

**From:** [WestChicagoVoice](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Don](#)  
**Subject:** [External] West Chicago Waste Transfer Station  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 24, 2023 4:58:06 PM

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Dear Mr. Brown,

I am writing on behalf of my household to express our sincerest and deepest concerns about the proposed waste transfer station by Lakeshore Recycling in West Chicago, Illinois. I have been a resident my whole life and am very involved in the community- my husband and I recently founded the West Chicago Voice newspaper so I was in attendance at the hearing at city hall.

I am deeply concerned that the city council just went ahead and did what it wanted rather than listening to their constituents which seems to be an evolving pattern for the City of West Chicago.

Let me say, West Chicago has carried more than it's fair share of pollution and contamination and toxicity- when I was 16 years old in 1987 my best friend and I began the fight against Kerr McGee in West Chicago. The company inherited millions of cubic tons of thorium mill tailings in West Chicago from Lindsay Light and other predecessors. In the previous years, the waste had been used as landfill in and around west chicago- initially nobody knew of the health risks but once they did, Kerr McGee and the Nuclear Regulator Commission were totally fine with wanting to leave all of the radioactive waste in the middle of a neighborhood/residential areas populated by families schools, churches and two preschools. When my friend and I heard about their plan, even at 16 we knew this was not safe nor a good idea. We waged a battle against them, and with the help of many, the State of Illinois got jurisdiction over the waste, and eventually, it became a super fund site and we won, but this was NOT easy. It took decades, and thousands of people's time, effort, and money to battle an environmental disaster.

We should NOT have to be the only community in the county to take in all of the trash- we should not have to be the only town in the state to host two transfer stations! This is not logical, but based on our community's history, and the fact that we're lower income they think they can just come in and do what they want.

I am very very concerned about the health effects of all that garbage being airborne, and all the effects of all that added traffic. I'm also concerned that it will make our community unfairly be burdened with infrastructure damage and abuse with all those trucks. West Chicago had to get a grant from the state to repair and paint our water tower, we can not afford to take on the entire county's garbage traffic on our infrastructure!!

As I learned in that hearing at city hall, the recommendation from the consulting firm said that a second transfer station in that area is not compatible with residential life, nor the wildlife... yet a city employee went and filled out the application on behalf of LRS... which, in my opinion smacks of a conflict of interest.

The procedures were not followed properly and it is shameful for the city council of West Chicago to go ahead and decided they want it even though so many residents are against it.

WHY do we need to be the whipping boy? our community can't take much more. There HAS to be a better place to evenly distribute the trash/recycling and this type of operation. It is not fair to expect West Chicago to take this abuse on our health, infrastructure nor the future of our town

Please see the facts for what they are, this decision was predetermined even before the votes were cast. It's a good ol' boys arrangement and the city thinks it doesn't have to be accountable to the people that voted them into office in the first place.

Thank you for your time, please do the right thing and say NOT to the 2nd waste transfer station in West Chicago

Heather Niziolek

**Heather Niziolek**

Publisher / Editor-in-Chief



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