

CSX Tanker Issues – 2021 (Updated December 2021)

- Multiple visits to Railroad Avenue 15th -19th of February
- February 19, 2021 - Vice Mayor Frye sends photograph of more than a dozen hazardous material tankers cars parked on rails.
- February 20, 2021 - Taft Coghill (FLS) article posted Interviewed Vice Mayor Frye and City Manager.
- February 22,2021 - City Management drafts Council Resolution – for Council Consideration.
- February 23, 2021 - Resolution unanimously approved by Council, forwarded to CSX – demands removal NOW. City Manager commits to daily visits to Railroad Avenue by City Fire Marshal – with weekly reporting to City Management weekly.
- Council requests copy of Resolution be sent to Federal Delegation.
- CSX invited to brief Council, conflict prevents meeting attendance but letter is received from CSX. Letter read into record at Council Regular meeting, CSX offers to brief neighborhood representatives. (CSX Letter to Council)
- February 24, 2021 - Fire Marshal begins daily visits to Railroad Avenue.
- February 26, 2021 - Received call from Federal Railway Administration’s Mark Maday, Staff Director/Enforcement Officer for the transportation of hazardous waste material by railway.
- Chief Jones, City of Fredericksburg Fire Chief, reports to City Manager that he received a call from Mr. Maday as well – and they plan to meet on Monday (March 1st). City Manager invites himself to this meeting.
- City Manager sends Resolution to Federal and State Delegation and invites them to an onsite meeting to witness concerns. (US Senators Kaine and Warner, US Congressman Wittman, Senator Bryce Reeves, Delegates Cole and Cole). Date for meeting on site is set for March 5, 2021. (Site Visit Invite)
- March 1, 2021, meeting with Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) at Railroad Avenue occurs. FRA commits to review further. Mr. Maday is invited to join March 5, 2021, meeting with Delegation.
- March 5, 2021 – meeting on Railroad Avenue occurs at 3:00 p.m. Mayor Greenlaw, Vice Mayor Frye, Senator Reeves, Delegate Mark Cole, Delegate Joshua Cole are present, and US Senators Kaine and Warner, and US Congressman Wittman’s offices are represented. Meeting participants see no cars on tracks, but were handed log indicating a total of 53 hazardous material tanker cars have been parked for varying periods of time from February 24 to March 5th. Visuals were also distributed showing many hazardous material tanker cars on February 19th, and a GIS visual highlighting the approximately 130 feet distance from rail storage tracks to City of Fredericksburg resident homes. (Visuals)

- March 7, 2021 – After some research, City Manager phones NGL Supply Co., Ltd. the owner of the Midland Terminal Company in Caroline County, Virginia. This company is largely responsible for the hazardous tanker car issues being seen at the CSX railyard in the City of Fredericksburg. Company President is forwarded Council Resolution and FLS articles.
- March 9, 2021 – Vice Mayor Frye adds “CSX” to Council Agenda for discussion at the Regular Council meeting, and shares his frustration with ongoing issues related to hazardous material storage issues at the CSX railyard. Mr. Randy Marcus (CSX) is asked to update on matters after Vice Mayor Frye’s remarks. He reiterates points from earlier February 23, 2021 CSX letter about being compliant with federal law, and states that this use (Milford Terminal) is seasonal and remains heavier in the winter months with high demands for propane for heating purposes. Again states his willingness to address neighborhood representatives. City Manager is asked to talk next steps: 1) Continued Fire Marshal daily visits 2) Pursuit of NGL dialogue 3) A near term meeting with CSX and neighborhood representatives.
- March 10, 2021 – City receives written response from NGL Supply Company, Ltd. City Manager shares communication with Council, and asks NGL President for a phone conversation – attempted but not yet accomplished. (Letter from NGL Supply Terminals)
- March 12, 2021 – Mayor Greenlaw meets with US Senator Kaine personally on this matter. (He is in the City for other matters.)
- Second log received from Fire Marshal. In addition to daily visits, a City public safety mobile camera may be installed temporarily to enable monitoring of hazardous tanker cars 24 hours a day.
- CSX commits to meeting with neighborhood representative as early as March 19th. Logistics being discussed.
- Invitation to be with NAACP is accepted by Mayor Greenlaw and Vice Mayor Frye – meeting to be held on March 15, 2021.
 - CSX commits to generally offering a monthly written update.
 - Summer 2021 CSX provides Fire Chief access to software that offers real time data on tankers. Weekly log continues to be posted to City website.
 - August 19, 2021, City organizes two community meeting on rail safety – one at Mayfield Community Center and one at Dorothy Hart Community Center (September 9, 2021). Federal Delegation is invited to these meeting.
 - October 2021 - City coordinates all hands on hazardous training exercises with CSX, Spotsylvania County also participates.
 - October 2021, after highlighted at FAMPO, City engages with Ms. Emily Stock (On October 20, 2021) – Chief of Rrail Transportation at Virginia’s Department of Rail and Public Transportation. Follow on is promised.

- City, as year ends, communicates with CSX on December 3rd. It is communicated that after gathering data most of the calendar year, it is clear that propane is indeed being “stored” in Fredericksburg. City asks for meeting with CSX and DRPT.
- Issues related to locomotive refueling brought to the City on December 21, 2021.

