



PRESS ALERT
CITY OF GRETNA
For Immediate Release

June, 3rd 2019


For further information, contact:
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OFFICIALS OPPOSE RAIL EXPANSION IN GRETNA

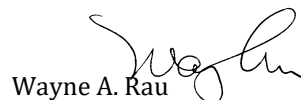
The City of Gretna is opposed to plans of New Orleans and Gulf Coast Railway Company (NOGC) to acquire property and build additional rail to support transmission of crude oil. In an effort to keep residents accurately informed about this ongoing issue, we want to clarify our concerns with NOGC’s proposed plans for rail expansion activity in the City. The following details summarize the proposal and City’s concerns:


- The City has serious concerns regarding the public health and safety impacts of transporting crude oil on existing and proposed rail alignments, recognizing that the existing street running conditions, limited buffers and number of at-grade, unprotected crossings cannot handle the anticipated train volume or cargo. Additionally, the City has serious concerns regarding disruptions to emergency services response and insufficient capacity to respond to potential events involving crude oil.
- The New Orleans and Gulf Coast Railway Co. (NOGC) is proposing an expansion of track – see attached map.
- NOGC does not plan to abandon the Madison Street sections of track or any of the Gouldsboro switching yard.
- NOGC intends to use the new section of track to accommodate six additional unit trains (100 cars per train, three in each direction) per week.
- On Friday, May 17th 13 grain cars derailed in Gretna – the City was never formally alerted by NOGC regarding the derailment.
- The City is actively exploring all legal and regulatory options to stop the rail expansion and transmission of crude oil.
- The City continues to support the preferred realignment along Peters Road identified in the recently completed LA 23 Rail Relocation Environmental Assessment.


We feel that the proposed new track and transmission of crude oil reflect a blatant disregard by NOGC for the citizens of Gretna. For the latest information, please continue to attend City Council meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm and any special public meetings held on this topic.



Belinda C. Constant
Mayor



Arthur S. Lawson, Jr.
Chief of Police


Wayne A. Rau
Councilman-at-Large


Milton L. Crosby
Councilman, District 1


Michael A. Hinyub
Councilman, District 2


Mark K. Miller
Councilman, District 3


Jackie J. Berthelot
Councilman, District 4



CONCEPTUAL PLANS ONLY



PRELIMINARY PLANS ONLY
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION



<small>PROJECT</small> Planning NOGC's Mainline Proposed General Construction Proposed Streetcar Extension	<small>DRAWN BY</small> MWM
<small>CHECKED BY</small> RHC	<small>DATE</small> 02/04/2019
<small>SHEET NUMBER</small> 1 of 1	<small>PROJECT & SHEET NAME</small> Near Gretna, Jefferson Parish & Algiers, Orleans Parish Proposed Connection Between the Westwego and Belle Chasse Subdivisions to Divert Traffic from Gouldsboro Yard

New Orleans & Gulf Coast Railway