

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

APRIL 13, 2010

In 1996 the City of Los Angeles closed the Lopez Canyon Landfill in the Northeast San Fernando Valley. Shortly thereafter, the City Council approved amending the City's General Plan and zoning maps to re-designate the property as "Open Space." Since that time the landfill has been inactive, other than the typical post-closure procedures typical to landfills.

The closure of the Lopez Canyon Landfill, and the Open Space re-designation, were a direct result of the City Council's response to complaints from nearby residents. Several hundred families endured more than two decades of truck traffic, noise from heavy equipment and "back-up" alarms, near-constant odors, and viewshed impacts (the landfill is visible from several homes in nearby Kagel Canyon).

The City's Bureau of Engineering is now proposing to establish a "truck-driving academy" at the Lopez Canyon Landfill. In addition to entering into contracts with outside parties to operate the facility, the Bureau is seeking approval of a "use variance" to allow this commercial-industrial use on land designated as "Open Space." This proposal is entirely contrary to the City's Open Space Element in its General Plan and the allowable uses for Open Space under the City's Zoning Ordinance. Approval of the variance would establish a dangerous precedent, one that calls into question the integrity of literally thousands of acres of open space in the City and the region. Given the threat to open space, the project is opposed by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy as well as several neighborhood councils and community groups.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors send a five-signature letter to the Mayor and City Council of the City of Los Angeles opposing the proposed truck-driving academy at the Lopez Canyon Landfill.

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MDA:pno
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MOTION

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