From: <u>David Demaree</u>
To: <u>Benton Public Comment</u>

Subject: Opposition to LU-24-027, Proposed Expansion of Coffin Butte Landfill

Date: Saturday, June 28, 2025 12:35:20 PM

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David Demaree 1470 SE Alexander Ave. Corvallis, OR 97333

June 28, 2025

Benton County Planning Commission c/o Community Development Department 4500 SW Research Way Corvallis, OR 97333

Re: Opposition to LU-24-027, Proposed Expansion of Coffin Butte Landfill

Dear Members of the Planning Commission,

I am writing to respectfully oppose Republic Services' proposed expansion of the Coffin Butte Landfill (Conditional Use Permit LU-24-027). My concerns are grounded in both the lived experience of residents and the broader consequences for environmental care and waste accountability.

1. Increased traffic and roadside litter

More trash trucks mean more congestion and debris along our roads. Blown litter from trucks and traffic from haulers through town and on 99 already frustrate residents and degrade public spaces.

2. It shifts the problem, doesn't solve it

Expanding landfill capacity encourages other counties to send us their waste. This doesn't reduce overall trash—it just dumps it in Benton County's backyard.

3. Ongoing complaints and environmental issues

There's a long record of community complaints and environmental concerns, including methane leaks and unaddressed odor violations. Adding more volume now doesn't make sense.

In conclusion

- Increased traffic would amplify safety hazards, odors, and litter.
- Expansion perpetuates a problematic model of exporting regional waste to rural communities.

- Complaints and previous violations show existing operations are already a burden; expansion only magnifies that burden.
- The Commission should instead direct efforts toward supporting neighboring governments in creating local solutions to their waste processes.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to **deny the proposed landfill expansion (LU-24-027)**. Allowing further dumping in our back yard undermines environmental concerns, community health, and long-term sustainability.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and dedication to representing Benton County residents.

Sincerely,

David Demaree