

January 22, 2020

Dear Friend,

We, the undersigned, are state and local officials who represent the region encompassing the Austin Community Landfill, owned and operated by Waste Management, Inc. (Waste Management).

For decades, the Austin Community Landfill has been a challenging neighbor in a rapidly growing region of Austin. Nearby residents have reported persistent odors, illness, and inability to spend time outdoors. This is particularly devastating in an area that has become home to a growing number of families and children, who can be particularly vulnerable to air quality issues. But with the landfill nearing maximum capacity, neighbors hoped these challenges would soon be over.

Last fall, however, Waste Management submitted an application to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) requesting construction and operation of a Type IV municipal solid waste transfer station (transfer station) at the Austin Community Landfill (Registration Application No. 40306).

Once the Austin Community Landfill reaches maximum capacity, construction of a transfer station would allow Waste Management to continue operations **indefinitely** to store, process, and transfer municipal solid waste to other landfills in the region. By estimates produced by Waste Management, the transfer station could store up to 2,500 tons of waste and create over 1,100 vehicle trips to the site **each day**.

These activities come at a significant cost to the growing number of single-family homes and businesses that call the Austin Community Landfill a neighbor. Within just one mile of the site, there are approximately 2,402 residential units, 60 businesses, multiple neighborhood parks and community centers, as well as a local church.

It is our duty as elected officials of the region to ensure these nearby residents - as well as the greater Austin region - have the opportunity to provide feedback to TCEQ as it considers Waste Management's application. **Per our request, TCEQ will hold a public meeting on February 6, 2020 at 7 pm at Bluebonnet Trail Elementary (11316 Farmhaven Rd, Austin, TX, 78754).**

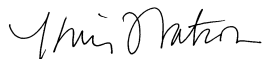
As your neighborhood lies in the Northeast Travis County region, we ask you to respond to Waste Management's application in the following ways:

- **Submit public comment to TCEQ.** Individuals may submit public comment online until the close of the February 6th public meeting at <https://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/> (Registration Application No. 40306)
- **Attend TCEQ's public meeting on February 6th.** During the meeting, members of the public will have the opportunity to provide oral remarks for consideration by TCEQ.
- **Share among your members.** Inform your members at your next meeting and through email and social media channels.

Although the Austin Community Landfill has the most direct impact on its neighbors, its effects reverberate throughout the region. A poorly-managed landfill can harm our land, air, and water quality for generations. Waste Management must prove to be a responsible neighbor and steward of our environment before any new permits can be approved.

We appreciate your attention to the environmental issues of our Austin. Please do not hesitate to contact our offices if you have any questions or if we can support your engagement on this issue in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,



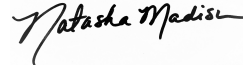
Kirk Watson
State Senator
District 14



Celia Israel
State Representative
District 50



Jeff Travillion
Travis County Commissioner
Precinct 1



Natasha Harper-Madison
Austin City Council
District 1