

From: [Chrystal Young](#)
To: [Benton Public Comment](#)
Subject: Conditional Use Permit application LU-24-027
Date: Thursday, April 24, 2025 7:18:57 PM

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Dear Benton County Planning Commissioners,

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.

My name is Chrystal Young and I live at 2108 NE 50th Ave, Portland OR 97213, but I grew up on the property at 38483 Plowshares Road, which my parents purchased in the late 1980s with the promise from the Bunn family that the landfill would never cross Coffin Butte Road.

It was based on that promise that John and Catherine Holdorf built our house and barn with their own hands, tended the property with cattle, at first, and then planted native trees and shrubs to support the wildlife ecosystem and renew that which had been pasture to its original state.

The property is home to historic bunkers from Camp Adair days, a creek that supports a variety of treasured wildlife and unique native species, and, of course, my family home. This home contains our family's memories as well as our financial stability. Without a healthy and safe place to land, my mom and sister, as well as my sister's partner, would be without a home.

I worry that the expansion of Coffin Butte landfill, which is already bigger than it should be for a county the size of Benton, will destroy my family's home. I worry about the groundwater regularly. Already, the smells are more offensive than before. When I bring my children to visit the beautiful land I remember, we drive past the unsightly landfill, triple the eyesore it used to be, and wake up to a rotten egg smell on foggy mornings.

I plead for you to stop the expansion of the landfill and to find money for the county in ways that don't support big business while harming the community. Please stop accepting trash from faraway places—like Portland, where I now live. Does garbage need to go somewhere? Of course. But Coffin Butte landfill is full. Please find somewhere else.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Chrystal Young

Former landfill-adjacent resident and current educator with Portland Public Schools