

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

Thursday, September 14, 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 July 13, 2017 Minutes (Chair).

This meeting of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee was called to order at 3:06 p.m. on September 14, 2017 in Granada Hills, California by Chair Wayde Hunter. Roll Call was taken by the Note Taker. Three of the nine Committee Members were present: Wayde Hunter, Josh Jordahl and Joe Vitti. Absent: Ken Ashford, Jeanette Capaldi, Laine Caspi, Steven Freedman, Gale Gundersen and Debbie Pietraszko. A quorum of at least five Committee Members was not present.

Landfill and government representatives present: BFI/Republic Services: Rob Sherman, Chris Cole; SCAQMD (South Coast Air Quality Management District): John Anderson, Larry Israel; SCL-LEA (Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Local Enforcement Agency): David Thompson and Eugene Tseng; L.A. County Public Health Dept.: Eugene Loi; L.A. County Regional Planning Dept.: Tim Stapleton; L.A. County Supervisor Kathryn Barger’s Office: Jarrod DeGonia; L.A. City Councilman Mitch Englander’s Office: Millie Jones; LAUSD District 3: Bill Piazza. Also attended: approximately 20 residents and other guests.

Mr. Hunter indicated that the Minutes for July 13th will be received and filed. No Motion was made or vote taken to approve the Minutes due to the lack of a quorum.

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>.)

- Treasurer’s Report (Treasurer).

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #C. 8.*] Mr. Jordahl reviewed finances and explained that, as of September 1st, the balance was \$104,965.49; recent expenses totaled \$4,123.87. He thanked Mr. Rob Sherman for the expense/consultants checks. Mr. Hunter indicated that “not having quorum,” the Treasurer’s report will be “received and filed.”

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.

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 Update," and said he would report on their 2017 Action Plan. He stated that they installed an additional 153 gas (collection) wells earlier this year, and that "we continue to look" where more can be installed. They are also installing 250 liquid pumps to dewater impacted gas wells, and help with the gas collection. They installed and completed 21-acres of Closure Turf consisting of 3 layers; a black 60 mm plastic liner which creates an impermeable barrier to gas and helps to increase the vacuum on the gas collection system, an artificial grass type material, and then sand as ballast, which also helps to stop the turf from cooking in the sun.

The spray-on Posi-Shell intermediate cover of 37-acres was installed and completed in areas where they needed more vacuum, and which "helps us collect more landfill gas." It is about a 1-inch thick and it is important in areas where they are filling, as it can be scraped away as we put trash into an area. In addition, they have also completed 57-acres of Vegetative Cover, and these 3 things are all a part of our Intermediate Cover Enhancements (ICE), and a part of our initiative and a part of the Abatement Order. Started test plots to see how the seed mix will grow and will be seeding next month for the wet seasons in October, November, and December. The disposal cells are CC-4 part 1 which is 8-acres and CC-4 part 2 which is 6-acres. The daily operations are now further away from residents. Mr. Sherman, said that they have started spraying the waste, and that the bulldozers have a tank on the back with neutralizer/deodorizer which is sprayed onto the trash as they push it around and compact it. He stated that: "we don't put a scent in" the deodorizer; "we're using an unscented mixture.

Regarding the mister system at Republic's 6 transfer stations; we spray neutralizer on the trash in the transfer trucks just as they leave the facility, he said "we finished that just last week and the final 2 (transfer stations) just came on board."

The next Stipulated Order for Abatement hearing is scheduled for around Wednesday, November 8th in Diamond Bar. Mr. Hunter indicated that the SCL-CAC had registered a complaint with the SCAQMD Hearing Board as they were informed yesterday that it was going to be changed to the 9th.

All operations are in CC4 part 1 which is toward the backside of the landfill. Construction, ...in CC4 part 2 (new cell), the liner collection system under the trash is not just one layer; it is many feet thick as they use a double liner system which should be completed sometime this month (September). After approval by the Water Board they will start operations in October.

The gas system will continue to be improved and we will have a drill rig on-site to continue drilling wells, in addition to the 153 wells previously mentioned, and any wells that are being pinched or kinked are being addressed.

The Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) program has been a 2-year event that finishes in mid-October after a 1-year extension, and, “we’re finalizing the reports” about the Alternative Daily Cover, and they will be submitted to the LEA and to County Public Works.

In response to a question and a request from community member, Roxie Deukmejian, he stated that: “the Posi-Shell is a part of that program and it is “made of a fiber mix with Portland cement”; he will email information to Mr. Hunter. Also, in response to her second statement that even though he had said “unscented,” everything has a scent, to which he offered to provide small bottles of the neutralizer/deodorizer for her and for Andrea Provenzale who he knew was also interested. He also indicated that neutralizer/deodorizer was used in the misting system. Ms. Deukmejian indicated her concern as she felt that new unidentified odors were reaching the community, along with the smell of Posi-Shell of which she was familiar. He will bring a sample and provide an ingredients list. Mr. Sherman also expressed surprise at the smell of Posi-Shell now, as its application had been completed for several weeks now. Mr. Dave Thompson volunteered that the Closure Turf is not buried, and will be rolled up and reused elsewhere.

Ms. Provenzale commented that there has been a “Febreze” smell in the air, and that she was not aware until she called Patti at the landfill, that a new system had been put in some weeks before. She asked Mr. Sherman if anything had changed as to what they were using, to which he replied that they were now using a product called, “Odor No More, and that is what we are staying with”, but that neither product was scented. “I can drop off a sample at your house. Roxie, Andrea, I want to be transparent, so I will get you a sample”.

Committee Member Josh Jordahl arrived at this time (3:28), making four Committee Members present (the SCL-CAC quorum is five).

Mr. Hunter commented that he had observed dust at about 12:30 – 1:00 p.m. (northwest part) blowing toward the freeway Monday or Tuesday of this week, and asked what was going on, since he had not seen dust for quite a while. Mr. Sherman said that they were not doing any excavations but were putting sand down on the closure turf; that he had observed it on 2 prior occasions, and in his opinion, they were not putting enough water down. He posited that although the amount of dust raised by the machine was small, it might have been observed. Mr. Sherman said that he, along with the rest of management, have been undergoing training for the past several weeks and, “it remains a focus to keep the dust down.”

In response to a complaint of stinking trash from a community member who thought that trash was being brought in by operators such as Ecology, and that they should also be fined, Mr. Sherman responded by saying that: “the trash is all L.A. County trash”; none is from Riverside or anywhere else. “Sunshine is not

permitted. It's all City of LA, County of LA". He went on to say that as stated previously, that deodorizers were being applied at the transfer stations. The community member expressed concern that only the odor being was masked, and that the trash contained listeria and other pathogens. "If you get an odorous load, it has to be buried immediately"; however, "you can reject that load." If rejected, the trash load goes to "another landfill facility." SCL has rejected loads. In closing, he indicated that "while all trash stinks, there are degrees of odor" and that all landfill personnel have received training in the last 2 weeks on the need to reject and/or rapidly bury odorous loads. Further, he stated that transfer station personnel have also been told to reject odorous loads, and if they find that odorous loads are getting through, that they can go back to the customer, and tell them that they will no longer accept their trash.

- 2. South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)** to report on odor complaints received and NOV's 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 no Notices of Violation have been issued since July, "which is very good," however, 14 odor complaints were received in July, 30 complaints in August, and 17 so far in September. He noted that a number of complaints were not responded to, and reported that for a portion of the time, he was on vacation. In response to a question by Mr. Sherman, he said that: "he has not detected any Febreze smell as previously described by a community member". Ms. Provenzale stated that she too had smelled that particular odor on 3 mornings and again in the evening, and that she had reported them. A discussion of SCAQMD policy regarding odor complaints followed with community members and Mr. Israel. When called upon, Mr. Anderson reiterated the 3 calls in 1-hour policy and noted Mr. Israel's dedication. He offered reasons for the policy and indicated that there was a shortage of inspectors as well. Subsequently, Mr. Israel confirmed that on a least one of the occasions where there was no response to SCL, it was because there were 50 complaints coming in from Huntington Beach at the same time. Mr. Hunter commented that people might wonder why people are complaining about the smell of Febreze. He stated that he too had smelled the Febreze odor about a year ago, at the corner of Orozco and Bee Canyon Park, and while he did not find the same smell coming from his dryer at home to be offensive, he posited that because the odor was all over the place, that he couldn't get away from it, and knowing that it came from the landfill, all that resulted in him finding the odor to be offensive.

- 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 including an assessment of data currently provided by Sonoma Technologies Inc., and a proposed alternative motion for CAC to consider which does not require a sole-source contract, and which would replace in part the CAC motion from July 13th meeting that authorized a review and approved the concept of entering into a sole-source contract to conduct PM_{2.5} testing at Sunshine Canyon Landfill and at Van Gogh Charter School, in addition to the PM₁₀ and Black Carbon testing currently being conducted at same.

Bill Piazza, LAUSD Ofc. of Environmental Health & Safety (OHS) Environmental Assessment Coordinator [213.241.3926; Bill.Piazza@lausd.net], reported that another follow-up letter will be sent to the SCAQMD again requesting a Health Risk Assessment. Mr. Hunter noted that AQMD Acting Deputy Executive Officer Bayron Gilchrist “has not responded,” to the first letter, and that a follow-up letter had been drafted. Mr. Piazza added that the original letter had asked why the Executive Officer had taken certain actions in the past, asked them to reconsider, and asked them general questions of the AB8525 process. He added that this next letter would be a follow up. Mr. Anderson requested “please send it again . . . please copy it to me.” Mr. Piazza read from STI’s reports regarding landfill gasses and possible health effects. He felt that our last motion to collect data on PM_{2.5} was unnecessary, as we already have a lot of good, or more reliable data, on PM₁₀ and Black Carbon, which is a surrogate for diesel, and very toxic. The City and the County have for some time engaged them (STI) to collect that data; Quarterly reports are issued, and Annual reports filed. The Annual report brings in running data, so it brings in the data from previous years. The Quarterly reports are basically data dumps, just all kinds of data, and tables. The annual report is supposed to be something more robust that ties everything together. The City/County contract requires this company (STI) to “determine the potential impact of SCL from other sources.” The Annual reports are to include further analysis to characterize the impacts of landfill operations on the ambient air on a community scale. Mr. Piazza stated that his take on “impact” would be the “effect,” and what he gets out of that is “health effects.” . . .so if you were looking at the impacts on the community, you should be looking at it as are there any health effects, or what are the ramification of these emissions. He had found only their (STI) Annual 2016 Report but it (the report) says that this report utilizes the data to characterize PM₁₀ and Black Carbon impacts on a neighborhood scale in the context of the South Coast Air Basin, and will continue to evaluate the impact of landfill operations on air quality in the community. But what they say (actually) is PM₁₀ in the community are accompanied by exceedances at the landfill site, and by elevated PM₁₀ concentrations, suggesting a synergy between regional concentrations and landfill impacts. They also say that the PM₁₀ concentrations on the community site are significantly higher than Santa Clarita which would be a kind of a neutral site. They are not saying that the landfill itself, but the landfill and background concentrations created higher concentrations that what we would normally be expected to see, if the landfill did not have some influence.

Mr. Sherman interrupted and opined that he read it differently, saying the concentrations were the same at the landfill, and at the school. Mr. Piazza responded by saying: “No, it says when you see exceedances at the neighborhood scale you will see contributions from the landfill plus background.” “Background means ambient. Background is a consideration”. A further discussion ensued, and Mr. Piazza explained how the CEQA process works and how a project’s impacts are assessed, and that this report (STI Annual Report) should analyze that condition. “The Federal standard for PM₁₀ is around 150 g/cm for a 24-hour average. The State standard is 50. This report and the annual report refer to these exceedances in percentages, not based on the California standard, but they talk about it based on the Federal standard, which I find odd. What we should be looking at is the California standard, which is even marginal in its protection of 50.... But it can really affect the young, the old, and those with compromised

respiratory systems.... I am not saying that the effects are there, but the data is so robust, and the information is there; that what needs to happen from the report is that we need to look at the impact or the effects of the landfill in relation to background". Black Carbon is a little different... it is carcinogenic... it is a surrogate for diesel exhaust, the concentrations are low, but it doesn't take much to create that impact, so background concentrations of black carbon plus contributions from the landfill to create that change, the fact that there should be an analysis of the landfill impacts".

He recommended that rather than the SCL-CAC spending \$30,000 for studying PM_{2.5}, that they not act on the previous motion, and he encouraged the CAC to write a letter to the City and County regarding what landfill "deliverables" are acceptable, what the CAC feels should be in here (Annual Report), and their health effects, noting that 2017 data is needed. He indicated that he would help draft the new motion and the letter.

L.A. County Regional Zoning Enforcement Planner Tim Stapleton [213-974-6453; TStapleton@planning.lacounty.gov; <http://planning.co.la.ca.us>] said that the City and County subcontractor is STI.

Mr. Hunter explained that it was the CAC's intention to analyze the existing data to measure health effects.

Millie Jones, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander, (818-882-1212; Millie.Jones@LACity.org; <http://CD12.LACity.org>), asked if the LAUSD was requesting this information, to which Mr. Piazza responded, "we are now," and if any independent action (by the LAUSD Board) was being taken. Mr. Piazza responded that the LAUSD had conducted additional toxics monitoring last summer, adding that they did not find anything out of the norm, and neither did the SCAQMD. We are not looking to get more data, only analyze the data already collected.

Mr. DeGonia indicated that he felt the question being asked by Ms. Jones and himself was that they have not seen a letter from the LAUSD requesting that the CAC do this. Mr. Hunter indicated that it was a motion that the CAC introduced itself, in response to a question by him regarding PM_{2.5} generation and the dangers it posed, at a prior SCL-TAC meeting, and that it was the Council Office representative (Nicole Bernson) that had suggested that it would be the ideal thing for the CAC to fund a request for, rather than the City and the County. He continued by saying that Mr. Piazza was the LAUSD's representative to the CAC, and that he has been advising us, that he was our expert here, and that the CAC had worked with him "since day one." Mr. DeGonia clarified his previous statement by saying that they were not questioning Mr. Piazza's input, but only wanted to know if this was a CAC thing or whether it was what the LAUSD wanted, so that he could report it correctly to the Supervisor.

Mr. Hunter said that: "we are not trying to ram anything down anybody's throat, that we were incorrect to ask for sole source, that we write a letter and suggest to the City and the County, that they look at their contract with Sonoma Industries (STI), and maybe ask for a little bit more...that's it." He went on to say that Bill

was one of the first people to object when he saw our previous motion, and that even the City person, Ly Lam, at that same TAC meeting, said that the City had trouble understanding the reports. Bill Piazza, in response to the Council Office, said that he would be willing to bring up the contract issue at the November 30th LAUSD Board meeting.

In response to a question from a community member, Mr. Piazza said that: “most of the problem the LAUSD has had, has been with fresh trash odors”, which he felt was being generated by trucks bringing in the trash and leaking on San Fernando Road, and the dumping of the trash at the landfill, and that “we (LAUSD) have been an advocate of addressing the transfer trucks coming into the landfill,.... but that is odor, and you have heard Dr. Rangan (Dir. Toxicology, County Public Works) say it can still make you feel ill... Talking about toxics and volatile organics, and things of that nature; benzene, methyl ethyl, all of those things that are out there... you do ambient monitoring and look for all of this stuff. In this neighborhood scale environment, it is very difficult to say benzene came from the landfill or truck traversing the I-5. It gets washed out, diluted based on the sample size, and the sensitivity of the equipment. The smoking gun for toxics is from an ambient monitoring standpoint, and that is why we have been asking for the Health Assessment (CAC letter to SCAQMD), because that is the standard by which we will tease this out and make a determination on adverse health effects from a volatile standpoint.” “But PM₁₀ is a big deal for our kids at the school. It is a pollutant where you don’t want to see an exceedance of the ambient air quality, especially for the little kids...”

Mr. Hunter recapped by saying that “we do not have a quorum, so we can’t vote on anything.” We are setting aside that portion of the July 13th motion, going to bring it back with a proper motion at the next CAC meeting (November), and we are not seeking a sole-source contract with Sonoma, and only asking for additional analysis of the data.

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

David Thompson, SCL-LEA Program Manager [213.252.3932; David.Thompson@lacity.org; www.SCLLEA.org], announced that their next Board of Directors meeting will be November 30th at around 2:30 p.m. at the University of Los Angeles Law School in Chatsworth. He reported that one Notice of Violation was issued “for gas monitoring control,” on August 24th for Probe 207a, a perimeter probe on the backside of the County side of the landfill which registered 59%. It is near a subdrain system which a contractor had been working on, and did not properly adjust, but was remediated “to non-detect,” the next day. CalRecycle [<http://www.CalRecycle.ca.gov>] did its every-18-month all day inspection; there were no violations. They are still working on the Inspection Report results and will post them on their website once it is issued. Mr. Thompson said ‘we’re continuing to monitor the site... dust is a big issue with us’”and we continue to work with the operator to ensure water trucks are being used. On occasions, they have contractors who may go too fast on areas that have not been wetted down, and we continue to work on that”.

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>] reported that there were “no updates.” In response to a request, he said he will send a copy of the STI contract to CD 12, BOS 5TH District, SCL, and the CAC, and noted that the Quarterly Reports are there too. Mr. Piazza also offered to pdf a copy of his hard copy if anybody wanted it. Mr. Hunter noted that the information will be posted at: <https://cityplanning.lacity.org> website. Note: Click on Environmental Review tab left side, then Sunshine Canyon tab on next screen.

6. County Public Health Department to report on SCL matters within their purview.

Eugene Loi, L.A. County Public Health Nurse [213.738.3220; EuLoi@ph.LACounty.gov], reported that “we continue to do our own surveys . . . Regional Planning has not taken action on our request to issue a Notice of Violation.” Mr. Stapleton responded that “it’s still under consideration,” though they will not issue a NOV “anytime soon.” Mr. Hunter said he didn’t see why the NOV was being held up. It was issued for a past violation, and not for what happened yesterday, or today or tomorrow. While it is commendable that they (BFI/Republic) are getting results (complying with a SCAQMD Abatement Order and reduced odors), it has nothing to do with the NOV which was issued for a failure to comply (previously). When asked who should be contacted about the NOV, Mr. Stapleton replied that it would be John Sanabria, who is the SCL-TAC [Sunshine Canyon Landfill -Technical Advisory Committee] Co-Chair. Mr. Loi said the result of their surveys were sent to 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>]; Dr. Rangan has not yet responded, and he didn’t know if a report would be prepared. Mr. Loi requested a copy of the STI’s Annual Report. Mr. Joe Vitti then asked him if they (CPH) had any kind of schedule that they could give us as to when the result of their health studies would be available, as this health issue is one of the most important things we have. 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>), said he will try to find out the timeline for us.

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

L.A. City Planner Nicholas Hendricks (818-374-5046; Nick.Hendricks@LACity.org; www.planning.LACity.org), was not present, and there was 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 agendized for this meeting. If necessary, discussion and action will be agendized for another meeting.

There were no other reports at this time.

D. Public comment on items NOT on the Agenda.

There was discussion of ways to dispose of small batteries.

E. Set next meeting date (November 9, 2017), & adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Hunter announced that the next Meeting will be here on November 9, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. Mr. Hunter declared, and the Committee agreed to **ADJOURN** the Meeting at 4:55 p.m.

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

- Potential budget items FY 2017.

Mr. Hunter indicated that there were no such matters.

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 November 9, 2017 Meeting