

**SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL – COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**  
**MINUTES OF HYBRID\* MEETING, Thursday, November 14, 2024**  
Center for Spiritual Living, 17622 Chatsworth St., Granada Hills, CA 91344 and online  
Approved March 13, 2025

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

**A. Call to Order, Roll Call by Notetaker, and Approval of September 12, 2024 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 November 14, 2024 in Granada Hills, California and online by Chair Wayde Hunter. Roll Call was taken by the Note Taker. Five of the eight Committee Members were present in person: Richard Fisk, Larry Fleck, Wayde Hunter, Natalie Khooda and Julie Newman (all in person). Jennifer Yoo arrived later. Absent: Jeanette Capaldi and John Ciccarelli. A quorum of at least five (there were five) Committee Members was present. One Committee Member opening was 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): Dee Hanson-Lugo and Eugene Tseng; L.A. County Public Health Dept.: Evan Cohen; L.A. County Public Works Dept.: Amiko Thompson; L.A. County Regional Planning Dept.: Steven Jareb; L.A. County Supervisor District Three Lindsey Horvath's Office: Aaron Ordower; 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.: none; and LAUSD District 3: Andrew Modugno. Also attended in person and online: approximately 23 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).

**MOTION** (by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Fisk): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the Minutes of its September 12, 2024 Meeting as written.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a voice vote of the five eligible voters present with all five in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Fisk, Fleck, Hunter, Khooda and Newman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

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

- Outstanding administrative matters (Chair/Vice Chair). Reschedule officer elections to January 2025 meeting.

Mr. Hunter relayed that Jeanette Capaldi was unable to attend this meeting. The CAC will have an election at its January [9<sup>th</sup>] meeting.

- Treasurer’s Report, September 2024 – October 2024 (Treasurer).  
Mr. Fleck reviewed the “SCL-CAC FINANCIAL STATEMENT 09/01/2024 - 10/31/2024, saying “all accounts combined, we had a beginning balance of \$119,843.18, expenses totaling \$741.53, and we have an ending balance of \$118,305.25” as follows: “Knollwood pharmacy \$180 for the PO Box for the year, Aaron DeVandry for Web hosting \$120, Postal Plus for copying for \$213.53, rent for the space we have here for the Center for Spiritual Living for \$580.00: + \$75 for an additional man, Notetaker David Levin for \$320, and Wayde for snacks and refreshments for \$50.52, all totaling \$741.53.”

**MOTION** (by Mr. Fisk, seconded by Ms. Newman): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the September-October 2024 Treasurer’s Report as presented.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a voice vote of the five eligible voters present with all five in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Fisk, Fleck, Hunter, Khooda and Newman); 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 all Sunshine Canyon Landfill daily activities, state of infrastructure/gas collection system, notable events including NOVs, current and future disposal operations, wet weather impacts, and efforts to abate odors.

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>], described new cell and berm construction; Posi-Shell cement-type material for sealing; and mulch application. Winterizing has been completed for this year.

*Committee Member Jennifer Yoo arrived in person at this time (3:12), making six Committee Members present in person (the SCL-CAC quorum is five).*

Mr. Stewart presented an “SCL-CAC Update, November 14, 2024.”

**Slides 1 – 3**

In Operation Updates he stated that “what you see here is basically the level that we’ve been filling our landfill for the past three years. It’s where we are currently, and that’s where we’re going to be hopefully for only a matter of weeks. This is our new cell C5A that construction is nearing completion. We’re hoping to get into it before Thanksgiving, but most likely to be the first weekend in December. We’re really looking forward to getting in that new cell, it’s been a five month construction project . . . we’re going to be down into the lower levels of the Canyon... levels

that we haven't seen in the past three years. Some of the other things that we're looking forward to in this cell is the bottom up gas collection system that we're that we'll be starting with, which means we'll be able to bring the gas collection system up (and running) as we bring our lifts up. Our lifts are generally 20 feet in height, and we can put in some lateral gas collection wells as we come up, whereas in the past, what you would do is, you would have to get up to at least 50 or 60-feet of waste before you can start putting in vertical gas collection. So, we're looking for that in the new cell. We also will have an enhanced leachate collection system, which essentially allows us to take the normal leachate collection system and place essential targets down in the bottom of the landfill. So as the waste comes up, you can actually hit some of those targets with gas, vertical gas collection wells and it makes for a freer flowing leachate system. So, you don't have to manually pump up the liquids with through the gas wells. They can flow through the bottom system a little more efficiently. Again, it allows for the immediate collection of gas throughout the system.”

**Slide 4**

“The front entrance berm . . . We started the permitting of that in 2020 or 2021. We received our first rounds of construction permits in 2022 and started construction at that point in time. We received our final permits for Phases 4 and 5 in 2023. We essentially have about 1,000,000 cubic yards of soil left to place in that berm. If you can see our scale house is over here, our administration building is closer to this side [pointing]. We will be filling that berm from the scale house to the admin building and then that will be the new route of the traffic. So, we had some delays with weather, with the rain from the past couple of years, but this project is scheduled to finish early in 2026, and it is an LEA recommended mitigation measure to get this berm completed as quickly as possible in order to surround the Canyon and basically plug up the alleyway (pathway) and the possibility of any odors leaving out the front (entrance). We also will be able to reinforce our odor control system along that front toe berm once it's completed.”

**Slide 5**

“Some of you all may have seen this from the highway. This is our application of eight acres of Posi-Shell . . . a cement-type substance that's really good at sealing off surface emissions. But another positive use for it is in controlling of erosion fills. So, that is CC4, which is our current fill. You can see our waste trucks on top of our current fill. In the past two years, when we've had exorbitant amounts of rain, that was the slope that would give us the most trouble. We believe that the Posi-Shell is going to do a really good job of holding down that slope, should we get the level rains that we have had for the past two years and, again, this is another LEA=recommended mitigation.”

**Slide 6**

“Another measure that we are have started is the mulch application, another LEA-recommended mitigation. We had some grids, especially in the County side of the landfill, where we have surface emission issues. We've gone in and placed another 18 to 24 inches of soil on those grids. We've installed horizontal

collectors and then have started adding this mulch application. The mulch application works as a biofilter and any surface emissions that make it through the horizontal collectors, the extra soil as it comes up to that most mulch. It will oxidize any of the landfill gas that may come out of those areas.”

**Slide 7**

“Our winterization has been completed for this year. We will be turning in our final report to the LEA this afternoon or tomorrow. And this year is even bigger and better than last year. This is our third year of preparing for the increased amount of rainfall that we've been seeing. So, we've built up what you're looking at. Here is the Jute netting that we placed on slopes that have no vegetation. We have berms that we've reinforced . . . We don't anticipate falling apart, even if we do get the rains that we have had for the past two years. Last year we were able to hold up to the storms. We still have the problem of the highways flooding, getting the waste from the transfer stations to the landfill, but we're continuing to work with our hauling counterparts to make sure that we're able to keep our gates open, and then working with them to get the transfer stations as clean . . . as quickly as possible following these types of events.”

**Slide 8**

They installed “110 new vertical gas extraction wells . . . that primarily went in the County section of the landfill. These are the vertical wells that get the deep gas that's generated, and it helps us also get through that part of the County landfill where we have the soil impacts and the trapped liquid, so these gas wells help us to get gas and liquid out of the landfill. We've installed another 2,000 linear feet of header this year and that header system is going to continue to help feed the wells . . . The header will add a more consistent vacuum to the system so we can pull more efficiently on all these new wells. We've installed approximately 90 new pumps throughout the landfill. We have hundreds of these pumps in stock at our landfill and as we come across wells that have exceeded certain levels of liquids in them where perfs (perforations) may be impacted. We install it well so we can quickly get the liquids out and improve the gas collection of our existing infrastructure . . . We've installed approximately 14,000 linear feet of horizontal collectors and that's what you're looking at here. So, about three miles of these collection systems. These basically serve to fill in the gap between your vertical extraction wells and the surface of the landfill. You can't perforate vertical wells too close to the surface, because then you'll start pulling in oxygen to these horizontal collectors. You can put those in closer to the surface because you pull a lot less vacuum on them, so you have less of a chance of oxygen intrusion.”

Kate Downey, Environmental Manager, showed slides and stated that “in April, the LA County Board of Supervisors passed a motion to have a third party independent firm conduct an audit of the existing odor mitigation strategies at sunshine and determine any additional strategies that should be implemented. The report was finalized and made available to us in late October. There were a significant amount of odor mitigation strategies that the landfill is currently implementing that were recommended to be continued. And there are some

additional measures that were proposed that are either already underway or are in the early stages as we work through the feasibility and procurement. So, this list is a very condensed list of the measures that were outlined in the UltraSystems report, most of which are already fully being implemented, and are recommended to be continued . . . These are in full effect. The items in purple such as the cell sequencing plan and drainage plans are items that we already have prepared but are suggested to modify or enhance incorporation of what odor mitigation measures will be included in those activities. And then the items in blue we're working through procurement of the equipment and the technical feasibility and/or partnership with the applicable regulatory agency . . . I wanted to just share the list of recommended odor mitigation strategies that we had received from the LEA earlier this year. Michael touched on a lot of these earlier in the presentation, and again we've either implemented or are currently implementing these strategies. So, I do just want to highlight these and reiterate that we're highly focused on these measures and we're very welcoming to other ideas and insights and considerations that we should be making to help us improve voters. We very much appreciate the evaluation of our existing measures and are looking forward to continuing to work with all of our state regulatory stakeholders, unidentified new solutions.

So, while we're working at the landfill to implement all of the strategies possible that we can, we would be remiss not to mention the impact that organics do have on odors. So, this graph is just a snapshot of the waste composition of the material coming into Sunshine Canyon. So, this data is based on our semiannual waste characterization studies over the past five years. This is where we actually take a deep dive into the material we pull out and sort and categorize all of the material coming in to quantify what the waste is actually made up of that's coming into Sunshine. So, excluding those kind of middle-high point anomaly years which were during kind of the height of COVID, we typically see somewhere around the 40% composition that of our incoming tonnage being organic waste. Which are huge contributors to trash odors, so the State has been working to roll out SB1383 to help divert these organics out of the black bin and away from the landfill, and the local jurisdictions, including the City of LA and County of LA, have also been working really hard to pass their ordinances to roll this program out, but it will take community engagement to really start to see the impacts at the landfill. We did just want to highlight its importance, though, and note that Republic is extremely committed to continued engagement and education, to work towards achieving the goals of diverting organics. So, in that light, we wanted to bring just kind of a handy info sheet as a reminder for what should be going into the green bin and some reminders on what should not. But basically, all of the organics that we were previously putting into our black bins should now be going into your green bins, and we brought flyers that you can take home with you as well. Thank you.”

Mr. Fisk asked how the flares worked and said that the (UltraSystems) report recommended that you put wind meters or windsocks around the landfill. Mr. Stewart replied that “it was the landfill gas that powered the flares” and that they were operated at a temperature that would destroy 99.8% of the gas; they had

only received the UltraSystems report two weeks ago and they were talking to them but he believed they were looking for a more well-rounded prediction or understanding of meteorological conditions when winds are a certain way at the working face and what's happening at the boundary because the winds hit the Canyon and they can swirl and it's really tough to predict which end the winds are going to come out of. So, I think it's UltraSystems suggesting a way to better quantify that. We do have weather stations at the site where we get certain data, but I think this is a way of maybe improving or increasing the amount of data points that we get at the site.”

Mr. Hunter said that one-half of the landfill was covered in Posi-Shell in 2017 – 2018 and asked why they stopped using it because the SCL-LEA’s Eugene Tseng had indicated that the area shown (in Slide 5) was causing odors in the morning. Mr. Stewart replied that he didn’t know why the Posi-Shell had been discontinued or that they needed to use it, but with the rains they needed to bring it back. He also confirmed that they have enough funding to do what needs to be done. Mr. Hunter expressed concern that they were using mulch because it is an organic, and we are trying to keep organics out to the landfill. Mr. Stewart stated that “mulch will be incorporated into the top soil layer”; he later walked that back after Mr. Tseng stated that it would be moved. Mr. Tseng described how mulch works as a bio-filter and said that the LEA would monitor the application of the mulch since there are regulations that require no more than 12 inches be used.

Resident Meg Volk said that she had heard that mulch can spontaneously ignite. Mr. Tseng indicated that landfill mulch is not a fire hazard because it’s only a one-inch-deep layer. Resident Michael Hemming responded to Mr. Stewart’s statement that 40% of the trash coming into the landfill is organic and that he was hoping that the mitigations would help until organics are taken out of the waste stream, saying that the organics stink, and if you (Republic) obviously are not in control of the stink because it is the peoples’ organics that create the stink, and if you are not able to control the organics, that means your operation will always stink, and what we are doing here (at the SCL-CAC) will always fail. He stated that “the only measure that worked was to start two hours later in the early morning and the stink stays at your place (the landfill) and not at mine.”

Resident Elizabeth Mitev reported that she read that a landfill in Irvine in Orange County was using drones with a thermal camera capacity to detect methane and asked if Mr. Stewart was aware of that technology and were they planning to use it. Mr. Stewart reported that Republic is looking into using drones; Mr. Tseng said the LEA already recommended that to Republic. He said that this Landfill is the most flown-over landfill in the world. He reported that studies have shown that delaying or adjusting landfill dumping wouldn’t affect gas odors, which happen at night. A Stakeholder noted that trash odors are different from gas odors.

- 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.

Larry Israel, Compliance Supervisor, SCAQMD [909-396-2370; [LIsrael@aqmd.gov](mailto:LIsrael@aqmd.gov); [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov)], reported that in September there were 179 odor complaints and five NOVs [Notices of Violation] were issued. In October 316 odor complaints were made and 11 NOVs were issued. So far in November, there'd been 80 complaints and four NOVs issued. Inspectors investigate the Landfill Tuesdays through Fridays. He described trash and gas odors, and detailed complaint times and types, some at Van Gogh Charter School, Methodist Pre-School and Robert Frost Middle School. On October 8<sup>th</sup>, there were the most single-day complaints in 15 years; there were many strong, sour trash odors then and on other days and nights. There were three dust complaints from vehicle traffic and flying trash. There've been the most complaints this year of any year since at least 2011. There've been predominantly trash odors, sometimes quite intense and extremely strong. This was the first time that many complaints came from east of Balboa Blvd. in Sylmar Cascades. Mr. Hunter reported that the landfill is coming up out of the canyon and it's only going to get worse. He said that Republic owns half of the trash the odors are a public nuisance and residents can't keep going on like this. This time of year, is especially bad. He believed that agencies need to stop the City from moving CLARTS [Central Los Angeles Recycling & Transfer Station] trash to Sunshine Canyon.

Ms. Volk said that organics have always been in the trash and why now is there a problem. Mr. Isreal reported that they're detecting a lot more fresh or sour trash odors and not landfill gas, and that speaks volumes to the problem, and this has been consistent for the last two years. Mr. Tseng noted that there's always been organics in trash, and that since 2018 the City has required a reduction in organics from the Commercial Recycling Franchise contracts that required any hauler that is picking up trash from a business to have a 65% reduction goal. He explained that most waste processing facilities are built to process recyclables (blue bin), while most material is 40% - 70% organics (green bin). When no organics are separated, organics composition increases, producing more gas. There's a lack of organic trash processing facilities in the U.S. He said it took one generation to implement and train Japanese and European Union populations to separate organic from non-organic trash. In the U.S., landfills were determined to be cheaper than separating organic from non-organic trash. He noted the lack of education in the U.S. regarding recycling and sustainable living. Mr. Hunter noted that the City of LA had an opportunity to long-haul trash to the city of Avenal (Kings County) for an additional 50-cents per household but said poor people couldn't afford the extra cost, and we got shafted one more time.

Resident Andrea Provenzale spoke of the past lawsuit involving 1,100 of about 2,000 homes and the Sunshine Canyon Landfill, and noted that people who don't live near the landfill don't care about the organics and recycling because they don't live near the landfill, and opined that organics will not do it and Republic will have to do something better.

Resident Bill Huntley says he has followed a number of trucks and questioned how organics can be reduced if trash is being long-hauled from Long Beach, El Monte and that probably we are getting it from Orange County, San Bernadino County and Riverside County when these cities and counties don't have the same regulations as us. Mr. Tseng responded by saying that Sunshine Canyon only is allowed to accept L.A. County trash, and that El Monte was in Los Angeles County. Mr. Hunter opined that we don't know the landfill accepted any loads that were out of the County but if they did, they were in violation of their CUP.

Resident Jessica reported that Landfill odors are permeating her home's walls and that nothing the landfill has done has worked, and that it has only gotten worse.

- 3. Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Local Enforcement Agency (SCL-LEA)** to report on any areas of concern, NOVs issued, and any other SCL matters within their purview.

Dee Hanson-Lugo, this year's SCL-LEA Program Manager [213-252-3932; [DLugo@ph.LACounty.gov](mailto:DLugo@ph.LACounty.gov); [www.SCLLEA.org](http://www.SCLLEA.org)], reported from online that the LEA inspected the Landfill on October 30<sup>th</sup>; the LEA is still working on the report. Their next Board meeting is scheduled for September 12<sup>th</sup> in Los Angeles.

- 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 from September 16<sup>th</sup> to November 14<sup>th</sup> the AQMD issued seven NOVs regarding strong trash odors mornings at Van Gogh Charter School and one NOV at Robert Frost Middle School. At Van Gogh they replaced all MERV 13 (Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value) classroom filters and upgraded them to hybrid MERV 13 filters plus charcoal in each filter; there were no reports of inside odors. He noted that odors were in the morning and that he personally had been at Van Gogh in the morning and smelled the odors, and that he drove around the landfill and saw no transfer truck problems, but he said that the odors increased over the day, and that he did not know if that was a result of peel back. He confirmed with Mr. Stewart that the landfill started dumping at 6:30 a.m. and would confirm his 7:00 a.m. increase in the odors that he detected.

- 5. County Department of Public Works** to report on any SCL matters within their purview to include update of any actions to enforce compliance with the CUP.

Amiko Thompson, Assistant Deputy Director, L.A. County Department of Public Works Environmental Programs Division, [626-458-5163; [AThompson@dpw.LACounty.gov](mailto:AThompson@dpw.LACounty.gov); [www.dpw.LACounty.gov](http://www.dpw.LACounty.gov)], reported that the Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) pilot program on Saturdays began in August and is expected to continue for one year. One of the requirements is that they report

monthly on the performance of EnviroCover; so far, there've been no issues of fire, litter or vector, although birds were observed pecking at the Cover; deterrents were employed as needed. The County will continue to monitor the ADC's performance.

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

Steven Jareb, Principal Planner, L.A. County Regional Planning Dept. [213-974-6483; [SJareb@planning.LACounty.gov](mailto:SJareb@planning.LACounty.gov); <http://planning.LACounty.gov>], reported that, in response to an April Board of Supervisors order to County Public Works and County Public Health to engage a technical independent expert to conduct an assessment of odor issues at Sunshine Canyon Landfill. UltraSystems assessed the landfill and a report was submitted October 22<sup>nd</sup> to the County Supervisors with recommendations for corrective measures to address odor issues. Copies have been made available here and online. Some measures already have been instituted and others are under review. Remedial measures included wireless wind meters and wind socks, orchard fans, and a five-year cell sequencing plan with meteorological wind flow analysis showing existing canyon air flows and future air flows as cells are developed.

**7. County Public Health Department** to report on SCL-CAC request to conduct a medical focused analysis of data collected to determine health long and short term health impacts per our letter of September 23, 2024, and on any other SCL matters within their purview.

Mr. Hunter noted that County Health did make a response and it was included in the Committee document package.

Evan Cohen, Environmental Toxicologist, L.A. County Public Health Dept. [voicemail 626-430-9821; [ECohen@ph.LACounty.gov](mailto:ECohen@ph.LACounty.gov); <http://publichealth.LACounty.gov>], said that they “did respond to the (SCL-CAC) letter and the data needed for that analysis to the best of their knowledge doesn't exist . It's not that we are not dismissing any of the health effects, (or) that they are not happening, we are just saying there is no air monitoring data available except for particulates and carbon black, and that would not allow the sort of analysis you would want here.” Mr. Hunter said that “he had a problem, that we have this community that is being impacted and we've got school kids that are impacted, and you (County Public Health) are sitting on your duff and saying we don't have data. How about you guys turn around and say we need to get data, and we need to do a health study? What is it going to take for you guys to come in and do a health study for this community?” Mr. Cohen said that people can contact County Public Health [CPH] if they have a health concern and that “we have not received any health complaints within the last year; we have received odor complaints.” He advised contacting a Public Health Nurse with health concerns.

Mr. Fisk noted that “to contact you in not a good response at all,” that a letter was already written requesting the data, and that “the Health Department is not doing [its] job.” Mr. Cohen asked, “what are the health effects that you are hearing that are not anything other than the short-term health effects that would normally be associated with routine landfill gas or trash odor?” Because as far as we are aware it’s landfill gas and trash odors, and those are strongly correlated to short-term health effects, but they are not correlated to long term disease.” Mr. Hunter commented that “short-term for a few days might be OK but day after day, month after month, year after year, and this is from your very own Dr. Cyrus Rangan, [Director County of Los Angeles Bureau of Toxicology and Environmental Assessment] who said at our March 12, 2015 SCL-CAC meeting *“And so, when I hear about a situation like this, when we are talking and emphasizing this notion about odor complaints, that’s where for me it’s a big focus, and it really does actually cause adverse health effects, not necessarily outcomes, but have adverse health effects . . . to be more specific, we’ve already talked . . . You’ve already brought this up. When you are talking about something like odors; no, I’m not saying you can’t get cancer from smelling an odor. But what I can say is that yeh, can it cause: eye irritation, nose irritation, mouth irritation, throat irritation [the audience agreed], nausea, light headiness, a feeling of ick? All those kinds of things. Yeh, of course you can. And do I as a physician consider those to be real health effects? Real physiological effects? Yes, because they are real.”* Mr. Hunter said “That’s coming from your past Director of Toxicology and Environmental Assessment, so don’t stand here and tell us oh, long-term; it’s got nothing to do with long-term but if it does, we have been doing this for years. OK years and years, and if you do something often enough it will have an impact; it might not have an impact today or tomorrow, but down the road it could have because it’s cumulative.”

Mr. Fisk quoted from the County Department of Health letter and said “but may temporarily exacerbate health conditions such as chronic COPD, heart disease and respiratory disease. But temporarily exacerbate the problem is what we want answers for; may is not a good answer; that is what we need a health study for.”

Mr. Cohen said that “to be honest, the scientific literature does not correlate to even between long exposure to irritants and disease.” He indicated that a complaint log is submitted to top CPH officials. He didn’t know why no graphics were presented.

Mr. Hunter asked if he could ask about Chiquita Canyon (Landfill), did Public Health get involved? Mr. Cohen responded that it did, and that it did not do much as the State, CalRecycle and County Public Works that are handling the issues there and that its (CPH) role was only observing and monitoring.

Ms. Jennifer Yoo asked if there was a log of the calls to County Public Health and how long they have been kept. Mr. Cohen said he was not sure how long the records have been kept, but they do keep a log, and that information is passed on the heads of County Public Health. She said the reason that she asked was if

there was any threshold for complaints or a disease cluster that would trigger a health study. Mr. Cohen replied that “he did not know the answer to that, but it was his understanding that it was keeping track of any trends and that would allow upper management to make any decisions that they were going to make.” She pressed on saying my question is, is it so many over time or is it a cluster...” Mr. Cohen replied that “it would be time, are they close together in time, are people getting more severe effects, everybody gets nosebleeds... that’s concerning; there isn’t a hard number.”

Ms. Newman asked why there is no tracking; like you don’t know how far back it goes; as we sit here today there is no tracking; you don’t know if there are clusters. As we sit here today, 20 years goes by and there’s no survey, no tracking, no statistics, no chart; there is no presentation of anything . . . Why are we not tracking this?” Mr. Cohen replied that they have not received any reports this year [2024]. Ms. Newman asked, “why is there no report showing us you are tracking?” and pointed out that “there are charts from everybody for everything here, and CPH has no charts, no reports, no surveys, no data collection, and no spikes.” Mr. Cohen replied that he did not have a good answer for that one.

Mr. Hunter asked if he [Mr. Cohen] would agree that impacts are more severe to children for far less exposure than for an adult. Mr. Cohen replied that it was his understanding that hydrogen sulfide has similar impacts on children and adults; that he was not aware of any documented differences for low concentrations of exposure between children and adults, at the concentrations generally seen at a landfill. Mr. Hunter requested data for the next meeting regarding whether any group, such as children, are affected more than adults.

Mr. Fisk asked the public what they would like the SCL-CAC to do regarding the public health question. Ms. Volk asked if we could ask that Public Health start logging the calls and go back in time if possible; we would like to know the cumulative complaints; her neighbor Roxie complains of nosebleeds, and she asked me to mention it . . . She is getting nosebleeds from the pungent odors in her nose; we want to see some data. In response to Mr. Cohens question if Roxie reports it to Public Health, Ms. Volk said she believes that she doesn’t but calls the AQMD and they (nosebleeds/odors) are very frequent; she also asked for a number as there are children with asthma. Mr. Hunter interjected that Mr. Pefferman’s child had nosebleeds and he pulled him out of school (Van Gogh). Mr. Cohen indicated there are flyers on the table with their contact information.

Resident Helen Attai, co-founder of Aliso Mom Alliance for Aliso Canyon, said she has been involved with County Public Health for the last nine years and has met with Dr. Rangan and Dr. Ferrier and noted that it is no point in calling County Public Health as it had taken nine years to get started on a health study, and you have been telling us there is no health effect from Aliso Canyon; we did our own study with Dr. Noella and we came up with all these chemicals that we were exposed to. She indicated that she lost a daughter to Aliso Canyon and blames the Health Department. She believed that CPH should’ve years ago studied

Landfill health effects. She wondered if a bad smell in her home was from a dead animal; it was from the Landfill. She said a preliminary study indicated an increase in underweight childbirths.

Ms. Provenzale said that negative health effects of the Landfill have led to nosebleeds and itching. She said she had to stop coming to the CAC meetings because the landfill was causing her to have a nervous breakdown over the odors; nothing is getting done, so don't tell her it's just a little nosebleed or it's just a temporary respiratory thing; if the health department can't provide us any data there is information being published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in publications like Waste Dive which also includes sickness information on landfill workers and requested CPW provide worker illness data.

Resident Jessica said she felt "it was very disingenuous for County Public Health to come here and say there's no studies, there's no effects." She reported that a National Institutes of Health (NIH) study shows that exposure to a landfill was associated with mortality from lung cancer and respiratory diseases, and with hospitalization among other things; one of the things are lymphoma and other cancers for prolonged exposure. She just lost her mom to cancer, she lived very close to the site (SCL); her father has lymphoma and for you to say it isn't affecting the community it certainly is, and there needs to be a study (health).

Resident Bill Huntley reported that "we have an elevated number of cancer cases" in his area than anywhere else in L.A. County per capita. He knows of friends dying of prostate cancer and breast cancer, and believed that everyone knows of somebody in the area who has died of cancer including animals.

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

Mr. Hunter relayed that he was emailed that no representative could attend.

**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.

Aaron Ordower, Environmental Deputy for L.A. County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, reported that Erich King of City Councilmember John Lee's office wanted to send greetings and say that they're still working on the San Fernando Rd. update that was brought up at a previous meeting. Mr. Ordower noted the frustration that that we hear, and we share with you about these ongoing odor issues is really troubling and concerning; the Supervisor is aware of it. She and Supervisor Barger. back in the Spring, introduced the motion that's been referenced several times asking for this audit, and we're certainly encouraged that there are findings out there that you know. Republic and our partners here have said they're on board with these recommendations and many of them are already in the works or towards being implemented. We hope that that fully does happen

and are going to continue to work with our agency partners with both the City and the County and the AQMD to continue to keep an eye on that situation to make sure it continues to improve. The other thing that that motion back in the spring did was to convene a regular check-in; we typically have up to like 30 folks from all of the City, County, State agencies that are involved here to check in and share information breakdown, any silos that maybe historically have existed to make sure we're doing a better job as one united government and in course in partnership with everybody. That will certainly continue until the issues around odors get better. We have an open line of communication. Between me and Savannah you are always welcome to connect with our office. Thanks to all the partners and government who are working hard on this.

Mr. Fisk requested and Mr. Ordower agreed to take health concerns to the Supervisor.

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

Resident Elizabeth requested information regarding the Order of Abatement status. Terrance Mann, AQMD Deputy Executive Officer for Compliance and Enforcement, reported that the Legal Department is working on the Order and he will report back.

**E. Set next meeting date** (January 9, 2025). Adjourn meeting if 5:00 p.m. for City, County and State participants.

Mr. Hunter announced that the next Meeting will be January 9, 2024.

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

Mr. Hunter indicated that there was no more discussion.

Mr. Hunter declared and the Committee agreed to ADJOURN the Meeting at 5:01 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.* The SCL-CAC Meeting Minutes page is <http://scl-cac.org/agendas-minutes>. The meeting can be viewed in its entirety at: <https://youtu.be/X7noNR1FOD4>.