

**SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL – COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
CITY AND COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
MINUTES OF HYBRID\* MEETING, Thursday, July 10, 2025**

Center for Spiritual Living, 17622 Chatsworth St., Granada Hills, CA 91344 and online  
DRAFT Minutes [to be replaced by “Approved \_\_[Month]\_\_ \_\_[date]\_\_, 202\_\_[year]\_\_”]

Committee Members: Jeanette Capaldi (Vice-Chair), John Ciccarelli, Richard Fisk, Larry Fleck (Treasurer), Wayde Hunter (Chair & TAC Rep), Julie Newman and Jennifer Yoo.

**A. Call to Order, Roll Call by Notetaker, and Approval of March 13, 2025 & May 8, 2025 Minutes (Chair).**

This \*hybrid (both in-person and online) meeting of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee (SCL-CAC) was called to order at 3:00 p.m. on July 10, 2025 in Granada Hills, California and online by Chair Wayde Hunter. Roll Call was taken by the Note Taker. Four of the seven Committee Members were present in person: Jeanette Capaldi, John Ciccarelli, Richard Fisk and Wayde Hunter. Larry Fleck arrived later. Absent: Julie Newman and Jennifer Yoo. A quorum of at least four (there were four) Committee Members was present. Two Committee Member openings were available. Landfill and government representatives present: BFI/Republic Services: Michael Stewart; SCAQMD (South Coast Air Quality Management District): Larry Israel; SCL-LEA (Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Local Enforcement Agency): Dave Thompson and Eugene Tseng; L.A. County Public Health Dept.: Michelle Moyer and Eugene Loi; L.A. County Public Works Dept.: Michael Harmon and Steven Gerrard; L.A. County Regional Planning Dept.: Phillip Chen; L.A. County Supervisor District Three Lindsey Horvath’s Office: Paulina Torres; L.A. County District Five Supervisor Kathryn Barger’s Office: none; L.A. City Councilmember John Lee’s Office: Erich King; L.A. City Planning Dept.: Reneta Ooms and Claudia Rodriguez; and LAUSD District 3: Andrew Modugno. Also attended in person and online: approximately 43 residents and other guests. A Balance Sheet, Reconciliation Detail and other related SCL-CAC and Landfill documents were available in person and at [www.scl-cac.org](http://www.scl-cac.org), and slides were shown. Mr. Hunter had distributed to Committee Members an information packet that included a Balance Sheet, Reconciliation Detail and other related SCL-CAC and Landfill documents, and copies were available to the public.

No corrections or amendments were made to the Minutes.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Fisk, seconded by Mr. Hunter): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the Minutes of its March 13, 2025 Meeting.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a voice vote of the four eligible voters present with all four in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Mr. Hunter requested and it was agreed to Table approval of the May 8, 2025 Meeting Minutes because he was still adding to those Minutes.

**B. Old Business: Discussion and Committee motions & possible action:**

- Outstanding administrative matters (Chair/Vice Chair). Officer elections if sufficient members in attendance.

Mr. Hunter and Ms. Capaldi indicated that they had no report. Mr. Hunter said that all Officers were willing to continue until the next election.

- Treasurer's Report, May - June 2025 (Treasurer).  
Mr. Hunter reviewed the "Financial Report – May 1 thru June 30, 2025." The "Business Checking Account (for Expenses) 1234" beginning balance was \$7,734.48. Two checks totaling \$828.33 were written on that account: \$655 for Center for Spiritual Living for March Meeting, and an out-of-pocket expense of \$173.33 for reimbursement to Wayne Hunter for food and drink for March Meeting. The ending balance was \$6,908.15. The "Business Savings Account (for Consultants) 1582" beginning balance was \$67,467.08; \$0 in interest as not posted as information was not available. The ending balance was \$67,467.08. The "Business Checking Account (for Consultants) 9514" beginning and ending balances both were \$40,000.00. There was \$100 in Petty Cash. There was \$0 in Other Assets. The total beginning balance for all accounts as of June 30, 2025 was \$115,301.56; debits were \$828.33, and deposits were \$0. The total ending balance for all accounts was \$114,473.23 as of June 30, 2025, per Mr. Hunter.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Ms. Capaldi): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the Treasurer's Report, May - June 2025 as presented.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a voice vote of the four eligible voters present with all four in favor ("Yes" or "Aye"); zero opposed; zero abstained.

**C. New Business.** Discussion and possible Committee motions & action to address the following:

1. **Browning-Ferris Industries/Republic Services Inc. (BFI/Republic)** to report on all Sunshine Canyon Landfill daily activities, state of infrastructure/gas collection system, NOVs, current and future disposal operations, wet weather impacts, and efforts to abate odors including receipt and handling of fire-related debris.

Michael Stewart, General Manager, BFI/Republic [24-hour Landfill hotline 818-779-9170; main 818-362-2124; [Info@SunshineCanyonLandfill.com](mailto:Info@SunshineCanyonLandfill.com); <http://SunshineCanyonLandfill.com>] addressed the June 25<sup>th</sup> tragedy in which a heavy equipment operator died.

*Committee Member Larry Fleck arrived in person at this time (3:06), making five Committee Members present in person (the SCL-CAC quorum was four).*

Mr. Stewart reported that current drilling was in a safety stand down. A total of 300-500 tons of trash per day were being accepted from the Palisades and Eaton Fires. He reviewed cell construction. A total of 125 wells were planned for this expansion; 52 were completed. He described e-waste handling and fuel use. Some radioactive waste could be from cancer treatments; Dave Thompson said that cancer treatments emit Iodine 131. He described its handling: after one to two days, it's considered trash because its half-life is so short. Mr. Stewart noted that landfill industry standard is one well per acre; Sunshine Canyon has three wells per acre. He added that "40%-50% of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill waste stream is organic." He explained that landfill temperatures currently aren't a concern because there're no indicators that there's danger. Resident Meg Volk was concerned that human body parts weren't properly buried in the Landfill. She said "the 24-hour hotline is ineffective"; out-of-state operators take calls and no one calls back. She described recent strong odors, which are "worse, post-abatement." Her power bills are much higher because of having to run air conditioning so much. She described her intensive odor-complaint work and outreach with neighbors. Ms. Volk noted that the Landfill land was long ago designated to be open space. Mr. Stewart reported that Sunshine Canyon has "over a thousand wells"; he described their operation.

- 2. South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)** to report on odor complaints received and NOVs issued including any year-to-date charts, frequency of Inspector response to reports, any enforcement actions to abate odors, and any other matters within their purview, including receipt of fire-related debris.

Larry Israel, Supervising Inspector, SCAQMD [909-396-2370; [LIsrael@aqmd.gov](mailto:LIsrael@aqmd.gov); [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov)], reported that, in May, there were 132 complaints, the most ever for May, and four NOVs [Notices of Violation] issued. In June, there were 48 complaints and no NOVs issued. So far in July, there'd been 36 complaints and one NOV issued. There'll be a Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at around 9:30 a.m. Hearing regarding an Order for Abatement; public comment will be accepted. Mr. Israel noted possible odor contributors, including leachate leakage and the need to install more wells.

- 3. Sunshine Canyon Landfill-Local Enforcement Agency (SCL-LEA)** to:

- a. Report on any areas of concern, NOVs issued, and any other SCL matters within their purview.

Mr. Thompson reported that, since the last CAC meeting, Republic requested and was granted an Emergency Waiver extension to September 24<sup>th</sup>; it hasn't much been used. One Inspection Report violation was issued; Republic "submitted a compliance plan"; work is ongoing. He noted that "readings are usually 20 feet below the surface."

- b. Provide an update on the progress of implementation of the AQMD Stipulated Order of Abatement of Odors 3448-18 which was approved on March 19, 2025.

Dr. Eugene Tseng, an environmental engineer and attorney working for the LEA [818-889-8628; [ETseng@aol.com](mailto:ETseng@aol.com)], showed slides and reported that Sunshine Canyon has landfill leachate patrols morning and evening. He described well placement and construction. He described Landfill microbiology application procedure “to change the entire chemistry of the Landfill.” The microbiology is also applied to trash at transfer stations. “Four different kinds of microbiology” are being tested. He described the LEA’s “Review of . . . Wellhead Temperature Data.” “Key Landfill Gas Indicators” were reviewed of underground landfill fires. He said the Sunshine Canyon temperature was “not even close” to the federal EPA’s minimum fire danger temperature indicator. Dr. Tseng explained that, in Japan, people are used to separating recyclables six times per day, every day. Dr. Tseng said that “it’s going forward . . . They need to get those wells drilled.” He noted that, for NASA, Sunshine Canyon “is the most tracked landfill in the world”; data was used in an international conference. Dr. Tseng said “all my spreadsheets are on my website.” He concluded that “you have to put in as many [gas wells] as you can . . . as fast as they can.”

**4. Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)** to report on any SCL matters within their purview.

Andrew Modugno, Environmental Assessment Coordinator, LAUSD Ofc. of Environmental Health & Safety (OEHS) [213-241-3926; [Andrew.Modugno@lausd.net](mailto:Andrew.Modugno@lausd.net)], reported that no NOV’s were issued. A tree was removed from near a monitoring station.

**5. County Public Works** to report on any SCL matters within their purview to include update of any actions to enforce compliance with the CUP including reports of receipt of fire-related debris.

Michael Harmon, Sr. Civil Engineering Asst., L.A. County Dept. of Public Works [626-458.6986; [MHarmon@dpw.LACounty.gov](mailto:MHarmon@dpw.LACounty.gov); [www.dpw.LACounty.gov](http://www.dpw.LACounty.gov)], reviewed the ADC [Alternative Daily Cover] operation. He reported that 93% of Fires debris removal “has been completed.” Fires debris from “inside and outside the County” is being accepted, mostly at the Simi Valley Landfill [<https://www.wm.com/location/california/ventura-county/landfill/index.jsp>].

**6. County Regional Planning Department** to report on any SCL matters within their purview.

Phillip Chen, Planner, L.A. County Regional Planning Dept. [213-974-6483; [PChen@planning.LACounty.gov](mailto:PChen@planning.LACounty.gov); <http://planning.LACounty.gov>], reported that they continue to meet monthly with other agencies. They’re visiting the Landfill “on a monthly basis.”

**7. County Public Health Department** to report on any matters within their purview including health concerns on taking fire-related debris at SCL.

Eugene Loi, Nurse, L.A. County Public Health [213-738-3220; [EuLoi@ph.LACounty.gov](mailto:EuLoi@ph.LACounty.gov); <http://publichealth.LACounty.gov>], reported that their management didn't "see any data that a health study is warranted." They've done "a health risk assessment . . . [and] definitely want to validate" odor complaints. They expect the Order for Abatement to improve odors. Mr. Fisk again requested a health study as "well-warranted." Mr. Loi replied that "the data that DPH has doesn't seem to warrant it" and DPH "doesn't do studies," according to management. Mr. Fisk, Ms. Capaldi and Mr. Fleck believed that DPH is the agency that should do a health study. Mr. Loi said "we've had a lot of funding cuts" and were considering eliminating currently vacant positions. Their Environmental Health Call Center after-hours phone number is 888-700-9995.

**8. City Planning Department** to report on any SCL matters within their purview.

Rhonda Owens, Planner, L.A. City Planning Dept. (818-374-9911; [Rhonda.Owens@LACity.org](mailto:Rhonda.Owens@LACity.org); [www.planning.LACity.org](http://www.planning.LACity.org)), and Claudia Rodriguez, Supervising Planner, L.A. City Planning Dept. ([Claudia.Rodriguez@LACity.org](mailto:Claudia.Rodriguez@LACity.org)), reported that the STI (Sonoma Technologies Inc.) contract is being finalized; it should be done in the next few weeks.

**9. Other persons representing the City, County or State** who wish to report any additional information or subject matter relating to SCL that is within their purview that has not been agendized for this meeting. If necessary, discussion and action will be agendized for another meeting.

Paulina Torres, Field Deputy for Los Angeles County District 3 Supervisor Lindsey Horvath (Ofc. 310-231-1170; Mobile 213-359-3515; [PTorres@bos.LACounty.gov](mailto:PTorres@bos.LACounty.gov); <https://lacounty.gov/government/board-of-supervisors/lindsey-p-horvath>), reported that "we are continuing to monitor the Abatement Order." She encouraged contacting her for help and said "we are looking for one more member" to join the CAC. Erich King, Deputy Chief of Staff for L.A. City Councilmember John Lee [(818) 882-1212; [Erich.King@LACity.org](mailto:Erich.King@LACity.org); <https://cd12.LACity.gov>], reported that "we are going to be widening San Fernando Road," which is in "pretty bad" condition. They're working to "improve conditions" at the Landfill. The Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Amenities Trust Fund "balance was around \$16 million." He described City services programs, including parks and street lighting. He encouraged contacting him with project ideas for Granada Hills. Mr. King was willing to present to the CAC about the Amenities Fund balance and projects.

**D. Committee Member and Public comments** on items NOT on the Agenda.

There were no public comments at this time.

**E. Set next meeting date (September 11, 2025).** Adjourn meeting if 5:00 p.m. for City, County and State participants.

Mr. Hunter noted the above and declared the meeting **ADJOURNED** at 4:57 p.m.

**F. Special Overtime Discussion of Budget, Banking & Financial Matters.**

Mr. Hunter indicated that there was no more discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

David Levin, Note Taker (Minutes Writer). Edited by SCL-CAC. *The first paragraph of some Items, Motions/Resolutions and other wording may have been directly copied from the Agenda.* The SCL-CAC Meeting Minutes page is <http://scl-cac.org/agendas-minutes>. The Meeting can be viewed at [https://youtu.be/nh\\_MZ4ZALw0](https://youtu.be/nh_MZ4ZALw0).