

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

Thursday, November 9, 2017, 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 September 14, 2017 Minutes (Chair).

This meeting of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee was called to order at 3:04 p.m. on November 9, 2017 in Granada Hills, California by Chair Wayde Hunter. Roll Call was taken by the Note Taker. Six of the nine Committee Members were present: Jeanette Capaldi, Laine Caspi, Gale Gundersen, Wayde Hunter, Debbie Pietraszko and Joe Vitti. Josh Jordahl arrived later. Absent: Ken Ashford and Steven Freedman. A quorum of at least five Committee Members was present. Landfill and government representatives present: BFI/Republic Services: Rob Sherman; SCAQMD (South Coast Air Quality Management District): Larry Israel; SCL-LEA (Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Local Enforcement Agency): David Thompson, Jose Gutierrez and Eugene Tseng; L.A. County Public Health Dept.: John Kaddis and Eugene Loi; L.A. County Regional Planning Dept.: Tim Stapleton; L.A. County Supervisor Kathryn Barger's Office: Jarrod DeGonia, Jason Maruca; L.A. City Councilman Mitch Englander's Office: Millie Jones; L.A. City Planning Dept.: none; L.A. Unified School District Bill Piazza. Also attended: 21 residents and other guests.

MOTION (by Ms. Capaldi, seconded by Ms. Pietraszko): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the Minutes of its September 14, 2017 Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED 5 for; zero opposed; 1 abstained.

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. He distributed to Committee Members an information packet that included a Balance Sheet, Reconciliation Detail and other related Landfill documents, and copies were available to the public. (See <http://SCL-CAC.org>.)

Minutes from July meeting were introduced as there was a lack of quorum at the September meeting to approve.

MOTION (by Ms. Pietraszko, seconded by Mr. Vitti): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the Minutes of its July 13, 2017 Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained.

- Treasurer’s Report (Treasurer).

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #C. 3.*] Mr. Jordahl reviewed finances. The total balance was \$103,487.19. Income was \$20,600.16; expenses were \$5,406.51.

MOTION (by Ms. Capaldi, seconded by Mr. Hunter): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the November 9, 2017 Treasurer’s Report as presented.

MOTION PASSED unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained.

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

- 1. Browning-Ferris Industries/Republic Services Inc. (BFI/Republic)** to report on Sunshine Canyon Landfill activities and operations, including efforts to abate odors using Alternative Daily Cover (ADC), Intermediate Cover Project (ICE), and compliance with the SCAQMD’s Stipulated Order of Abatement for Odors.

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #C. 6.*] Rob Sherman, BFI/Republic General Manager [24-hour Landfill hotline 818-779-9170; main 818-362-2124; Info@SunshineCanyonLandfill.com; <http://SunshineCanyonLandfill.com>], distributed copies of a “Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Update,” and an “October 2017 Enhanced Cover View” and “Action Plan Checklist.” He presented slides and described their “action plan,” including new wells, the Intermediate Cover Project (ICE) and odor neutralizers. He described the application of the Posi-Shell intermediate cover and closure turf. He showed a graph indicating an increased number of gas collection wells installed this year, noting that they had collected 10 million gallons of liquid, and as a result are collecting more Landfill gas and helping to reduce odor complaints. He said, “we’re not at zero; that’s our goal.” He announced that the new General Manager would be Chris Coyle, and that he “will take over the day-to-day operation of the Landfill.” He said he will remain heavily involved in the SCAQMD’s Abatement Order, and in (Republic’s) transfer operations. Mr. Sherman encouraged reading BFI’s weekly and quarterly communications.

Committee Member Josh Jordahl arrived at this time (3:36), making seven Committee Members present (the SCL-CAC quorum is five).

[This Agenda Item was continued after Item #C. 8.] Mr. Sherman explained that County staff determines the seed mix distribution on the Landfill. Mr. DeGonia said that fire waste “is tested” before it is deposited in Sediment Placement Sites. Mr. Sherman reminded that “we’re a non-hazardous landfill.” He described odor-sniffing work at Van Gogh Charter School. Mr. Hunter noted that “they haven’t solved it yet, but they’ve made . . . an improvement.”

- 2. South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)** to report on odor complaints received and NOVs issued including any year-to-date charts, and/or any other matters within their purview.

Larry Israel, SCAQMD Compliance Lead Inspector [909-396-2370; LIsrael@aqmd.gov; www.aqmd.gov], reported that, on October 18th, he surveyed the Landfill surface (integrated surface monitoring) over 6 grids that were of concern in the past, and that “we did not detect . . . any . . . exceedances” and “there were no Notices of Violation issued.” However, there were 44 complaints in September 27 in October, and 4 so far in November. There was one particularly bad day, September 17th including a new location reporting odor, and that was the Bethlehem Lutheran School on Balboa (Jollette & Balboa). He was unavailable that day, but another inspector was out, but none of the odors were verified. In response to Mr. Hunter’s questions, Larry verified that there have been other schools which have reported odors such as Frost and Van Gogh, but that this was a first for Bethlehem Lutheran.

- 3. Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)** to report on LAUSD’s efforts/actions/responses to ameliorate excessive odor complaints at Van Gogh Charter School. Provide an assessment of the PM10 and Black Carbon testing data currently collected and summarized by Sonoma Technologies Inc., (STI) in their Annual Report, and that the CAC consider a draft letter and a motion to write to the City and the County asking that STI provide a more thorough assessment of the potential impacts to the community and to Van Gogh Charter School.

Mr. Hunter pointed out that the Committee had received a copy of the draft letter, and that extra copies had been put on the table for the public.

Bill Piazza, Environmental Assessment Coordinator, LAUSD Office of Environmental Health & Safety (OHS) [213.241.3926; Bill.Piazza@lausd.net], noted that the Committee has considered the Health Risk Assessment (HRA) at two prior meetings talking about the results and the consultant’s contract. He then read aloud the “Draft for SCL-CAC Member Consideration” letter to the [SCAQMD Agencies again requesting a Health Risk Assessment](#) (see below).

The Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee (SCL-CAC) has recently entered into discussion regarding the adequacy of the air monitoring reports prepared under the auspices of Los Angeles

City Ordinance No. 172,933 and Los Angeles County Conditional Use Permit No. 00-194 whereby an independent air quality consultant (Consultant) be retained to administer an ambient air quality monitoring program to assess particulate matter (PM₁₀) and black carbon concentrations at the Sunshine Canyon Landfill and Van Gogh Charter Elementary School.

In accordance with the provisions of the air quality monitoring program, the Consultant is required to:

- Provide quarterly and annual reports “to determine the potential impact” of landfill emissions verses those of other nearby sources.
- Provide a comparison of PM₁₀ concentrations with federal and state standards.
- Prepare in-depth annual reports which “characterize the impact” of landfill operations on ambient air quality at the neighborhood scale.

What we understand by these requirements is that an evaluation be provided which presents a meaningful assessment of landfill particulate emissions and risks associated with identified black carbon exposures.

For example, the annual report specifically excludes an examination of the state’s 24-hour PM₁₀ standard. This is most troubling as the state standard of 50 micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m³) is significantly less than the federal standard of 150 µg/m³ as referenced in the report. The state has promulgated strict ambient air quality standards for criteria pollutants. These standards were established to safeguard the public’s health and welfare with specific emphasis on protecting those individuals susceptible to respiratory distress, such as asthmatics, the young, the elderly and those with existing conditions which may be affected by increased pollutant concentrations. They report that unhealthy respiratory responses can occur with exposures to pollutants at levels that only marginally exceed California’s clean air standards. It is most relevant to note that excess deaths from short-term exposures and the exacerbation of symptoms in sensitive individuals with respiratory disease including seasonal declines in pulmonary function especially in children are associated with PM₁₀ exposures.

Additionally, due to the landfills contribution of black carbon emissions, which serve as a surrogate for diesel particulate matter, its classification as a primary toxic compound of concern should be examined in the context of incremental cancer risk and noncarcinogenic hazard effects.

It is clear that the quarterly and annual reports merely serve as a data download without relevant context for laypersons and community members to neither understand nor rely on its findings.

As such, the SCL-CAC requests that the Los Angeles City Planning and Los Angeles County Planning departments review the relevant provisions of the Consultant’s contract and require compliance with its intent and assessment provisions.

Mr. Piazza said that the testing referred to was by the State to their quality assessment standards, and that it was conducted by the California Air Resources Board. He also provided a lengthy technical explanation as to why we are making the request. Mr. Hunter also reviewed the history of the initial request, its subsequent changes, and that the Committee and Mr. Piazza had spoken at length at our last meeting which some SCL-CAC Members missed, in order to arrive at what we now considered to be a reasonable request of the City and the County. Mr. Hunter added that he will add nothing other than the heading and the salutation, and that Mr. Piazza will be the person to contact if there are questions.

MOTION (by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Ms. Gundersen): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee accepts the draft letter ~~to the SCAQMD, again requesting a Health Risk Assessment~~, and will write the letter as proposed, including adding the phrase “by the California Air Resources Board.”

MOTION PASSED; zero opposed; one abstained.

- 4. Sunshine Canyon Landfill-Local Enforcement Agency (SCL-LEA)** to report on any inspections carried out, and other matters within their purview.

Jose Gutierrez, Environmental Supervisor [213-252-3348; Jose.Gutierrez@LACity.org; www.SCLLEA.org] and LEA Program Supervisor, said “there were no violations to report.” There will be a Board of Directors Meeting November 30th; more information is at www.SCLLEA.org.

- 5. County Regional Planning Department & County Public Works** to report on SCL matters within their purview.

L.A. County Regional Zoning Enforcement Planner Tim Stapleton [213-974-6453; TStapleton@planning.lacounty.gov; <http://planning.co.la.ca.us>] noted reports on Conditional Use issues.

- 6. County Public Health Department** to report on SCL matters within their purview, including an update on their investigations as to whether recent illegally disposed of asbestos contaminated material may have reached Republic’s Transfer/MRFs and the landfill, and the potential health impacts.

Note: To accommodate the County Public Health Department, this item was taken out of order, and was the first item to be presented under Item C.

John Kaddis, Environmental Health Specialist, L.A. County Public Health [626-430-5542; JKaddis@ph.LACounty.gov], reported that, in mid-July, material was sent to a landfill. A Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) statement said that “there is possibly asbestos . . . County Public Health became aware of the issue in July. . . . we issued a cease and desist order; that order is still in effect . . . an asbestos cleanup company was contracted, and the cleanup work started as of last week.” They expect the cleanup to be finished by January. Mr. Kaddis indicated that the facility in question was a transfer station in Long Beach. Mr. Hunter said that “we don’t know” if the material affects the Sunshine Canyon Landfill yet, but asked that Mr. Kaddis to stay in contact with Mr. Loi who could keep us up to date.

Eugene Loi, Nurse, L.A. County Public Health [213-738-3220; EuLoi@ph.LACounty.gov], reported that, regarding the “SDI Annual Report . . . Cyrus (Dr. Cyrus Rangan, Director, Bureau of Toxicology and Environmental Assessment, L.A. County Public Health Dept. [213-738-3220; CRangan@ph.LACounty.gov; <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/TEA/aboutTEA.htm>]) and the team” are “writing a memo.” Mr. Loi “will send it over to Wayde as soon as I receive it . . . we’ll continue to do our odor surveys” and “scrutinize the data.”

- 7. City Planning Department** to report on SCL matters within their purview.

David Thompson, SCL-LEA Program Manager [213.252.3932; David.Thompson@lacity.org; www.SCLLEA.org], relayed that L.A. City Planner Nicholas Hendricks (818-374-5046; Nick.Hendricks@LACity.org; www.planning.LACity.org), who was not present, had no report.

- 8. 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 agendaized for this meeting. If necessary, discussion and action will be agendaized 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 recycling information. She said that toxic recycling centers are “managed by the County Public Works Department.” Center staff should collect material from pedestrians without allowing them into the facility.

Jarrod DeGonia, Field Deputy for L.A. County District Five Supervisor Kathryn Barger (office 818-993-5170; cell 818-653-7812; JDeGonia@lacbos.org; https://www.lacounty.gov/government/supervisors/kathryn-barger), introduced Jason Maruca, Assistant Field Deputy (818-993-5170; JMaruca@bos.LACounty.gov).

D. Public comment on items NOT on the Agenda.

There were no public comments at this time.

E. Set next meeting date (January 11, 2018), & adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Hunter announced that the next Meeting will be here January 11, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

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

- Potential budget items FY 2018.

Mr. Hunter indicated that there was no more discussion.

Mr. Hunter declared, and the Committee agreed to **ADJOURN** the Meeting at 4:28 p.m.

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>.

Note: Originally approved January 11, 2018 SCL-CAC Meeting, and REVISED Minutes Approved March 8, 2018 Meeting