

**RESOLUTION NO. 5 0 5 0**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUBURN, WASHINGTON, SEEKING TO PROTECT THE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND ECONOMIC WELL - BEING OF LOCAL CITIZENS AND AUBURN'S DRINKING WATER SUPPLY AND NATURAL RESOURCES FROM THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF INCREASED CRUDE OIL RAIL TRAFFIC PASSING THROUGH THE CITY OF AUBURN

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Auburn, Washington is committed to the protection of its citizens, as well as the natural resources on which the City depends; and

WHEREAS, rail infrastructure in Western Washington runs through and across property on which the City depends for its source of drinking water; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is concerned about the potential impacts on public safety and economic disruption from a possible derailment and spill of crude oil as trains run through Auburn and the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) issued a major safety alert on January 2, 2014, declaring that oil obtained in the Bakken Shale is more explosive; and

WHEREAS, on July 6, 2013, a train carrying crude oil derailed in Lac Megantic, Quebec killing over 40 people, destroying thirty buildings, and requiring the evacuation of over 1,000 people; and

WHEREAS, on December 30, 2013 a train carrying crude oil derailed in Casselton, North Dakota causing violent explosions and a hazardous plume of smoke; and

WHEREAS, On January 7, 2014 a train carrying crude oil derailed in New Brunswick; and

WHEREAS, on December 24, 1991 a train derailed dropping a freight car 80 feet onto an interstate highway just west of downtown Spokane, Washington, above Latah Creek; and

WHEREAS, State of Washington and King County officials are starting to review three new oil-terminal projects that could bring millions of gallons of crude oil a day through the state, the largest of which is proposed to be at the Port of Vancouver and could handle as much as 380,000 barrels of crude oil per day.

NOW THEREFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUBURN, WASHINGTON HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Auburn City Council strongly requests the potential impacts to Auburn's public safety, water resources, environment, economy, and traffic be studied by the agencies conducting all environmental reviews and request that Auburn be included in any environmental impact statements pertaining to any project that may cause increase in associated oil rail traffic travelling through Auburn.

2. The Auburn City Council supports the creation of clear Federal guidelines for tracking the chemical composition of transported fuels so that local governments, citizens and first responders can better understand and plan for the risks associated with the specific type of fuel flowing through or to their communities.

3. The Auburn City Council requests that the Federal Government immediately implement safety regulations regarding older tank cars, train speeds, and other identified hazards associated with flammable crude oil.

4. The Auburn City Council urges the Washington State Legislature to adopt legislation promoting rail safety especially along transportation routes used in the transport of oil; and calls for the Washington State to coordinate state/governmental agencies to study rail-related safety preparedness and capacity to respond to an accident involving railcars transporting oil.

5. The Mayor is authorized to implement such administrative procedures as may be necessary to carry out the directives of this legislation, including reviewing and commenting on the public emergency response and evacuation plans in the case of a derailment of an oil train.

6. This Resolution shall take effect and be in full force upon passage and signatures hereon.

Dated and Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

CITY OF AUBURN

\_\_\_\_\_  
NANCY BACKUS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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Danielle E. Daskam, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Daniel B. Heid, City Attorney