

**From:** [Darcy Gilbertson](#)  
**To:** [Krohn, Margaret](#); [#County Board Recipients](#)  
**Subject:** File # 2021 RES-440 – Please vote NO to Authorizing the Purchase of Yahara Hills Land for County Landfill  
**Date:** Sunday, May 8, 2022 11:15:17 PM

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County Board Members,

I attended the Dane County landfill expansion meeting last week held in the Village of McFarland. I, along with my neighbors, wanted to voice our concern over the proposed location of the landfill. When you spend \$400,000 on a home, in a community surrounded by farmland, a quaint town, and a golf course, you can understand the concern of the folks living in the Secret Places neighborhood that will now be looking at a landfill. We are very concerned over our property values dropping dramatically because of the proximity to the landfill, the noise and traffic, the health effects, and of course the smell.

I have asked the planning committee several times about what other locations were scouted out as possible landfill locations, and have never received a clear answer. They respond with specifications on how much land is needed for the proposed sustainability campus and that the land has to be near a major roadway. When asked about the impact to the neighboring community, little research has been done. And even though we will be able to see the proposed expansion from our neighborhood (Secret Places neighborhood), they have stated that there will not be compensation for the folks that live here when/if our property values decrease. It seems like this is a move of convenience (Madison has made it very public that they would like to sell the Yahara Golf Course, and the landfill would be an easy sell) and they have not taken into consideration the growing family community that they would be impacting. We have heard a lot about the price associated with the landfill, but have they considered the price to our community?

The planning committee stated last week that this expansion is still in the proposal phase, but they are not looking at any other locations. We all love the idea of a sustainability campus, but it is difficult to be on board with the plan when 90% of the proposal is a growing landfill that will slowly push towards our home, a populated Secret Places neighborhood. Secret Places is not technically part of the McFarland community that we support and where our kids attend school, and it is such a small part of Madison, it is easy to feel forgotten and without a voice. Please help us and be our voice!

Please vote “NO” to Authorizing the Purchase of Yahara Hills Land for County Landfill. This design has yet to be tested anywhere else so close to a densely populated area so there are too many unknowns regarding the full impact to our quality of life, health and safety, and property value. We have already unexpectedly had to tolerate the ill-effects of the Rodefild landfill for the past 5 years; we have 8 more to go. We have been given zero reasons to believe this new landfill will be a better neighbor. Please do not add on another 40 years of suffering for these communities; please vote “No”.

Sincerely,

Darcy Gilbertson  
concerned resident of Secret Places Neighborhood