

From: [James Searls](#)
To: [Benton Public Comment](#)
Subject: Oppose/Deny LU-24-027
Date: Thursday, April 24, 2025 10:08:52 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

My name is James Searls.

I own Smile Farm LLC (www.smilefarm.us) which is located at 38538 Hwy 99W, Corvallis, OR, 97330. My land is south and adjacent to the proposed Coffin Butte Landfill expansion. Ground zero.

I strongly oppose the expansion of the dump. Please do not approve the application LU-24-027 to expand the Coffin Butte Landfill. I have concerns about how this will negatively impact my property and farm.

It is our goal to provide perennial and annual crops for our community each year from our land- as well as provide farm services throughout the valley. Our motto is- "We grow smiles one plant at a time." It makes us feel good to grow specialty crops, give eggs, donate fruits and veggies and regenerate healthy soil and ecosystems. An expansion of the landfill could harm our soil and air quality making it harder to produce crops.

It is hard to smile at our farm sometimes when noxious odors from the Coffin Butte Landfill infiltrate our property. These odors/gases already cause problems and they are out of control. An expansion of the landfill will bring the piles of garbage (future dump cells) physically closer to my farm which will create a bigger odor problem.

Decline the proposal to expand the dump. Help save Smile Farm.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,

James Searls

319 331 9885

james@smilefarm.us

From: [James Searls](#)
To: [Benton Public Comment](#)
Subject: Oppose/Deny LU-24-027
Date: Thursday, April 24, 2025 10:12:28 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Benton County Planning Commissioners,

My name is James Searls.

I live at 38538 Hwy 99W, Corvallis, OR, 97330. This is directly south of the Coffin Butte Landfill. I live here with my son, Burton.

We have a giant farm dog, Leroy, who helps protect our chickens. The chickens and Leroy roam the grounds of our property regularly drinking water from puddles, seasonal streams and water from our well. My son and I drink from the well too.

I am concerned about the hydrological impacts related to the proposed expansion of the Coffin Butte Landfill. How will this affect the quality of our future water? How will this impact our soil? We need reliable, safe water and soil to sustain our home, our farm, our animals and loved ones.

An expansion of the landfill- moving closer to and upstream from my property will threaten my water resources and could contaminate our soil.

Please decline the application LU-24-027 to expand the landfill. I strongly object to this proposal as it threatens our livelihood for the future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
James Searls

From: [James Searls](#)
To: [Benton Public Comment](#)
Subject: Oppose/deny application LU-24-027
Date: Thursday, April 24, 2025 10:25:19 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Benton County Planning Commissioners,

My name is James Searls and my son's name is Burton. We live next door to the Coffin Butte Landfill at 38538 Hwy 99W, Corvallis, OR, 97330. We are located to the south of the proposed expansion site.

I am writing because I strongly oppose Republic Services' Conditional Use Permit application LU-24-027 to expand the Coffin Butte landfill. I urge the Planning Commission to deny this application.

The proposed expansion would 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). Specifically, this expansion raises major concerns about:

- Air and water pollution threaten our local ecosystems and community health
- Traffic increases that pose safety risks on nearby roads and pathways
- Odor and noise issues that degrade quality of life for residents and visitors
- Negative impacts on wildlife, recreation, and property values
- Long-term climate and environmental consequences for future generations

The proposed expansion does nothing to align with *Benton County's 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative*. This expansion undermines our shared goals for responsible environmental stewardship, prioritizing public health, and sustainable waste management.

I believe Benton County should invest in waste reduction, recycling, and circular economy solutions, not expanding landfills that perpetuate pollution and place 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.

Sincerely,

James Searls

3193319885

James@smilefarm.us

From: [James Searls](#)
To: [Benton Public Comment](#)
Subject: Oppose/deny LU-24-027
Date: Thursday, April 24, 2025 10:38:37 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Benton County Commissioners

My name is James Searls. I own one of the south neighboring properties of the Coffin Butte Landfill. 38538 Hwy 99W, Corvallis, Oregon, 97330 is the address.

I strongly oppose the expansion of the landfill. Application LU-24-027 should be declined.

I believe an expansion will negatively impact the value of my property, farm and home. An expansion will bring more traffic and machinery closer to my home and family. The dump is already a nuisance for us. We can already smell the horrible odors that bleed out Coffin Butte Landfill. We already hear big machinery and trucks operating during quiet hours of the night/morning. We already have daily litter along Highway 99. I am concerned that an expansion will exacerbate these problems.

I also worry that our wonderful (million dollar) views of Mt Hood, Mt Jefferson, Three-fingered Jack will be tainted by the mountain of trash. Currently, we cannot see the landfill from our home. Sometimes I go out on our deck to enjoy the views and our land only to be hit with a noxious odor caused by the landfill. It is disgusting and worrisome and ruins the moment. The odors cause me to go back inside. IT ISN'T FAIR.

Growing the landfill will allow Republic Services to operate for more years which will prolong our struggles. It will trash the value of our property for more years to come.

Again, I oppose the proposal to expand the landfill. Please deny application LU-24-027.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

James Searls

3193319885

james@smilefarm.us

Corvallis, OR, 97330

From: [James Searls](#)
To: [Benton Public Comment](#)
Subject: Deny/oppose LU-24-027
Date: Thursday, April 24, 2025 10:50:58 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Benton County Planning Commissioners,

My name is James Searls. My son and I live at 38538 Hwy 99W, Corvallis, Oregon, 97330.

I am concerned about the proposal to expand the landfill. Specifically, how it will change habitat for Oregon's creatures and wildlife. The fauna that grazes upon our property are wonderful. Nature's food chain is fully present here ranging from insects and birds, to elk and mountain lions. This is one of the main reasons I bought this property. I love watching and living among the wildlife here. Expanding the landfill will threaten our property and the surrounding wildlife.

Please do not approve the application LU-24-027 to expand the Coffin Butte Landfill. Help preserve the habitat for our wildlife. I oppose the proposal.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

James Searls

3193319885

james@smilefarm.us

Corvallis, OR, 97330