



# Town of Holly Springs

## Town Council Meeting Agenda Cover Sheet

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### Agenda Item #: 10a

#### **New Business**

**Title:** South Wake Landfill Malodor Resolution

**Strategic Priority Area:** Responsible and Balanced Growth

**Staff Resource:** Randy Harrington, Town Manager

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#### **Action(s):**

Adopt Resolution 20-04, Resolution of the Town of Holly Springs Town Council Malodor Mitigation Requests for the South Wake Landfill.

#### **Explanation:**

- The South Wake County landfill is a regional landfill owned by Wake County and operated by GFL Environmental.
- The landfill covers 471 acres with 179 acres used for the actual disposal of solid waste.
- Malodors are undesirable smells emitted from the landfill.
- Malodors will occasionally occur in the operation of a landfill, but the frequency and intensity of mal-odors has become excessive and detrimental to the enjoyment and well-being of many Holly Springs residents and businesses.
- This action's resolution outlines Town Council's malodor concerns and requests a number of actions by Wake County and GFL Environmental to engage the Holly Springs community and use all innovative methods and investments to significantly reduce the frequency and intensity of malodors.

#### **Background:**

- At Town Council's February 11, 2020 Workshop, Council discussed the following:
  - Options for communicating to the Wake County Board of Commissioners concerns of excessive landfill malodors and requested actions by the County and the landfill operator, GFL Environmental. Council directed staff to prepare a resolution.
  - Possible creation of a Council committee (or Council/Community committee) that could help bridge community concerns and interests with Wake County. Council intends to continue exploration and consideration of this idea.

**Funding Source(s):** N/A

#### **Attachment(s):**

- Resolution 20-04



THE TOWN OF

# Holly Springs

**Resolution No.:** 20-04

**Date Adopted:** February 18, 2020

**Effective Date:** February 18, 2020

## RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF HOLLY SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL MALODOR MITIGATION REQUESTS FOR THE SOUTH WAKE LANDFILL

**WHEREAS**, the South Wake Landfill opened in February 2008 with an expected life cycle closure between 2038-2040.

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that 500,000 tons of municipal solid waste plus household hazardous waste, electronics and other special waste are disposed at this 179-acre facility annually.

**WHEREAS**, the Town understands that open working face malodors and landfill gas odors can occur occasionally in the operation of a landfill, but the frequency and intensity of malodors has become excessive and detrimental to the enjoyment and well-being of the Holly Springs community. Malodors are experienced well beyond a ½ mile radius of the landfill.

**WHEREAS**, recent initiatives by GFL Environmental and Wake County to minimize odor frequency and intensity and simplify resident odor reporting are appreciated, but the odor mitigation efforts have been ineffective and a promised odor reporting mobile app has yet to be fulfilled.

**WHEREAS**, the close proximity of the landfill to one of the County's fastest growing communities requires a unique level of management, oversight, and innovative operational practices to address odor concerns.

**WHEREAS**, the Holly Springs Town Council last year approved a \$5 million infrastructure investment to effectively eliminate any occasional wastewater odors attributable to the Utley Creek Wastewater Reclamation Plant in Holly Springs.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Council that we request that Wake County – with GFL Environmental – promptly undertake the following actions:

- 1) Initiate a landfill waste plan update to assess alternate waste disposal/elimination methods, including exploration of early landfill closure options, alternate disposal site(s) for the region's solid waste, and waste to energy;
- 2) Increase near-term efforts and investments to identify innovative landfill management practices and equipment that will significantly reduce malodors;
- 3) Include funding for landfill odor mitigation as one of your top priorities in the upcoming FY 2020/21 budget;
- 4) Complete the promised odor reporting and resident engagement mobile app; and

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- 5) Increase community engagement with our residents – including meetings to share information and hear directly from residents plus a commitment to monthly communications with residents and the Town on the efforts and results in mitigating landfill malodors.
- 6) Furthermore, the Town desires to be a strong collaborator with the County to produce a positive impact in our community and the south Wake County area.

**Adopted by the Holly Springs Town Council on this, the 18<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2020.**

**Town of Holly Springs by**

**ATTEST:**

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Dick Sears, Mayor

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Linda McKinney, Town Clerk