

SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL – COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CITY AND COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
MINUTES OF HYBRID* MEETING, Thursday, November 13, 2025
Center for Spiritual Living, 17622 Chatsworth St., Granada Hills, CA 91344 and online
Approved January 8, 2026

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 September 11, 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 3:01 p.m. on Thursday, November 13, 2025 in Granada Hills, California and online by Chair Wayde Hunter. Roll Call was taken by the Note Taker. Three of the seven Committee Members were present: John Ciccarelli, Richard Fisk and Wayde Hunter (all in person). Jeanette Capaldi (online) arrived later. Absent: Larry Fleck, Julie Newman and Jennifer Yoo. A quorum of at least four (there were three) Committee Members was not yet 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 and Terrance Mann; SCL-LEA (Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Local Enforcement Agency): Dave Thompson; L.A. County Public Health Dept.: none; L.A. County Public Works Dept.: Amiko Thompson; L.A. County Regional Planning Dept.: Philip Chen, Steven Jareb and Christina Nguyen; 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.: none; and LAUSD District 3: Andrew Modugno. Also attended in person and online: approximately 19 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, and slides were shown.

[Approval of the Minutes was done after Item #F.] No corrections or amendments were made to the Minutes.

MOTION (by Mr. Fisk, seconded by Ms. Capaldi): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the Minutes of its September 11, 2025 Meeting.

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

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

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

Mr. Hunter indicated that there was no report.

- Treasurer's Report, September - October 2025 (Treasurer).

No Motion was made or vote taken to approve the Treasurer's Report.

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 Abatement Order compliance.

Michael Stewart, General Manager, BFI/Republic [24-hour Landfill hotline 818-779-9170; main 818-362-2124; Info@SunshineCanyonLandfill.com; <http://SunshineCanyonLandfill.com>], showed slides and described Landfill activities. They're ready for Winter rains. Wet trash odors have been mitigated using microbes; some trash can't be treated that way, for various reasons. He described microbe technology application; they're working with consultants to determine the best mixes. Cell CC-3A, Part Two was described; it's expected to be completed in December. He summarized this year's gas collection projects. This year, Republic installed 110 wells; the goal is 125-130 installations. Next year they will continue installing wells. He described flare installation. He showed a chart indicating the temperatures of the Landfill's 860 wells; around eight to nine wells were just above the compliance level of 130 degrees. Regarding the Abatement Order, he showed a chart, and described work and challenges complying with the Order. Soon, Republic will do a smoke test to help determine wind patterns. Mr. Stewart indicated that Sunshine Canyon Landfill, which has a highly organic waste stream, was different from another landfill's waste that had not deteriorated for more than 30 years where a lack of air may have prevented decay and odors.

Long-time resident Meg Volk reported that there've been odor issues every day for the last 45 days. Mr. Stewart reported that September and October usually are the most challenging months to control landfill odors. Resident Nurha Hindi-Chahadayed asked when the 130 wells would be completed, as the next odor Abatement Hearing is in May 2026. Mr. Stewart replied that the wells would be completed before year end and that Republic's goals include more gas collection and reducing surface emissions; also reducing to zero the number of complaints, NOVs [Notices of Violation], and Orders for Abatement.

A long-time resident reported that he'd not seen improvement over the years and has experienced an increase in odor toxicity, recently becoming nauseous from the smell while walking to Bee Canyon. Mr. Stewart said that the Landfill's air monitoring system measures various air components including, for the past 15 years, carbon black and PM₁₀, and will start collecting selected VOCs [Volatile

Organic Compounds]. Mr. Fisk said that the County Health Department twice refused to conduct health studies requested by the SCL-CAC.

- 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, Supervising Inspector, SCAQMD [909-396-2370; LIsrael@aqmd.gov; www.aqmd.gov], reported that, in September, there were around 228 complaints, the most ever for a September; 88 of the complaints were in the evening or before 7:00 a.m. Seven NOVs were issued, also a September record. Inspectors reported distinct sour trash odors. In October there were 438 complaints, the most ever for an October; 188 of them were in the evening or before 7:00 a.m. Twelve NOVs were issued, also an October record. So far in November, there've been 133 complaints and three NOVs issued; 92 of the complaints were in the evening or before 7:00 a.m. He gave specifics of some complaints. So far in 2025, as of November 13th, there've been 2,240 complaints and 64 NOV's issued. In 2024, there were 2,209 complaints and 65 NOVs issued. In 2023, there were 1,700 complaints and 61 NOVs issued. He especially was concerned about complaints from Van Gogh Charter School and El Oro Way Elementary School.

Mr. Hunter asked, given that odors have increased exponentially, whether or not the AQMD was going to wait until May or take some sort of action now. Terrance Mann, AQMD Deputy Executive Officer for Compliance and Enforcement, said that the AQMD won't wait until March to closely watch the Landfill and take further steps if needed. Mr. Israel added that most of the NOVs were for nuisance violations. Mr. Mann stated that the phrase "public nuisance" is a very powerful tool . . . [it] triggers the entire Hearing Board action; it also can provide the basis for lawsuits against the facility and others . . ."

Committee Member Jeanette Capaldi had arrived online by this time (4:03), making four Committee Members present (the SCL-CAC quorum was four). Now the Committee could take binding votes on Agendized Items.

Mr. Mann continued that he would talk with counsel regarding whether some kind of emergency order can be issued to Republic.

- 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.

Dave Thompson, this year's SCL-LEA Program Manager, [213-252-3932; David.Thompson@LACity.org; www.SCLLEA.org], described well field maintenance work done since the last CAC meeting.

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

Mr. Thompson reported that the AQMD Board would meet December 4th, at which Dr. Eugene Tseng, an environmental engineer and attorney working for the LEA [818-889-8628; ETseng@aol.com; www.SCLLEA.org], will present. Mr. Thompson was working with the AQMD regarding the Abatement Order. He showed slides and indicated that the SCL situation is not the same as the Chiquita Canyon Landfill situation. He met with CalEPA to review SCL data; they concluded that SCL is not the same as Chiquita Canyon Landfill. Various government officials toured SCL. The most important thing is improving Landfill gas collection. He could smell SCL odors on the road near the Landfill and in the community. The second most important thing is to improve the intermediate cover. He noted that, in hot weather, trash liquified at the Central Los Angeles Recycling & Transfer Station (CLARTS); that trash was brought to SCL. They are in discussions with CLARTS about implementing odor-reducing procedures also at their site. There's a lot more infrastructure to create, and public education to do about getting organics out of the Landfill. Some of it has as much as 70% water, which breaks down very quickly. Power shutdowns due to high winds have affected Landfill operations. Mr. Thompson concluded by saying that that the next two months will determine whether current odor mitigation measures are working.

- c. Motion: Write a letter of support to LEA, City Sanitation and Councilman for the installation and use of odor neutralizer at Central Los Angeles Recycling & Transfer Station (CLARTS).

MOTION (by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Fisk): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee will write a letter of support to LEA, City Sanitation and Councilman for the installation and use of odor neutralizer at Central Los Angeles Recycling & Transfer Station (CLARTS).

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

- 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], reported that three NOV's were issued for violations at Van Gogh Charter School.

- 5. County Public Works** to report on any SCL matters within their purview.

Amiko Thompson, Assistant Deputy Director, L.A. County Department of Public Works Environmental Programs Division, [626-458-5163;

AThompson@dpw.LACounty.gov; www.dpw.LACounty.gov], reported that the ADC [Alternative Daily Cover] pilot program started in 2024 and they don't support the use of the ADC on weekends. The pilot will continue and be monitored through May 30, 2026.

Copies had been distributed by Mr. Hunter of a Nov. 6, 2025 email from Mr. Hunter to CAC Members regarding that an "illegal dump in Agua Dulce was authorized . . . to be dumped at Sunshine . . ."; and March 26, 2024; August 29, 2025; and November 4, 2025 letters regarding the "Alternative Daily Cover Pilot Project." Ms. Thompson reported that, recently, CPW has begun seeing large amounts of construction trash dumping, including of wood, plastic, trash, roofing material and more. On October 13th and 15th, 39 truckloads of it were brought to SCL; none since then. On October 16th, 66 samples were taken of that trash; three of the 66 had more than 1% or up to 5% of asbestos material. CPW is working to not let that happen again. Mr. Hunter questioned why the trash was allowed to be dumped. Ms. Thompson said that CPW is changing their protocol to not allow untested trash into SCL. Mr. Hunter, as a member of the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee of the County's Integrated Waste Management Task Force, will request to see the new procedure in writing when they meet.

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; <http://planning.LACounty.gov>], introduced his colleague Christina Nguyen. Mr. Jareb reported that monthly site visits and participation in inter-agency meetings continues; he listed meeting attendees.

7. County Public Health Department to report on any matters within their purview, including any additional health impacts resulting from taking fire-related debris at SCL.

No representative was present; there was no report. Mr. Hunter indicated that they will be questioned at the January CAC meeting.

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

No representative was present; there was no report. Mr. Hunter indicated that they will be questioned at the January CAC meeting.

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.

Erich King, Deputy Chief of Staff for L.A. City Councilmember John Lee [(818) 882-1212; Erich.King@LACity.org; <https://cd12.LACity.gov>], reported that the San Fernando Road widening project will start by early next Spring.

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; <https://lacounty.gov/government/board-of-supervisors/lindsey-p-horvath>), reported that a CAC Seat is available. She encouraged contacting her with concerns.

D. Committee Member and Public comments on items NOT on the Agenda. *Note: Under the Brown Act, the Committee is prevented from acting on a matter that has not been agendized; however, it may become the subject of a future meeting. Comments are limited to 2 minutes per speaker unless adjusted by the presiding officer.

There were no Committee Member or public comments at this time.

E. Set next meeting date (January 8, 2026). Adjourn meeting if 5:00 p.m. for City, County and State participants.

Mr. Hunter announced that the next Meeting will be here and online on Thursday, January 8, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.

F. Special Overtime Discussion of Budget, Banking & Financial Matters (if needed).

Mr. Hunter indicated that there was no more discussion.

The next Agenda Item addressed was the Item #A. Meeting Minutes approval.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 5:00 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 video recording of this meeting is at <https://youtu.be/tbY-rwWyrKc>. The SCL-CAC Meeting Minutes page is <http://scl-cac.org/agendas-minutes>.