



To: The Benton County Planning Commission

July 8, 2025

Subject: Oppose/Deny LU-24-027

Dear Benton County Planning Commissioners,

My name is Jenny Saarloos and I live at 390 NW Maxine Ave. Corvallis, OR 97330.

I urge the planning commission to deny the landfill expansion. The proposed expansion would seriously interfere with the character of the surrounding area in violation of Benton County Code 53.215. It would jeopardize the air and water quality. Traffic will increase. Odor and noise will increase. There will be potential long term climate and environmental consequences. This alone is a solid basis for denying the expansion.

I would like to add that this expansion would cause a serious burden on the many properties that surround the landfill. For miles. I am aware that the potential harm will not be limited to these areas but I do feel that these residents of our county face an even more terrible burden if this expansion is passed. It is bad enough to smell an odor. But then one wonders what kind of toxins they might be breathing in. Wonders if the leachate will reach the well water. Wonders what will happen to the property value.

Promises can be made to keep the leachate from getting to the ground water. But there is no way to *guarantee that*. Promises can be made to contain odors. But that is also not always possible. Garbage stinks. Accidents happen—even under the best of circumstances. Fires happen. And a fire at the landfill site would have a terrible impact (to say the least) on the surrounding properties.

The Benton County 2040 Thriving Communities Core Values Initiative has at its very center equity & health. Please uphold these values and deny the landfill expansion. We can not have equity if our neighbors surrounding the landfill are left to suffer even greater threats from toxins, smells, garbage blowing in the wind and potential ground water pollution and fires.

The Benton County Core Values goes on to state that "We recognize & will address the well-being of our people by including health considerations in all policies, practices, activities, & operation." The burden imposed by the expansion of the landfill to residents of the surrounding area are a threat to their mental and physical health. Please uphold our core values and deny the landfill expansion for the sake of all residents of Benton County.

Thank you,

Jenny Saarloos