

## IMPACT STATEMENT

**Legislation title:** Adopt a policy opposing all project proposals that would increase the amount of crude oil being transported by rail through the City of Portland and the City of Vancouver, Washington (Resolution)

**Contact name:** Cristina Nieves

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**Presenter name:** Regna Merrit, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility

**Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:**

Oil-by-rail projects have the potential to cause serious issues related to health, safety, and the environment. There is currently a proposal to build a massive oil terminal in the City of Vancouver, WA. If approved, the oil terminal would handle about 360,000 barrels of crude oil per day. Vancouver's City Council voted to oppose all project proposals that would increase amount of crude oil being transported through Clark County, and allows the City Attorney's office of Vancouver to intervene in the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC). EFSEC will make a final recommendation on the project proposal to Governor Inslee, who is the final decision maker.

The intention of the City of Portland's resolution is to stand in solidarity with the City of Vancouver, WA, and to also oppose all project proposals that would increase the amount of crude oil being transported by rail through Portland.

**Financial and budgetary impacts:**

This resolution will not have a direct financial impact on the City.

**Community impacts and community involvement:**

This resolution was inspired by advocates in the community who are concerned with the dangers to health, safety, and the environment caused by oil-by-rail projects. Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility, Columbia Riverkeeper, and Friends of the Columbia Gorge were the main organizations involved in the creation of the resolution.

**Budgetary Impact Worksheet**

**Does this action change appropriations?**

- YES:** Please complete the information below.
- NO:** Skip this section

| Fund | Fund Center | Commitment Item | Functional Area | Funded Program | Grant | Sponsored Program | Amount |
|------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-------|-------------------|--------|
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37164

Novick  
Amendment #1  
Passed.

November 4, 2015

City Council Item #1156

Additions in underline; deletions in strikethrough.

Novick Amendment 1, page 1

Amend the third WHEREAS clause as follows:

✓  
WHEREAS, serious risks are caused by oil-by-rail projects including but not limited to delayed emergency vehicles, ~~adverse health impacts of train noise~~, oil fires, oil spills, oil explosions resulting from train derailments, increased air pollution, increased water pollution, and contributions to climate disruption-induced injury and disease.

37164

November 4, 2015

City Council Item #1156

Additions in underline; deletions in strikethrough.

Novick  
Amendment #2  
FAILED

Novick Amendment 2, page 3

Amend the first BE IT RESOLVED clause as follows:

✓ NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Portland opposes oil-by-rail transportation through and within the City of Portland and the City of Vancouver, WA unless and until transport by rail is demonstrated to be as safe, and carries the same level of environmental risk, as transport by tanker ship and pipeline.

NF 2nd