

July 16, 2026

Board of Directors
Ventura Regional Sanitation District
Ventura, California

**RECEIVE AND FILE AN UPDATE ON THE AIRSPACE UTILIZATION FACTOR (AUF)
FOR THE TOLAND ROAD LANDFILL FOR THE PERIOD BETWEEN DECEMBER
2025 THROUGH MAY 2026**

RECOMMENDATION

Receive and File.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

On April 2, 2026, staff provided an update on the estimated remaining airspace for the Toland Road Landfill. This report is an update to identify any deficiencies and/or progress made towards increasing air space at the Toland Road Landfill and increasing the remaining years of the Toland Road Landfill, for the benefit of the communities served by the Toland Road Landfill.

On April 2, 2026, staff presented the Toland Road Landfill's historical AUF of 0.68 (assumes 2,000 lbs./ton), based upon 1,200 tons of waste intake per day (tons/day); which resulted in an estimated site life of the Toland Road Landfill at 13.5 remaining years. The AUF of 0.68 (with an optimal AUF of 1.00) was largely attributable to excess daily cover usage, and previous compaction practices that were not optimized for maximum waste density or compaction.

At that time, Dragomir Design-Build, Inc., VRSD's consulting engineer, recommended several operational improvements, including: (1) reducing daily cover usage to a target waste-to-cover ratio of approximately 10:1; and (2) adopting a bottom-up compaction approach consistent with industry's best practices. Based on these operational changes, staff projected that the site life at the Toland Road Landfill could achieve an AUF of approximately 0.80, based upon 1,200 tons of waste intake per day (tons/day).

Over the past five (5) months, the site has successfully implemented these recommendations by reducing cover soil consumption and transitioning to the revised

compaction methodology. As a result, Toland Road Landfill has achieved an AUF of 0.80, which is consistent with the performance improvement anticipated through these operational changes.

Based on the AUF calculations package previously prepared for the site, an AUF of 0.68 corresponded to an estimated remaining site life of approximately fourteen (14) years, while an AUF of 0.80 may extend that projection to approximately sixteen (16) years. Additional improvements resulting in AUF values approaching 0.90 and 1.00 could extend the projected site life to approximately eighteen (18) and twenty (20) years, respectively.

The increase from an AUF of 0.68 to 0.80 achieved over the past five (5) months demonstrates the significant impact that operational practices can have on landfill life and airspace preservation. Based on the results achieved to date, VRSD staff believe additional gains may be attainable through targeted capital investments designed to further improve waste density, reduce daily cover consumption, and optimize compaction performance. Below are future purchases, which staff believe will increase AUF, and ultimately, airspace at the Toland Road Landfill:

- **Future Purchase of GPS Machine Control for Landfill Compaction Equipment**

GPS machine control systems are increasingly being utilized at landfill facilities to improve lift management, pass count tracking, and compaction consistency. The technology provides operators and supervisors with real-time information that may support improved compaction practices and more efficient use of available airspace. By providing guidance on pass counts, lift thickness, and equipment positioning, these systems promote more consistent compaction across the working face and reduce reliance on operator judgment alone. Improved compaction consistency may reduce airspace consumption per ton of waste received and support a higher Airspace Utilization Factor.

- **Future Purchase of EnviroCover Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) System**

The use of the EnviroCover Alternative Daily Cover system presents an additional opportunity to improve AUF by significantly reducing the volume of soil required for daily cover operations. Traditional soil cover consumes valuable permitted airspace that cannot be used for waste placement. By replacing soil cover with a membrane-based ADC system, the Toland site may substantially reduce airspace losses associated with daily cover while maintaining regulatory compliance. This reclaimed airspace would be available for future waste disposal capacity, increasing the overall efficiency of landfill operations and extending the useful life of the site.

- **Future Purchase of Compactor Sheepsfoot Tip Upgrade**

Upgrading the compactor sheepsfoot tips represents a relatively low-cost investment that may further improve waste density and compaction effectiveness. Properly maintained and optimized tips enhance the compactor's ability to knead and densify waste, reducing void space within the waste mass and increasing tons placed per cubic yard of airspace consumed. Combined with the

operational improvements already implemented, this upgrade may help maximize the effectiveness of existing equipment and further improve AUF performance.

The anticipated benefits of the above improvements will include:

- Further improvement in Airspace Utilization Factor beyond the current level of 0.80.
- Extension of projected landfill life beyond the current estimate of approximately 16 years.
- Progress toward long-term AUF targets of 0.90 to 1.00, which could increase projected landfill life to approximately 18 to 20 years.
- Increased waste density through improved compaction consistency and equipment performance.
- Reduced airspace consumption associated with daily cover operations.
- Increased waste disposal capacity within the existing permitted footprint.
- Improved operational consistency through enhanced measurement and management of compaction activities.
- Enhanced utilization of permitted airspace, which may improve the long-term economic performance of the facility.

PROPOSAL

Based on the successful implementation of operational improvements and the resulting increase in the Airspace Utilization Factor (AUF) from 0.68 to 0.80, staff recommend approval of the next phase of the site's Airspace Utilization Factor activities.

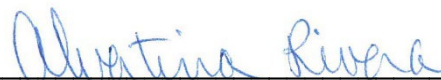
Staff believe these investments represent a logical next step in the site's ongoing efforts to maximize airspace utilization, preserve permitted airspace, and maintain long-term disposal capacity for the facility.

This letter has been reviewed by Legal Counsel as to form.

If you should have any questions or need additional information, please contact me by phone at (805) 432-0474 or via email at jamestorrez@vrsd.com.

JAMES TORREZ, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

APPROVED FOR FISCAL IMPACT:



Alvertina Rivera, Director of Finance

APPROVED FOR AGENDA:



Eric Zetz, General Manager