

**SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL – COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CITY AND COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Thursday, November 10, 2016, 3:00 p.m.

Knollwood Country Club, 12024 Balboa Boulevard, Granada Hills, CA 91344

Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee Members: Ken Ashford (TAC Alternate), Jeanette Capaldi (Vice-Chair), Steven Freedman, Gale Gundersen (Secretary), Wayde Hunter (Chair), Josh Jordahl (Treasurer), Laine Caspi, Debbie Pietraszko and Joe Vitti (TAC Rep.).

A. Call to Order, Roll Call and Approval of Thursday, September 8, 2016 Minutes (Chair).

This meeting of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee was called to order at 3:05 p.m. on November 10, 2016 in Granada Hills, California by Chair Wayde Hunter. Roll Call was taken by the Note Taker. Seven of the nine Committee Members were present: Jeanette Capaldi, Laine Caspi, Steven Freedman, Gale Gundersen, Wayde Hunter, Debbie Pietraszko and Joe Vitti. Josh Jordahl arrived later. Absent: Ken Ashford. A quorum of at least five Committee Members was present.

Landfill and government representatives present: BFI/Republic Services: Patti Costa and Rob Sherman; SCAQMD (South Coast Air Quality Management District): Larry Israel and John Anderson; SCL-LEA (Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Local Enforcement Agency, Eugene Tseng; L.A. County Public Health Dept.: Dorcas Hanson-Lugo; L.A. County Regional Planning Dept.: Tim Stapleton; L.A. County Supervisor Mike Antonovich's Office: Jarrod DeGonia; L.A. City Councilman Mitch Englander's Office: Millie Jones; L.A. City Planning Dept.: Nicholas Hendricks; LAUSD District 3: Bill Piazza. Also attended: 16 residents and other guests.

Minutes of the September 8, 2016 Meeting will be presented for approval at the January 12, 2017 Meeting.

B. Old Business. Discussion and Board motions & possible action:

- Outstanding administrative matters (Chair/Vice-Chair).

Mr. Hunter asked everyone to sign in, though members of the public may remain anonymous. Mr. Hunter distributed to Committee Members an information packet that included a Balance Sheet, Reconciliation Detail and other related Landfill documents, and copies were made available to the public. (See <http://SCL-CAC.org>.)

- Treasurer's Report (Treasurer).

Mr. Jordahl had not yet arrived; Mr. Hunter reviewed the financial report as provided by the Treasurer in the Board's package. Total Available was \$83,399.87.

MOTION (by Mr. Hunter and seconded): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the November 10, 2016 Treasurer’s Report as presented.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

Millie Jones, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander, (818-882-1212; Millie.Jones@LACity.org; <http://CD12.LACity.org>), was invited by Ms. Pietraszko to address a previous request at an earlier SCL-CAC meeting for an accounting of funds in the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Amenities Trust Fund. She explained that the Fund was created as a result of a lawsuit against the Landfill circa 2004; it established funds for community amenities around the Landfill and authorizes the Councilmember to decide on Fund disbursements. There are similar trust funds at other landfills (e.g., Bradley and Lopez Canyon), however, the Councilmember ensures that all Sunshine Canyon Fund disbursements go directly into programs and services without charging an administrative fee like the other trust funds do. All monies issued by the Fund account are approved by City Council action to ensure transparency. A yearly report is prepared by the City Clerk’s Office and is available online. All of the Motions for funds are available on the Council File Management System at <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect>. Funds have been used for extra road resurfacing, community clean ups, tree trimming, restoration of the Granada Hills pool, programs for children, veterans and some of our more vulnerable residents, and community events such as the Granada Hills (Holiday) Parade, the Granada Hills Street Fair and the Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair. As of several weeks ago, Councilman Englander said there was about \$10,000,000 in the fund but some of that may be earmarked for other services. Ms. Jones said she has spoken with resident Andrea Provenzale and others and wants everyone to know that the Council Office would be open to suggestions in writing as to how to spend the money to benefit the community.

Bill Cotter believed that people north of the 118 Freeway are more impacted by Landfill activities while it seemed that monies were being used elsewhere in the District for things intended by the Fund. It was clarified that monies could be used within a five-mile radius of the Landfill. Ms. Caspi noted that there were a number of projects locally. Mr. Cotter explained he had not seen any activities in this area, though he had requested information on funding and had received none. Ms. Jones indicated that \$450,000 was allocated to nine schools. Ms. Provenzale said that Balboa and Sesnon Boulevards and other local streets need cleaning up as they are the most “impacted.”

C. New Business. Discussion and possible Board Motions and action to address the following:

- 1. Browning-Ferris Industries/Republic Services Inc. (BFI/Republic)** to report on Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) activities and operations, including any new efforts to abate odors including the status of the 1-year ADC Geosynthetic Panel project, the 6-month Intermediate Cover Project.

Rob Sherman, BFI/Republic General Manager [24-hour Landfill hotline 818-779-9170; main 818-362-2124; Info@SunshineCanyonLandfill.com; <http://SunshineCanyonLandfill.com>], reported that storm weather preparations were finalized in September and they did perform well during the recent rain events. The Landfill continues to have two working faces and new Cell 3B went into operation last March. Construction of the Flare 11 grading project was completed and will be installed in 2017. Excavation continues for a new Cell CC4 part 1, with the subgrade which began in July. This will give them another 1-1/2 years of airspace. The liner activities are currently under way with completion in January 2017. They did some gas system improvements in September and October and installed 4,100-feet of slope collectors which have been tied into the site collection system. There have been 15 new liquid extraction pumps placed in gas wells that were affected by liquids. Additional wells will be installed now through December and reported upon in January. They continue to dewater the wells. During the 3rd and 4th Quarters of 2016, 25 vertical wells were installed and approximately 5,000 feet of collectors will be installed by year's end.

Mr. Sherman stated that he "was not sure if he had mentioned it before, but we are trying different things . . . there are two different types of odors as I am sure you are aware, working face odors and landfill gas odors. The working face odors are generally in the morning in the around 6 - 8 o'clock window. We implemented something in September, and I don't remember if I mentioned it when it first started, called an Adverse Weather Policy . . . Adverse Weather Program . . . We look the day before, what the wind direction and speed is going to be the next morning. Wind direction from the north and the speeds low, we notify our third-party transfer trailer folks in the City of Los Angeles. There are two types of trucks that come: trucks that you see at your home, and the semi-trucks . . . transfer trucks. But we do if there is adverse weather, will notify the City, and we notify a few other customers . . . transfer stations, that they [drive] into the site between 6:00 am and 8:00 am. So we started that in September, through October and we will continue the program because it reduces the amount of waste in the morning hours to just these small . . . vehicles. We think that . . . has made a difference . . . The upcoming Intermediate Cover Project (ICE), we have not started it yet . . . Will be done on areas of Landfill where we have not been for six months. The pilot will allow us to see if there is anything we can do to keep emissions coming out of the surface of the landfill in certain areas . . . reduce them . . . going to do it in several different ways: one is add soil, and using a product called Posi-Shell which is sprayed on. We will make a normal application and a double application. Wayne is finalizing comments (from the CAC), which I am hoping to get by the 18th (November). Completed the year on the ADC, Alternative Daily Cover pilot using the geosynthetic cover, plastic we put over the waste at the end of the night. We have a one-year extension from the SCL-LEA before we can use this permanently, and we have been given a five-month extension by the Public Works (County) until March 2017."

There was discussion of a possible motion to have an SCL-CAC response done by the 15th. Mr. Hunter indicated that he had already promised at the SCAQMD to have the comments in by the 18th and that a Motion was not necessary. Mr. Hunter also indicated that the CAC Board was not aware that there was also a requirement for comments from the GHNNC (Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council) and other organizations, and that he had worked to get that on the GHNNC agenda; that nothing magical happens on the 18th and that he also plans for the North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens Inc., as one of the largest organizations, to respond. He also stated that he "has said repeatedly in front of Public Works (County) AQMD, and anybody else . . . have gone through this litany of things . . . that I have said, that we do not have major problems that I know of with the project . . . but we have some concerns that go to the fact that they (SCL-LEA) said that if we had problems, they would discontinue the project, and they didn't. Again, our concern is if we have another project (ICE) going and there are problems . . . that we want make sure that it gets stopped. Posi-Shell has great potential and we are in support of it. So, it is not just our CAC that is the hold up, but there is the North Valley Coalition, and Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council."

Ms. Jones asked if any comments from the public had been received by the CAC; Mr. Hunter indicated that there had and that they would be included with the CAC response letter. She also requested a copy of any CAC response.

Mr. Sherman indicated in response to Mr. Hunter's statement that "odors increased during the ADC project," that the working face odors have not increased. Members of public immediately took exception to that statement and voiced their opposition, including making statements such as "the odors have become more intense" for them. Mike Mohajer, speaking "as a private citizen" representing himself, not any group, asked what area the 4,100-feet of slope collectors and gas extraction wells were installed in (i.e., the old or new trash areas). Mr. Sherman said he would get that information, and report back. Mr. Mohajer said that while it was not Mr. Sherman's problem, in regards to the enhancement of the intermediate cover (ICE project) that the County CUP requires that the Landfill revegetate after 180 days, and that he would like to have something in writing from LA County Department of Regional Planning, if the project is OK with County Public Works, then the County Counsel needs to say that they can move ahead with the project since it changes the Conditions of the County CUP and the CEQA documentation, and the County has to prepare new environmental documents.

- 2. South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)** to report on SCL odor complaints and NOVs received including any year-to-date charts, and/or any other matters within their purview including an update on Town Hall Meetings and the status of the Hearings for the Petition for Order of Abatement of Odors.

Supervising Inspector John Anderson introduced Air Quality Inspector Kathleen Linson [909-396-3229; KLinson@aqmd.gov; www.aqmd.gov]. Mr. Anderson reported that the AQMD has had many retirements and is hiring. Larry Israel,

Compliance Lead Inspector [310-233-2370; LIsrael@aqmd.gov], reported that there were more than 200 odor complaints in September, including at Van Gogh Charter School. Notices of Violation (NOVs) were issued on September 17 and 29, and November 17, 22, 26 and 29. He described a change in the response procedure “in the latter part of September . . . it’s now one call per hour” that can prompt a response, not three. Resident Roxie Deukmedjian said she did not call about a 2:30 a.m. strong odor because she did not expect an Inspector to respond at that time and that on her block “there are five homes that don’t call anymore.”

3. Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) to report on LAUSD actions/response to SCL-CAC requests for action to ameliorate excessive odor complaints at Van Gogh Charter School.

Bill Piazza, LAUSD Ofc. of Environmental Health & Safety (OHS) Environmental Assessment Coordinator [213.241.3926; Bill.Piazza@lausd.net], asked Mr. Hunter the status of the Motions and letters sent to the SCAQMD regarding the health risk assessment and the completion of reports on working face odors, as well as other methodologies that may be employed to minimize odors that may be coming off the Landfill, and whether or not the SCL-CAC had received any response from the AQMD or any of the agencies that the SCL-CAC had copied. Mr. Hunter replied that SCL-CAC had received no response.

4. Sunshine Canyon Landfill-Local Enforcement Agency (SCL-LEA) to report on any SCL inspections carried out, and other matters within their purview including a brief update on status on the April 2, 2015 Adopted SCL-LEA Board Motion.

Dorcas Hanson-Lugo, Environmental Health Specialist [626-430-5540; DLugo@ph.LACounty.gov; www.SCLLEA.org] reported that Gerry Villalobos left the agency; David Thompson [213.252.3932; David.Thompson@lacity.org] will help. Dr. Eugene Tseng, an environmental engineer and attorney working for the LEA, presented slides regarding the ADC Geosynthetic Panel project. He reported that “soil has been determined to be detrimental to the operation of a landfill . . . the liquid has to go to the bottom.” The soil gets “saturated and creates impermeable layers.” Leachate leaking out the side of the Landfill indicates that it is not being absorbed into the Landfill according “to federal, state and local law . . . it’s stuck.” Early morning trash odors can be “attributable to the non-operation of the Alternative Daily Cover.” “Since the 1990’s” scientists “gave classes all over the state” to landfill staff “not to use dirt.” Dr. Tseng presented data indicating that most leachate is coming out the sides of the Landfill where there is the most dirt. He described “potential mitigation measures” including at the Landfill and at transfer stations. “The gas pressure blows up . . . and leaks out the side . . . it’s blowing the plastic up and down . . . the ADC is only the first step.” Odors are a combination of fresh and old gases.

5. County Regional Planning Department & County Public Health Department to report on SCL matters within their purview including update on response to a

Motion by Supv. Mike Antonovich on Sunshine Canyon Landfill (Oct 4, 2016 Agenda Item No. 8).

L.A. County Regional Zoning Enforcement Planner Tim Stapleton [213-974-6453; TStapleton@planning.lacounty.gov; <http://planning.co.la.ca.us>] described enforcement options. L.A. County Industrial Hygienist Evenor Masis [626-430-5435], who works with Dr. Cyrus Rangan, will send copies of the latest Notices of Violation to Mr. Hunter.

6. City Planning Department to report on SCL matters within their purview.

No representative was present and there was no report.

7. 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.

Millie Jones, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander, (818-882-1212; Millie.Jones@LACity.org; <http://CD12.LACity.org>), distributed copies of two Motions by the Councilman in support of L.A. County Supervisor Mike Antonovich's position regarding public health in regard to the Landfill.

D. Public comment on items Not on the Agenda.

Mr. Sherman said the Landfill takes trash Mondays-Fridays 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays 7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.; it is closed Sundays.

E. Set next meeting date (Jan. 12, 2017), & adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Hunter noted the above, and declared and the Committee agreed to **ADJOURN** the Meeting at 5:02 p.m.

F. Special Overtime Discussion of Budget, Banking and Financial Matters.

- Discussion of funding for 2016 budget, if necessary.

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.* Minutes are available at <http://scl-cac.org/agendas-minutes>.

Approved December 12, 2016 Meeting