

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations, or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal government body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is considering a proposal to roll back California's hazardous waste disposal rules, potentially permitting some municipal landfills to accept more contaminated soil from heavily polluted areas; and

WHEREAS, the DTSC proposal includes loosening state hazardous waste rules, allowing contaminated soil even if it fails the state's leakage test, and potentially permitting soil contaminated with heavy metals, to be dumped at nonhazardous waste landfills; and

WHEREAS, allowing nonhazardous waste landfills to accept chemical-laced soil would be a mistake, and dumping more toxic substances into municipal landfills increases the risk of chemicals leaking into groundwater or becoming airborne dust; and

WHEREAS, liner systems in landfills can fail due to earthquakes or extreme heat, and sending contaminated soil into such systems would also eventually imperil groundwater near landfills and could lead to long-term contamination risks; and

WHEREAS, the Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) is a major waste management facility—listed as a Class III municipal landfill operating under a solid waste permit, meaning it cannot accept hazardous waste—located in Sylmar, Los Angeles, which serves Los Angeles County and handles approximately one-third of the County's daily waste; and

WHEREAS, because the facility is in such close proximity to residential areas and schools, the SCL has already been a regular source of concern for residents of neighboring communities, with complaints rising significantly in recent years involving the facility's odors and emissions of methane and hydrogen sulfide gases; and

WHEREAS, should the DTSC weaken its hazardous waste rules, local issues surrounding the SCL would only become more exacerbated;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2025-2026 State Legislative Program opposition to legislation and/or administrative action which would weaken the California Department of Toxic Substances Control's hazardous waste disposal rules, potentially allowing municipal landfills to accept contaminated soil from heavily polluted areas, thereby affecting the health and welfare of the public and the environment.

PRESENTED BY:

JOHN S. LEE

Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY:

MAR 28 2025

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