

From: Lmunsonusa <lmunsonusa@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 14, 2023 8:37 AM
To: Takara, Gloria C <gtakara@honolulu.gov>
Cc: Lee Munson <lmunsonusa@aol.com>
Subject: Oversight of Landfill Siting Process

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via email to: gtakara@honolulu.gov

RE: Community Residents Support Increased Oversight of the Landfill Siting Process

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a property owner in full-time residence at Kai Lani at Ko Olina, which sits directly below the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill, and I am writing to express my support for increased oversight by the Honolulu Planning Commission of the process to reevaluate options to explore potential landfill sites outside the No Pass Zone.

It has been a long road to get to this point, and the **Department of Environmental Services (ENV) has not met its deadlines all along the way.**

When I purchased my Kai Lani home, there was a commitment to close the Waimanalo Gulch Landfill, but **that commitment was not fulfilled.**

The State Land Use Commission (LUC) previously ordered the ENV to close the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill (WGSL) by 2008 and to select a new site by 2004. **Those deadlines were not met.**

The ENV was later ordered to begin the process of identifying and developing **a new site by 2010, but no site was selected.** The LUC most recently set a deadline of **December 31, 2022,** for the City to identify an alternative landfill site to WGSL, **another deadline that was missed.**

When we moved here in 2003, standard environmental protocols were not being followed by Waste Management, the operator of Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill. Daily we watched plastic bags and airborne garbage blow down from the Landfill into the ocean. It wasn't until my neighbors, and I began submitting written and verbal testimony before various governing bodies did Waste Management incorporate standard environmental protection protocols into their operations. The lack of environmental protection protocols eventually resulted in significant fines from the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

EXHIBIT K274

My community bears the burden of having the landfill mauka of our homes. You may recall the storms that washed medical waste including used hypodermic needles from WGS� onto our beaches where our keiki play. We have housed the landfill in our community for way too long. **The time has come for ENV to do its job and find a viable new location for our island's waste.**

This history of repeatedly missing deadlines and failing to meet without public pressure the most basic environmental protections is more than enough reason that **the Planning Commission must provide stringent oversight** of current operations at Waimanalo Gulch Landfill, and of the process to find a location for a new Landfill that will protect our environment and the health & safety of our people.

Supporting additional oversight to identify an alternative landfill site by no means indicates approval for the extension of the use of Waimanalo Gulch as I support the closure of WGS� in my community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Lee Munson, Kai Lani at Ko Olina