



Office of the Chicago City
Clerk



R2012-490

Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:

5/9/2012

Sponsor(s):

Pope, John (10)
Moreno, Proco Joe (1)
Fioretti, Bob (2)
Dowell, Pat (3)
Harris, Michelle A. (8)
Cardenas, George A. (12)
Foulkes, Toni (15)
Thompson, Joann (16)
Lane, Lona (18)
O'Shea, Matthew J. (19)
Zalewski, Michael R. (23)
Chandler, Michael D. (24)
Solis, Daniel (25)
Maldonado, Roberto (26)
Ervin, Jason C. (28)
Reboyras, Ariel (30)
Suarez, Regner Ray (31)
Colón, Rey (35)
Sposato, Nicholas (36)
Mitts, Emma (37)
Cullerton, Timothy M. (38)
Laurino, Margaret (39)
O'Connor, Patrick J. (40)
O'Connor, Mary (41)
Reilly, Brendan (42)
Smith, Michele (43)
Arena, John (45)
Cappleman, James (46)
Pawar, Ameya (47)
Osterman, Harry (48)
Moore, Joseph A. (49)

Type:

Resolution

Title:

Call upon Illinois General Assembly to disallow
establishment of new, or expansion of municipal solid waste
landfills in counties with population of more than 2,000,000

Committee(s) Assignment:

Committee on Health and Environmental Protection

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Lake Calumet area is noted for a high concentration of former landfills and dumpsites and other industrial uses with legacy environmental concerns; and

Whereas, restoration and preservation plans have been implemented to redress those historical land use and environmental concerns; and

Whereas, a lawsuit has been filed against the City of Chicago seeking to disconnect a parcel of land on the southern limits of the City with the apparent aim of removing the land from the jurisdiction of the City, which has a moratorium on the development of new or expanded landfills; and

Whereas, in response, an ordinance has been proposed lifting the moratorium, which would remove the incentive for the disconnection suit and allow the City to retain regulatory oversight of the parcel if it is not disconnected; and

Whereas, the parcel is located in the Lake Calumet area, for which the City of Chicago and other units of government including the State of Illinois and Cook County have developed plans for preserving and restoring unique environmental areas. These units of government have invested millions of dollars in implementing the restoration/preservation plans, with significant additional investments planned for the future; and

Whereas, in 2002, the City of Chicago adopted the Calumet Area Land Use Plan. The Plan was prepared by the City's Department of Planning and Development with funding from the U.S. EPA and U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service and with the participation of numerous stakeholders including the Southeast Chicago Development Commission, the Openlands Project, and the Calumet Area Industrial Commission. The Plan was developed with the expectation that the landfill moratorium would continue, and therefore did not include new landfills or expanded landfills; and

Whereas, lifting of the City of Chicago's landfill moratorium or disconnection of other parcels from the City of Chicago could result in new or expanded landfills in sensitive areas; and

Whereas, in response to the City's landfill moratorium and continued land development in the Chicago metropolitan area, numerous solid waste transfer stations have been developed and are currently relied upon by the City of Chicago and suburban municipalities in Cook County to access landfill facilities that are not located in areas such as Lake Calumet that have unique environmental concerns; and

Whereas, an effort is under way to propose legislation in Springfield that would prohibit new or expanded landfills in certain portions of the State, including these unique areas, which is being fiercely opposed by the waste industry; and

Whereas, the proposed legislation sponsored by State Senator Don Harmon will strengthen the City's current landfill moratorium by also protecting communities outside of Chicago from being threatened with potential landfills; now therefore,

Be it resolved, that we, the undersigned members of the Chicago City Council, gathered here this ninth day of May, 2012, do hereby declare our full support of the proposed state legislation to amend the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's rules to disallow the establishment of new or expansion of municipal solid waste landfills in counties of more than 2,000,000 inhabitants, and call upon Governor Pat Quinn and the General Assembly to pass and sign into law such legislation.

Joseph A. Moore 49
1. Glenn Thompson 16th
Pat Dowell 3rd
Pauline [unclear] 23
Mary J. Osh 19
Mary E. O'Connor 41
Emily M. Gullett 38th
[unclear] 40th
Florence [unclear] 43
June [unclear] 37
[unclear] 20th
Ray [unclear] 31st
[unclear] 48

John A. Pope 10th
John A. Pope
10th Ward
[unclear] 45
James A. [unclear] 12th
Michelle [unclear] 8th
Daniel [unclear] 25th
Lora [unclear] 18th
James [unclear] 46
Amy [unclear] 47
[unclear] 42
Mary [unclear] 39
[unclear] 35th
Michael [unclear] 36th
[unclear] 30
Robert [unclear] 26th wd
Michael P. [unclear] 24