



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS  
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS  
HOLLY J. MITCHELL  
LINDSEY P. HORVATH  
JANICE HAHN  
KATHRYN BARGER

**Correspondence Received**

The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
11.		<b>Favor</b>	David Fahrion	<p>The California Waste &amp; Recycling Association (CWRA) is a trade association made up of private and public companies from the waste and recycling industry operating in the County of Los Angeles as well as many of the surrounding municipalities. The members of the CWRA believe in the principle that a competitive marketplace delivers a prominent level of service to their customers, provides competitive rates to the municipalities, and ensures a successful and compliant relationship.</p> <p>The CWRA has been working with the County's staff from Public Works as well as the Board of Supervisor's offices to provide input regarding our concern about the lack of in-county options for the disposal of waste. The closure of the Chiquita Canyon landfill as of December 31, 2024, and its 8,000 tons per day of capacity will further strain a disposal system that has seen large reductions in disposal capacity over the past few years.</p> <p>Below are some additional impacts affecting the disposal system in Los Angeles County.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Late last year we saw the closure of the SERRF facility in Long Beach which caused 800 tons per day of waste to have to find a new home in the already overburdened landfill system in Los Angeles County.</li> <li>• The Olinda Alpha Landfill in Orange County is scheduled to close in December of 2025 and will begin a ramp down of accepting any out-of-county tonnage as early as July of 2025. Currently, the Olinda Alpha landfill accepts 5,000 tons per day of Los Angeles County waste from various sources. The County of Orange is proposing a reduction in imported waste from 5,000 tons per day to approximately 1,800 tons per day at the maximum starting July 1, 2025. Currently, the County of Orange is proposing to accept imported waste as of July 1, 2025, at the rate of \$82.00 per ton and if they do not receive the proposed rate, they could eliminate import all together which would cause another 5,000 tons per day to have to find a home.</li> <li>• With the loss of 8,000 tons per day of disposed at Chiquita Canyon landfill we will see a PERMANENT reduction in Landfill Capacity for Los Angeles County waste by over 12,000 tons per day starting as early as July of 2025. Who will be impacted by the tonnage reductions and closures of various landfills?</li> <li>• EVERY SINGLE RESIDENT IN EVERY SINGLE CITY AND COUNTY AREA OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Every Waste Hauler and City Operated Hauling Facility</li> <li>o Every Waste Hauler, Transfer Station, and Landfill will be dramatically impacted by the Chiquita Canyon closures.</li> <li>? The closure will push trash to facilities that are already capped and have very little room to make the quick adjustments that will be needed to ensure the system does not collapse.</li> <li>o Every customer in Los Angeles County including residents, multi-family</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



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		<p>complex's, commercial businesses and industrial customers could see large rate increases that could range from 50 to 100%. Just a few years ago in Los Angeles County a resident was paying about \$25 per month for waste and recycling services that has now increased to \$45 to \$50 per month. These increases have occurred before all the issues we are facing today with the change in available landfill capacity in Los Angeles County so we believe we could see rates for residents between \$100 to \$125 per month in the extremely near future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The closure of Chiquita Canyon landfill will limit the County's landfill capacity for private waste haulers to two companies, Waste Management and Republic.</li> <li>o Chiquita Canyon has provided landfill capacity at reasonable rates which has created stable rates for the County customers. The operators of Chiquita Canyon were not a waste hauler in Los Angeles County therefore pricing based on costs and profit margins have provided lower rates to the residents and businesses of the County.</li> </ul> <p>Potential recommendations for action by the County Board of Supervisors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a study by the Public Works Department of disposal capacity as recommended in Agenda item 11.</li> <li>• The Board should direct the County Sanitation District of Los Angeles County to begin the process to open the Mesquite landfill which would provide long term disposal capacity for the residents and businesses of Los Angeles County. This landfill has the capacity to accept 20,000 tons per day for the next 150 years and would allow the County to reduce and/or eliminate its dependency on out-of-county disposal facilities and to secure its disposal future.</li> <li>o With the notice to proceed to open the Mesquite landfill remove the restrictions on accepting waste by truck until such time that the inter-module facility is available to ship waste by rail.</li> </ul> <p>The CWRA would like to continue to work with the Public Works Department as well as the Board of Supervisor Members and staff to assist in finding long-term solutions to lack of disposal capacity for the residents and businesses of Los Angeles County.</p> <p>Thank you,</p>
	David Fahrion	See attached letter
	Meg H Volk	BUT DO NOT DIVERT ANY TRASH NOW OR IN THE FUTURE TO SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL AS THEY ARE UNABLE TO ADDRESS GRANADA HILLS RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS OF GAS AND TRASH ODORS ONGOING NOW AND IN PAST YEAR!!!!
<b>Other</b>	Elizabeth Jeffords	Whatever we have to do in order to keep Chiquita Canyon Landfill closed forever and mitigated I am for. I am currently self funding my own relocation and have had to relocate myself and family many, many times in the past 24 months due to my correlated illnesses and they are not acute! I want to come home already! I wish to start my recovery process at home with my family! This nonsense of where will the trash go and the constant victim shaming and



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	<p>cyber bullying of residents who became sick because of this toxic air is a compounding crippling insult to injury. Implement the alternative swiftly and if the task is too grave, demand the State of Emergency that we so desperately need. Those of us suffering 24/7 can no longer afford (physically, mentally or Financially) to bare the weight of the county or to be expected to heal and contribute to society at the same time. The county has had many years of complaints to have formulated an alternative dumpsite by now. Please address the pros and cons of all alternatives especially this supposed readily available landfill by rail we keep hearing about named "Mesquite"? I beg the Board of Supervisors for swift action. My life depends on it. I fully understand the complexity of this giant conundrum and the burden you face towards resolve for all.. however, I feel confident in speaking for most local residents and businesses when I say the most immediate remedy here is to keep Chiquita CLOSED for daily use and to Pause mortgages and property taxes of those few residents who must and so desperately need to be temporarily relocated while you all confer. WE will need more than 30 days of recovery from this toxic exposure. If you can find a way to help financially, I am confident the local good citizens will find a way to rise above from there. Thank you for placing this matter on the agenda.</p>
Elizabeth Mitev	Opposing the re-routing of trash to Sunshine Canyon Landfill
Erica Larsen	
Erick Fefferman	<p>With the recent legal prohibition preventing any further waste streams from being deposited at Chiquita Canyon as of Jan 1 I am gravely concerned as a parent, stakeholder, and homeowner that additional waste will be deposited at nearby Sunshine Canyon Landfill. Although Chiquita Canyon's well-documented issues are more acute, the ongoing and further deteriorating conditions at SCL have been going on for years longer and has resulted in THOUSANDS of more NOVs and Nuisance Odor Complaints than Chiquita Canyon has registered over the years. Our family has already had to pull our 1st grader from the local elementary school, Van Gogh Charter, because the rancid stench &amp; emissions have affected our son's health. It is beyond disgraceful that in 2025 the 2nd largest metropolis in the country has no other alternative than to deposit 40% of its household waste at a facility located less than a mile from an elementary school where our most vulnerable community members' developing respiratory systems are being exposed to chemicals known to cause long-term health issues. PLEASE DO NOT rob Peter to pay Paul and make the situation at Sunshine Canyon worse as a result of the terrible conditions at another facility. Our community CANNOT be burdened and damaged any more than it already has, we already shouldering more than our fair share in the North Valley between Sunshine Canyon and Aliso Canyon - protect our children and families from further harm!</p>
Kevin Johnson	<p>As a small business local contractor (and LSBE), the closure of Chiquita Canyon Landfill has placed a significant financial strain on our operations. Many of our contracts were bid with the assumption that construction and demolition debris would be disposed of at Chiquita Canyon, with its pricing and proximity to our project sites carefully factored into our bids. Notification of the closure was issued on December 31, but its effects began much earlier.</p>



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In late 2024, as anticipation of Chiquita's closure grew and access became increasingly limited, other landfill operators began raising their rates far beyond standard annual increases. We are concerned these cost increases will only worsen with the full and formal closure.

This situation has also created an environment that enables price gouging, allowing landfill operators to exploit the increased demand caused by Chiquita's absence. These steep and often arbitrary cost increases will further amplify the financial strain on contractors and project owners alike.

Now, we face the challenge of project owners—including government agencies, school districts, cities, counties, and others—rejecting change order requests to account for the additional costs of redirecting waste to alternative landfills. These landfills are often farther away, driving up transportation expenses, and are now operating with significantly higher pricing, further compounding the financial burden.

The leadership and influence of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors make it uniquely positioned to set a precedent in addressing the challenges posed by the closure of Chiquita Canyon Landfill. We respectfully request that the Board adopt a policy or ordinance requiring the consideration of pricing adjustments for disposal costs in cases where County-funded contracts were bid under the assumption that Chiquita Canyon would be the disposal site.

Furthermore, we urge the Board to take a proactive role in regulating landfill pricing practices to prevent price gouging, ensuring that landfill operators cannot exploit the reduced disposal options to impose arbitrary and excessive cost increases.

Though this may not directly affect our impacted contracts, doing so would send a powerful message of support for local contractors, highlighting the Board's commitment to fairness and equitable treatment. Additionally, we urge the Board to encourage all Southern California government entities to adopt similar provisions, setting a regional standard for addressing unforeseen challenges, curbing price gouging, and supporting businesses in their communities.

Without adjustments to account for these changes, and strong regulations to prevent price gouging, the financial burden on small businesses like ours becomes unsustainable.

Wayde A Hunter

Item 11, Board of Supervisors Meeting, January 7, 2025  
Dear Supervisors:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Given the subject of the closing of Chiquita Canyon Landfill, we can understand your concern for the fact that the trash that it once accepted has to go somewhere and that there may be a potential for price gouging, and we can support that. However, we would respectfully ask that if the requested County Public Work's report itemizes



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“where diverted waste will be transported to” and includes any recommendation for bringing any of that trash to Sunshine Canyon Landfill, we ask that you WOULD NOT consider it, as it would only further detrimentally impact the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the communities of Granada Hills and Sylmar.

Both Supervisors Barger and Horvath have had Sunshine Canyon Landfill in their Districts, and Supervisor Hahn I am sure remembers us from her days at City Hall. We have suffered greatly as the largest landfill in Los Angeles County over the years and while we sympathize with Chiquita regarding their most recent hydrogen sulfide odor problems, BFI/Republic’s Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) far exceeds Chiquita in the years and the number of odors prior to 2022. In fact, the SCL odor problem has been increasing to the point that 2024 is now the worst year ever since the charting began back in 2009. According to the SCAQMD, as of November 30, 2024, there were 17,061 odor reports and 374 NOVs for Nuisance, plus another 17 NOVs for other operating violations all since 2009.

Please keep in mind that SCL has been EXCEEDING their permitted 12,100 tons per day (11,000 tpd trash + 1,100 tpd recycle) on a regular basis for over 1-1/2 years now, based on the combine trash and recycle, plus the dirt they are importing for cover soil and the toe berm. County Public Works has FAILED to cite them and bring them into compliance with their Conditional Use Permit (CUP)

We want to remind you that County Public Works (CPW) has known for some time that this landfill might close. Indeed, they were aware that at best that it was going to operate eventually at a reduced rate, and that should have already been addressed in the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan which required CPW to plan for 15 years of trash disposal capacity.

In closing, the quality of life here surrounding Sunshine Canyon Landfill is appalling, and residents who we represent want you to think about the fact that they can’t open their windows or use their backyards because of the odors. For the children it is an even worse impact to their lives and health if they live in the area and go to school at Van Gogh Charter Elementary School which is regularly impacted by odors from SCL, resulting in the kids having to be removed from the playground and/or confined to their classrooms. El Oro Way Charter Elementary School along with Robert Frost Middle School and the Bethlehem Lutheran Church & School have all reported odor impacts as well. We can only ask that when it comes to Sunshine Canyon Landfill, whether you as parents and mothers would want this kind of life for your children or for yourselves.

Wayde Hunter  
President, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens Inc.

William J Cotter

We need to make sure that the closure does not make things worse for those of us who live near Sunshine Canyon. Ventura County’s problems should not

				make our bad situation worse. We already have a well documented problem with thousands of verified odor problems. Please do not let additional tonnage be added to Sunshine Canyon. The fact that things are so bad at Chiquita shows the potential for a repeat here.
		<b>Item Total</b>	<b>10</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>10</b>	

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Agenda #11 regarding the closure of Chiquita Canyon Landfill. While I understand the need to find solutions, I urge you not to redirect this burden to Sunshine Canyon Landfill.

As a resident of Granada Hills, I have seen firsthand the devastating impact Sunshine Canyon has on our community. This landfill is already under scrutiny, with the South Coast Air Quality Management District pursuing an Order of Abatement due to record-breaking violations.

As of November 2024, there have been over:

- **17,000 odor complaints**
- **374 Notices of Violation for public nuisances**
- **17 operating violations**

Worse yet, Sunshine Canyon routinely *exceeds* its permitted daily limit of **12,100 tons of trash**.

The consequences are clear. Children at local schools can't play outside because of the nauseating odors. Families can't escape the smell, even in their own homes. And beyond the inconvenience, there are serious health risks from exposure to particulate matter, gases, and pollutants created by the landfill's operations.

Allowing more trash to be routed to Sunshine Canyon would further harm our community, worsening conditions for families already bearing this burden. Please prioritize Granada Hills residents' health, safety, and quality of life by finding another solution.

Thank you for your time.

SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Sunshine Canyon Landfill, Facility ID No. 49111

Odor Complaints Reported to South Coast AQMD Alleging SCL; and Notices of Violation (NOV) Summary from 2009 through November 2024

Public Nuisance: South Coast AQMD Rule 402; Calif. H&S 41700

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total NOVs	Total Complaints
<b>2015</b>														
Complaints	260	119	297	60	12	41	23	126	337	370	85	65		1795
NOVs	5	3	7	2	0	0	0	2	11	7	2	0	39	
<b>2016</b>														
Complaints	100	188	185	181	30	74	52	85	206	193	206	59		1559
NOVs	2	4	6	5	0	1	1	1	2	4	4	1	31	
<b>2017</b>														
Complaints	200	254	274	116	19	10	14	30	44	27	22	18		1028
NOVs	6	7	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	
<b>2018</b>														
Complaints	32	18	21	9	5	9	16	6	33	21	2	36		208
NOVs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	
<b>2019</b>														
Complaints	17	17	76	12	2	5	7	7	95	82	14	16		350
NOVs	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	5	
<b>2020</b>														
Complaints	29	17	12	33	98	20	23	82	105	121	18	22		580
NOVs	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	3	4	0	1	12	
<b>2021</b>														
Complaints	7	10	3	22	4	31	27	71	55	74	59	83		446
NOVs	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	0	6	
<b>2022</b>														
Complaints	158	84	58	38	17	40	12	40	85	64	25	32		653
NOVs	5	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	12	
<b>2023</b>														
Complaints	226	191	146	185	32	22	34	264	148	230	130	113		1721
NOVs	6	7	5	11	1	0	1	9	4	6	7	4	61	
<b>2024</b>														
Complaints	204	474	272	266	18	31	47	65	179	405	141			2102
NOVs	9	17	9	6	0	0	0	0	5	11	6		63	

Total R402 NOVs Issued to Date

45/8624.0	17,061
Total R402 NOVs Issued **	374

\* Includes 6,619 Complaints from 2009 through 2014

\*\* Includes 124 NOVs from 2009 through 2014

\*\*\* Includes eight NOVs from 2011 through 2014



	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
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2015	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rule												

2016	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rule												

2017	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rule												

2018	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Rule												

3002, 431.1

2019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rule												

2020	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rule												

2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rule												

2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rule												

2023	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	0	0
Rule												

403

402

403

403

2024	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rule												

1150.1

403

Total Other NOV's Issued\*\*\*

17
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\* Includes 6,619 Complaints from 2009 through 2014

\*\* Includes 124 NOV's from 2009 through 2014

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**Item 11, Board of Supervisors Meeting, January 7, 2025**

Dear Supervisors:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Given the subject of the closing of Chiquita Canyon Landfill, we can understand your concern for the fact that the trash that it once accepted has to go somewhere and that there may be a potential for price gouging, and we can support that. However, we would respectfully ask that if the requested County Public Work's report itemizes "***where diverted waste will be transported to***" and includes any recommendation for bringing any of that trash to **Sunshine Canyon Landfill**, we ask that you **WOULD NOT** consider it, as it would only further detrimentally impact the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the communities of Granada Hills and Sylmar.

Both Supervisors Barger and Horvath have had Sunshine Canyon Landfill in their Districts, and Supervisor Hahn I am sure remembers us from her days at City Hall. We have suffered greatly as the largest landfill in Los Angeles County over the years and while we sympathize with Chiquita regarding their most recent hydrogen sulfide odor problems, BFI/Republic's Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) far exceeds Chiquita in the years and the number of odors prior to 2022. In fact, the SCL odor problem has been increasing to the point that 2024 is now the worst year ever since the charting began back in 2009. According to the SCAQMD, as of November 30, 2024, there were 17,061 odor reports and 374 NOVs for Nuisance, plus another 17 NOVs for other operating violations all since 2009.

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We want to remind you that County Public Works (CPW) has known for some time that this landfill might close. Indeed, they were aware that at best that it was going to operate eventually at a reduced rate, and that should have already been addressed in the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan which required CPW to plan for 15 years of trash disposal capacity.

In closing, the quality of life here surrounding Sunshine Canyon Landfill is appalling, and residents who we represent want you to think about the fact that they can't open their windows or use their backyards because of the odors. For the children it is an even worse impact to their lives and health if they live in the area and go to school at Van Gogh Charter Elementary School which is regularly impacted by odors from SCL, resulting in the kids having to be removed from the playground and/or confined to their classrooms. El Oro Way Charter Elementary School along with Robert Frost Middle School and the Bethlehem Lutheran Church & School have all reported odor impacts as well. We can only ask that when it comes to Sunshine Canyon Landfill, whether you as parents and mothers would want this kind of life for your children or for yourselves.

Wayde Hunter  
President, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens Inc.

**From:** megahouse@earthlink.net  
**Subject:** Comment on agenda item # 11 LACBOS January 7th meeting  
**Date:** January 6, 2025 at 1:30 PM  
**To:** Meg Volk megahouse@earthlink.net



To the members of the LA County Board of Supervisors Kathryn Barger, Hilda Solis, Holly Mitchell, Lindsey Horvath and Janice Hahn;

Thank you for reading public comment on item # 11 Closure of the Chiquita Canyon landfill. As a community we sympathize with the residents near Chiquita Canyon who have been suffering. We too in Granada Hills have been suffering for almost 2 decades with gas and trash odors permeating our homes, schools and parks. Since 2009 there have been 17,061 odor complaints and 374 NOV (Notices of violation) issued to the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Operator. It has been so bad in the past year that the SCAQMD has been considering imposing an Order of Abatement to get the landfill to comply with keeping gas odors, trash odors and dust from permeating the neighborhoods some only 0.5 miles away. This has been discussed in the past 6 months at the SCL-CAC meeting held every 2 months as it became clear that BFI/Republic has been unable to adequately address these ongoing problems.

That being said I urge you NOT to consider diverting any trash NOW or in the FUTURE to Sunshine Canyon which is already accepting more than the Conditional Use Permit allows and obviously is unable to control these issues now.

We have been told by various City and County agencies that there are other options to dispose of trash other than SCL. Please consider those other options as we have suffered enough.

Very Sincerely,

Meg Volk

Resident since 1991 (when landfill was closed with plans to turn it into a nature preserve)



The California Waste & Recycling Association (CWRA) is a trade association made up of private and public companies from the waste and recycling industry operating in the County of Los Angeles as well as many of the surrounding municipalities. The members of the CWRA believe in the principle that a competitive marketplace delivers a prominent level of service to their customers, provides competitive rates to the municipalities, and ensures a successful and compliant relationship.

The CWRA has been working with the County's staff from Public Works as well as the Board of Supervisor's offices to provide input regarding our concern about the lack of in-county options for the disposal of waste. The closure of the Chiquita Canyon landfill as of December 31, 2024, and its 8,000 tons per day of capacity will further strain a disposal system that has seen large reductions in disposal capacity over the past few years.

**Below are some additional impacts affecting the disposal system in Los Angeles County.**

- Late last year we saw the closure of the SERRF facility in Long Beach which caused 800 tons per day of waste to have to find a new home in the already overburdened landfill system in Los Angeles County.
- The Olinda Alpha Landfill in Orange County is scheduled to close in December of 2025 and will begin a ramp down of accepting any out-of-county tonnage as early as July of 2025. Currently, the Olinda Alpha landfill accepts 5,000 tons per day of Los Angeles County waste from various sources. The County of Orange is proposing a reduction in imported waste from 5,000 tons per day to approximately 1,800 tons per day at the maximum starting July 1, 2025. Currently, the County of Orange is proposing to accept imported waste as of July 1, 2025, at the rate of \$82.00 per ton and if they do not receive the proposed rate, they could eliminate import all together which would cause another 5,000 tons per day to have to find a home.
- With the loss of 8,000 tons per day of disposed at Chiquita Canyon landfill we will see a PERMANENT reduction in Landfill Capacity for Los Angeles County waste by over **12,000** tons per day starting as early as July of 2025.

**Who will be impacted by the tonnage reductions and closures of various landfills?**

- EVERY SINGLE RESIDENT IN EVERY SINGLE CITY AND COUNTY AREA OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY
- Every Waste Hauler and City Operated Hauling Facility
  - Every Waste Hauler, Transfer Station, and Landfill will be dramatically impacted by the Chiquita Canyon closures.
    - The closure will push trash to facilities that are already capped and have very little room to make the quick adjustments that will be needed to ensure the system does not collapse.
  - Every customer in Los Angeles County including residents, multi-family complex's, commercial businesses and industrial customers could see large rate increases that

could range from 50 to 100%. Just a few years ago in Los Angeles County a resident was paying about \$25 per month for waste and recycling services that has now increased to \$45 to \$50 per month. These increases have occurred before all the issues we are facing today with the change in available landfill capacity in Los Angeles County so we believe we could see rates for residents between \$100 to \$125 per month in the extremely near future.

- The closure of Chiquita Canyon landfill will limit the County's landfill capacity for private waste haulers to two companies, Waste Management and Republic.
- Chiquita Canyon has provided landfill capacity at reasonable rates which has created stable rates for the County customers. The operators of Chiquita Canyon were not a waste hauler in Los Angeles County therefore pricing based on costs and profit margins have provided lower rates to the residents and businesses of the County.

#### **Potential recommendations for action by the County Board of Supervisors**

- Conduct a study by the Public Works Department of disposal capacity as recommended in Agenda item 11.
- The Board should direct the County Sanitation District of Los Angeles County to begin the process to open the Mesquite landfill which would provide long term disposal capacity for the residents and businesses of Los Angeles County. This landfill has the capacity to accept 20,000 tons per day for the next 150 years and would allow the County to reduce and/or eliminate its dependency on out-of-county disposal facilities and to secure its disposal future.
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The CWRA would like to continue to work with the Public Works Department as well as the Board of Supervisor Members and staff to assist in finding long-term solutions to lack of disposal capacity for the residents and businesses of Los Angeles County.

Thank you,



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**Below are some additional impacts affecting the disposal system in Los Angeles County.**

- Late last year we saw the closure of the SERRF facility in Long Beach which caused 800 tons per day of waste to have to find a new home in the already overburdened landfill system in Los Angeles County.
- The Olinda Alpha Landfill in Orange County is scheduled to close in December of 2025 and will begin a ramp down of accepting any out-of-county tonnage as early as July of 2025. Currently, the Olinda Alpha landfill accepts 5,000 tons per day of Los Angeles County waste from various sources. The County of Orange is proposing a reduction in imported waste from 5,000 tons per day to approximately 1,800 tons per day at the maximum starting July 1, 2025. Currently, the County of Orange is proposing to accept imported waste as of July 1, 2025, at the rate of \$82.00 per ton and if they do not receive the proposed rate, they could eliminate import all together which would cause another 5,000 tons per day to have to find a home.
- With the loss of 8,000 tons per day of disposed at Chiquita Canyon landfill we will see a PERMANENT reduction in Landfill Capacity for Los Angeles County waste by over **12,000** tons per day starting as early as July of 2025.

**Who will be impacted by the tonnage reductions and closures of various landfills?**

- EVERY SINGLE RESIDENT IN EVERY SINGLE CITY AND COUNTY AREA OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY
- Every Waste Hauler and City Operated Hauling Facility
  - Every Waste Hauler, Transfer Station, and Landfill will be dramatically impacted by the Chiquita Canyon closures.
    - The closure will push trash to facilities that are already capped and have very little room to make the quick adjustments that will be needed to ensure the system does not collapse.
  - Every customer in Los Angeles County including residents, multi-family complex's, commercial businesses and industrial customers could see large rate increases that

could range from 50 to 100%. Just a few years ago in Los Angeles County a resident was paying about \$25 per month for waste and recycling services that has now increased to \$45 to \$50 per month. These increases have occurred before all the issues we are facing today with the change in available landfill capacity in Los Angeles County so we believe we could see rates for residents between \$100 to \$125 per month in the extremely near future.

- The closure of Chiquita Canyon landfill will limit the County's landfill capacity for private waste haulers to two companies, Waste Management and Republic.
- Chiquita Canyon has provided landfill capacity at reasonable rates which has created stable rates for the County customers. The operators of Chiquita Canyon were not a waste hauler in Los Angeles County therefore pricing based on costs and profit margins have provided lower rates to the residents and businesses of the County.

#### **Potential recommendations for action by the County Board of Supervisors**

- Conduct a study by the Public Works Department of disposal capacity as recommended in Agenda item 11.
- The Board should direct the County Sanitation District of Los Angeles County to begin the process to open the Mesquite landfill which would provide long term disposal capacity for the residents and businesses of Los Angeles County. This landfill has the capacity to accept 20,000 tons per day for the next 150 years and would allow the County to reduce and/or eliminate its dependency on out-of-county disposal facilities and to secure its disposal future.
  - With the notice to proceed to open the Mesquite landfill remove the restrictions on accepting waste by truck until such time that the inter-module facility is available to ship waste by rail.

The CWRA would like to continue to work with the Public Works Department as well as the Board of Supervisor Members and staff to assist in finding long-term solutions to lack of disposal capacity for the residents and businesses of Los Angeles County.

Thank you,