

Communication from Public

Name: Over My Dead Body - aka Julie Wasmer

Date Submitted: 09/25/2025 05:19 PM

Council File No: 00-9999

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of Woodland Hills for 60 years, I am very concerned about the acquisition of Boething Treeland property by Dignity Memorial to build a cemetery. This is a residential neighborhood that resides on one of the busiest throughway boulevards in the west valley, Valley Circle Boulevard. Traffic backs up in both directions during morning rush hour, school pick up hours, and evening rush hours. It is the throughway for West Hills Medical Center and Hospital. It services residents living in West Hills, Woodland Hills, Calabasas and Hidden Hills to drive their children to El Camino Real High School, Hale Middle School, Calabasas High School, Viewpoint, A C Stelle and several elementary schools. The 101 freeway at Valley Circle/Mulholland is already a nightmare. The turning lane to get onto the 101 fwy northbound at Long Valley Road causes congestion that backs up Calabasas Road, Mulholland Hwy all the way to Valmar, Valley Circle down to Burbank and Avenue San Luis. Before anymore congestion is added to this community, a Traffic Impact Study and Survey should take place. The bridge is old, has not been taken care of, and a new right lane northbound onramp on Ventura Blvd. should be considered before anything else happens that would impact traffic. The idea of having several funeral processions a day, which would cause even more delay on these roads would be a complete disaster for this community. Getting fire engines, ambulances and other emergency vehicles quick access to their destinations to save lives would be hampered. Not only that, but the Arroyo Calabasas that runs through this property may also be lifting the roadway on the southbound side of Valley Circle. There are dangerous ripples in the concrete road that need to be addressed. A speeding car could flip easily. Other concerns, Treeland was known to use outlawed forever pesticides that have been embedded in the soil. Any type of excavation will send these toxic chemicals into the air we breathe and into the water tables that go into the LA River, the Calabasas Creek and community and eventually into our ocean. A complete Phase II & Health Risk Assessment prior to grading permits must take place for the safety and health of our communities. Besides these toxins, Dignity Memorial says that they will not build a crematorium. However, unless there is a No Covenant to protect your constituents, their word unfortunately means nothing against profits. SCI the parent

company is looking to increase their \$4.1 Billion in profits from 2024 and cremation according to one of their own articles published is 60 - 80% of future burials. I am asking on behalf of my neighbors and community that you take a serious approach to this matter. The property does not appear to be safe for a cemetery, high density commercial or residential building. Perhaps the best use of this land would be a preserve of open space for more of our wildlife. It would also make a perfect location for relocating horses and other animals during our inevitable California fires in the future. I am asking that you address these concerns regarding the Boething Treeland Property and get involved so that our neighborhood remains in tact and not buried in remains.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 09/26/2025 07:40 AM

Council File No: 00-9999

Comments for Public Posting: This comment is regarding the opposition for the cemetery development on 23475 Long Valley Rd, Woodland Hills, CA 91367. We strongly oppose the development of the proposed Dignity Memorial cemetery in our residential neighborhood. While we respect the need for burial grounds, this project raises significant concerns that threaten the safety, environmental health, and quality of life for us local residents. Valley Circle Boulevard already experiences high traffic volumes, particularly during peak hours. Adding a cemetery that will bring funeral processions, construction vehicles, and additional visitors will further strain this roadway and create serious congestion. The traffic increase could also pose safety risks for school zones, pedestrians, and bicyclists in the community. The freeway bridge over the 101 undergoes frequent repairs and may need to be replaced in the future. The proposed site raises critical environmental questions. What safeguards will be in place to prevent drainage from decaying bodies from contaminating groundwater supplies or leaching into neighboring residential properties? Toxic land and hazardous waste issues must be addressed transparently and supported with independent environmental impact reports before any approval. The possibility of grave sites being placed in close proximity to residential homes is alarming. This not only affects property values and community character but also creates ongoing emotional and environmental stress for families who have invested in this neighborhood. There has been a noticeable lack of clear, timely disclosure from Dignity Memorial about the full scope of this project. Residents deserve transparency. Critical issues such as land toxicity, traffic impact, and exact site boundaries should be disclosed openly, not piecemealed or hidden in technical reports. We request in writing, with legally binding assurance, that no crematorium will be constructed now or in the future on this site. Crematoriums introduce air quality concerns, odors, and further environmental risks. Residents must be guaranteed that this will not be allowed at any point. This proposal does not belong in a dense residential neighborhood. Until these issues are addressed with independent studies, open community forums, and binding assurances, We strongly urge the planning board to deny this project. Our neighborhood deserves protection, not increased risk. Thank you for your time. Karen

Communication from Public

Name: Diana
Date Submitted: 09/26/2025 08:16 AM
Council File No: 00-9999

Comments for Public Posting: We strongly oppose the development of the proposed Dignity Memorial cemetery in our residential neighborhood. While we respect the need for burial grounds, this project raises significant concerns that threaten the safety, environmental health, and quality of life for us local residents. Valley Circle Boulevard already experiences high traffic volumes, particularly during peak hours. Adding a cemetery that will bring funeral processions, construction vehicles, and additional visitors will further strain this roadway and create serious congestion. The traffic increase could also pose safety risks for school zones, pedestrians, and bicyclists in the community. The freeway bridge over the 101 undergoes frequent repairs and may need to be replaced in the future. The proposed site raises critical environmental questions. What safeguards will be in place to prevent drainage from decaying bodies from contaminating groundwater supplies or leaching into neighboring residential properties? Toxic land and hazardous waste issues must be addressed transparently and supported with independent environmental impact reports before any approval. The possibility of grave sites being placed in close proximity to residential homes is alarming. This not only affects property values and community character but also creates ongoing emotional and environmental stress for families who have invested in this neighborhood. There has been a noticeable lack of clear, timely disclosure from Dignity Memorial about the full scope of this project. Residents deserve transparency. Critical issues such as land toxicity, traffic impact, and exact site boundaries should be disclosed openly, not piecemealed or hidden in technical reports. We request in writing, with legally binding assurance, that no crematorium will be constructed now or in the future on this site. Crematoriums introduce air quality concerns, odors, and further environmental risks. Residents must be guaranteed that this will not be allowed at any point. This proposal does not belong in a dense residential neighborhood. Until these issues are addressed with independent studies, open community forums, and binding assurances, We strongly urge the planning board to deny this project. Our neighborhood deserves protection, not increased risk. Thank you for your time. Diana

Communication from Public

Name: Bruce Schachne
Date Submitted: 09/26/2025 08:18 AM
Council File No: 00-9999

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember Blumenfield, My name is Bruce Schachne. I moved into my home on Boda Place in Woodland Hills in 1971, when I was a young child. I grew up in this house and attended both Hale Junior High School and El Camino Real High School, just a few blocks away. I'm writing to express my concerns about the proposed Dignity Memorial site, which borders our property and was formerly the Boething Treeland Nursery Company. When I was child, I was able to ride my bike to Hale, ECR High, to the nearby El Camino shopping center, without concerns for my safety. However, in the past decades, the volume of traffic in our neighborhood and the Valley Circle corridor has increased exponentially. Despite the redesign of the 101 freeway onramp at the end of Valley Circle several decades ago, there is now so much traffic throughout the day that cars back up onto Valley Circle from the freeway onramp, past the proposed Dignity Memorial site and sometimes all the way back to El Camino High School and even beyond to Burbank Avenue. Not only is there significant traffic, but there are also constant illegal driving maneuvers by drivers trying to get around the traffic, including reckless speeding and illegal u-turns at all times of the day (not just during rush hour). Unlike during my youth, when I was ticketed by LAPD on Valley Circle for riding my bike on the sidewalk, I rarely observe any police presence today. In short, the traffic directly surrounding the proposed cemetery site is an unsafe free-for-all which will only become more dangerous if the proposed facility is built there. Since school re-started in August, I've become even more concerned about traffic and no longer feel it's safe for my 11 year old daughter (a Hale student) to walk around our neighborhood. Valley Circle Boulevard and surrounding backstreets are dangerously congested during school drop-off and pick-up and rush hour. To bypass the Valley Circle traffic, many cars veer off up Mariano Street onto Wilhelmina Avenue, and then blow through the stop sign at the corner of Wilhelmina and Canzonet - situated just 50 feet across from the proposed cemetery site. The addition of the proposed facility raises serious safety concerns for pedestrians, especially children, and will likely worsen traffic congestion and traffic safety, will increase noise, and contribute to air pollution. The Dignity Memorial site would bring daily funeral processions. Based on

my research from publicly available sources, a typical procession includes: A hearse (~22 feet) Two funeral limousines (~24 feet each) Ten private vehicles (~15–17 feet each) Spacing between vehicles (~240 feet) This totals approximately 470–500 feet—about 1.5 city blocks—and could cause backups from the 101 Freeway Exit 29 (Mulholland Drive/Valley Circle Boulevard) all the way to El Camino Real High School, creating hazardous conditions for students and commuters. My family and I live on Boda Place off Canzonet Street at Valley Circle Boulevard, which is part of the Valley Circle Boulevard/Plummer Street Scenic Corridor Specific Plan. This Plan was established to preserve the area's scenic and rural character. This stretch of Valley Circle has non-standard features like minimal lighting, a bike lane, and wide shoulders, which heighten safety concerns during peak hours. The corridor is subject to special development standards within 1,500 feet of the right-of-way, including restrictions on grading, signage, and building placement. The zoning laws that potentially permit the building of the proposed facility were established in the past century, when this area was more rural than urban. It was a time when I could ride my bike everywhere and walk to the creek behind nearby Platt Ranch Elementary School and catch pollywogs. That world no longer exists - nor should the outdated zoning permission. I respectfully urge you to consider the impact this development will have on our neighborhood's safety, traffic flow, and environmental quality. I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to meet with you or a member of your staff to discuss these concerns in more detail and understand the review process for this proposal. I am aware that you have represented Woodland Hills (Los Angeles's 3rd Council District) since 2013, and I want to sincerely thank you for your years of service. I also read that you've endorsed Tim Gaspar, and I look forward to learning more about how he plans to continue your legacy of leadership and community advocacy. I am aware that you have engaged in legislative activity to protect various groups and causes over the years, including rodeo animals. I hope that you and the other council members will place even more priority on the safety and protection of long-time residents like me and my family as well as thousands of nearby school children. Thank you, Bruce Schachne Resident, Woodland Hills 5144 Boda Place, Woodland Hills, CA 91367 818-746-8828 Bschachne@gmail.com

Communication from Public

Name: Jill Dyck

Date Submitted: 09/25/2025 03:52 PM

Council File No: 00-9999

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose the building of a cemetery by Dignity Memorial on the Boething Treeland nursery site. The entire property is contaminated by their use of toxic chemicals while they have operated as a non-organic nursery for over 70 years. If this land is excavated in anyway, it would be a health hazard for all in the surrounding neighborhoods. This land should remain open space and be donated to a conservancy to be managed. That would be the best and safest outcome for the community. Doing this would also preserve the wildlife that exists on the property. There are nesting birds of prey, coyotes, bobcats, skunks, raccoons, and many more types of wildlife that will be able to have a healthy existence when this property is left as is. This land is not developable due to all the toxicity!!! Please make the right decision and do not allow it to be developed in any way! Thank you.