

## FAQ Sheet – Resolution #21148

By Sean Smith

There are numerous studies citing the health implications of living near landfill locations. In doing my own research I wanted to share with you some of the most profound findings that I came across. Areas in South Africa were seeing significant growth in the number of landfills being established. Between 2008 and 2015, the number of landfills in sub-Saharan Africa was observed in correlation with the status of the physical health of the 32,000 individuals living in close proximity to landfill sites. Results showed that the closer a population lived to a landfill, the increased health risks for asthma, diabetes, tuberculosis, and depression. (Tomita, Andrew & Slotow, Rob. “South African study highlights growing number of landfill sites, and health risks.” The Conversation. Published July 9, 2020. [South African study highlights growing number of landfill sites, and health risks \(theconversation.com\)](https://theconversation.com/south-african-study-highlights-growing-number-of-landfill-sites-and-health-risks).) In addition to the physical health of residents living nearby, we also have to consider the health of the environment. Simply put, every landfill will eventually leak. While there are many ways the environment can be negatively impacted by dumping stations, the most concerning to me is the fact that landfills leak. Leachate is the water that is formed when rainwater cycles through the trash and collects at the bottom of the landfill. Leachate makes its way into the groundwater and ground soil through the wear and tear of the drainage system. Leachate also evaporates into the air polluting surrounding oxygen and further contaminating the rainwater system. (Pecci, Kristi. “All Landfills Leak, and Our Health and Environment Pay the Toxic Price.” Conservation Law Foundation. Published July 23, 2018). [All Landfills Leak, and Our Health and Environment Pay the Toxic Price - Conservation Law Foundation \(clf.org\)](https://www.clf.org/all-landfills-leak-and-our-health-and-environment-pay-the-toxic-price).)

Attached, Image 1 & Image 2 illustrate the economic implications of landfills in correlation to property values. Keller Williams Platinum Real Estate requires that buyers and sellers sign a disclosure if involved in a property transaction within 5 miles of a landfill. Image 1 gives you a visual of what that 5 miles looks like for this proposed landfill location. Image 2 shows the dramatic decline in home values since a local landfill was built.

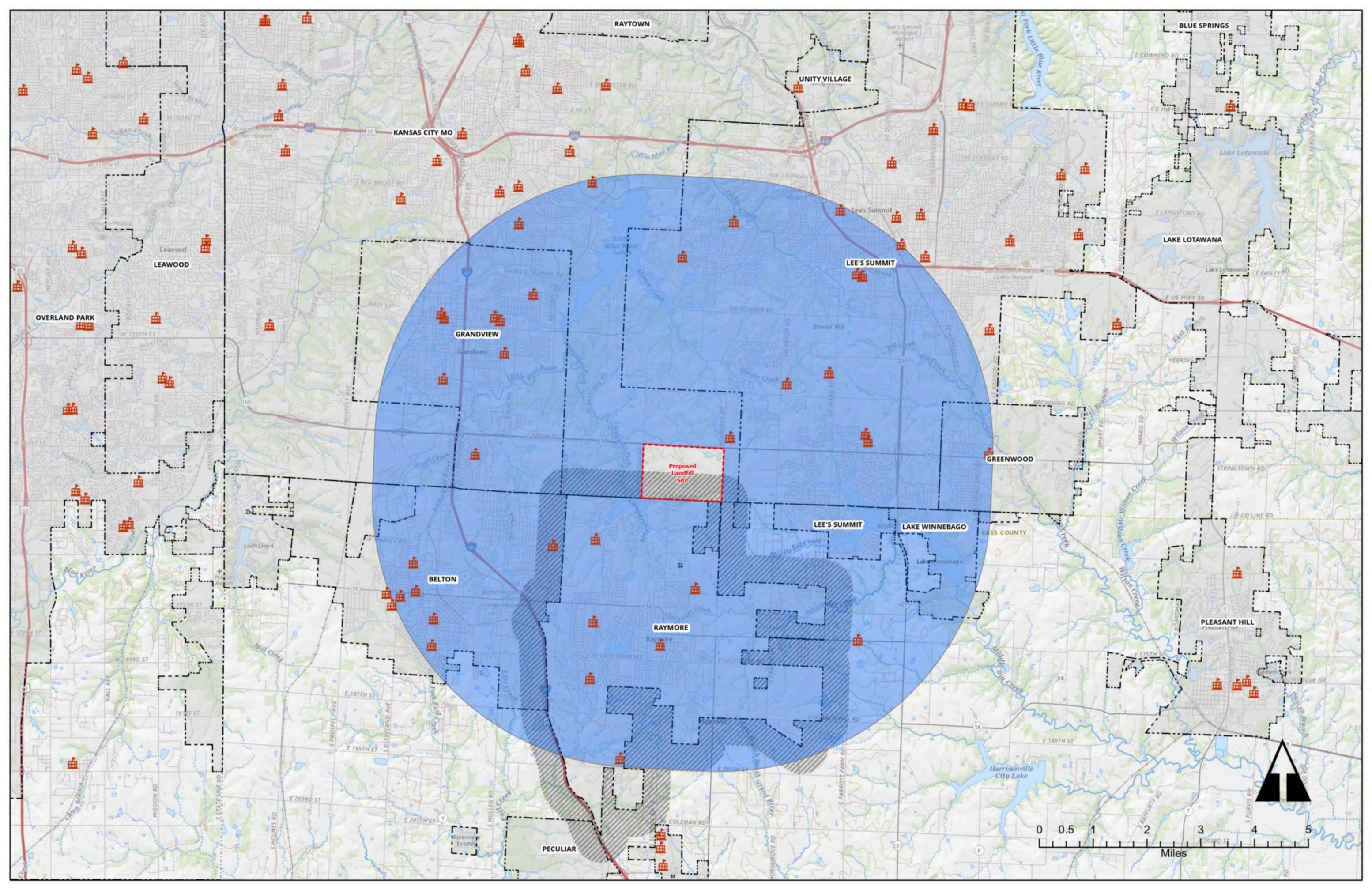
Lee’s Summit, Grandview and Raymore municipalities have submitted resolutions in opposition to this landfill.

At a state level, HB 909 passed unanimously out of the local government committee

Congressmen Alford and Cleaver released the following joint statement; “This landfill proposal undermines the voice and representation of the residents of Cass & Jackson Counties who stand opposed to this landfill and we’ve listened to their concerns. This proposal would have a negative impact on the local economy—impacting development of this community for years to come. We join together, listening to the overwhelming majority of these communities and their local officials, and stand in opposition of this landfill proposal.”

This landfill location is in extreme close proximity to vital assets of Jackson County, Longview Lake Park and Summit Pointe Elementary. It is our duty to protect the integrity of our schools as well as our park amenities.

My office alone has received **hundreds of emails** in less than a month’s time on this issue. This has been the top priority of constituents reaching out to my office. Email communication on this topic is available upon request with my office aide.



Proposed Landfill Site



# Financial Impact on Community (Average Home Prices)

