially for those of us (you?) who won't have to live with the consequences of YOUR actions. By allowing any, let alone MORE, trash into the landfill, you will be imposing a HUGE UNDUE BURDEN on the community that will last not just for 7 generations, but forever.

PLEASE DON'T!

Thank you for all us residents and for those who will come after us
FOREVER!