

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED NOW!!!

COUNTY SEEKS \$46M FOR SMART GROWTH INITIATIVE

- County Executive Ike Leggett has sent a supplemental funding request for the *Smart Growth Initiative* to the County Council to be considered on 22 January 2009 at a public hearing.
- There are 10 projects in the funding request. One is for \$365,000 to do an engineering study on how to put the MCPS Bus Depot on the Gude Landfill.
- GLCC activities to date have questioned the practicality and reasonableness of the County's plan to put the MCPS Bus Depot at the Gude Landfill. The engineering study is to answer all the questions raised by the GLCC.
- If the Engineering Study is not funded, then the County does not have the answers to move forward with the MCPS Bus Depot move.
- The Gude Landfill has serious environmental issues – landfill gas, groundwater contamination and uncontrolled settling – some of which need remediation now.
- Gude Landfill is fragile and needs to mature carefully.
- The Gude Landfill is not ready for reuse. Any reuse now will increase the risk of an environmental spill that will affect our neighborhood.
- The County Council does listen to voters. We need you to join us now in a LOUD voice of opposition.

The Problem.

The County wants to put 392 school buses, a maintenance depot, fuel tanks and fueling equipment on the Gude Landfill hill. This will cause environmental problems for the Derwood Station, community.

What Can I Do?

- Write the County Council Members. The more letters they receive from residents, the more likely they will not fund the plans of the County Executive.
- Call the Council Offices and tell them that you oppose this idea and why.
- Attend the public hearing on Jan 22nd in support of the GLCC who will testify.

What is in this handout?

This package contains a draft letter for you to use in any way you see fit. You can send a letter **by email and/or by postal mail**. You can send many letters or one letter to all. We have provided the names, addresses and sample letters. Letters can make a difference!

Please help us in opposing the County's plans.

Martin Benevides	Keith Ligon
Jack Brady	Julia Tillery
Bob Day	Nick Radonic
Dave Peterson	Laszlo Harsanyi

Dear XXX:

As a resident of Derwood Maryland, I am writing to express my opposition to the County's plans to relocate the Montgomery County Public School's Bus Depot to the Gude Landfill from its current site on Crabbs Branch Way.

I understand the County's desire to relocate municipal facilities as part of the implementation of the Shady Grove Sector Plan, but the Gude Landfill continues to experience land settling and methane gas releases. Putting 350 buses, parking lots, maintenance facilities and fuel storage tanks on unstable land right next to our residential community not only doesn't make sense it is irresponsible!.

I am convinced that re-locating the school bus depot right next to our homes will bring many health and safety problems to my community. Disturbing the landfill for construction of a bus depot will expose our community to groundwater contamination, toxic storm water runoff, and pollution of all types. The exhaust from 350 school buses will roll right down the hill into the houses and severely impact the quality of our life.

Tell the County Executive to take the Gude Landfill off his list of relocation sites for the Smart Growth Initiative. You can do that by not funding the engineering studies. Will you do that?

Thank you,
(signed)
(your address)

Addresses

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