

GoTriangle – Durham Orange Light Rail



How Do I Submit Comments?

- Written Comments: Complete and submit this form.
- Electronic Comments: Submit comments by visiting www.lightrailonline.com.

Comments:

— This comment relates to the Durham/Orange County (NC) Light Rail project.
— I object to the planned Farrington Road ROMF facility because it poses health and safety
— hazards for the surrounding communities and the adjacent elementary school.
— The residents of the communities surrounding the ROMF, proposed to be located at the
— intersection of Farrington and Ephesus Church Roads in Durham County, inquired about
— the use of the term “controlled fluids” in the Consolidated Staff Report from the Durham/
— Durham County Planning Commission on October 9, 2018.
— We requested a complete list of these so-called “controlled fluids”, the amounts of each
— and how they were to be stored. This request was made on November 7, 2018, at a
— meeting of concerned residents with GoTriangle representatives, including John
— Talmadge, Interim Project Director of the D-O LRT project. He agreed to obtain that
— information but it did not arrive until late November 12, 2018. (He stated that it had to be
— obtained from other ROMF’s, since the proposed one wasn’t in operation.) Upon
— examination of this 4-page list of chemicals, fluids and waste, several notable issues
— were raised.
— 1) The large volumes of lubricants and cleaning fluids required in the ROMF include
— hydraulic fluids (55 gal.), gear, chassis and various other greases (1550 gal), windshield
— wiper fluid (60 gal.), and ammonia (192 gal.).
— 2) While many of these are used in smaller volumes routinely in auto repair garages or
— automobile agencies), the large volumes of any one of these listed fluids or chemicals
— represent a potential threat to the surrounding community, either as potential explosives
— or substances toxic to humans. For example, windshield wiper fluid contains both
— methanol and ethylene glycol, both of which are lethal upon ingestion and methanol is
— toxic even when volatilized. The volatility, toxicity and explosive nature of ammonia is
— well-known; its solution in water produces caustic ammonium hydroxide.
— 3) There has been no discussion with the surrounding neighborhood, nor any apparent
— consideration, of how these materials will be stored or disposed of in a safe and timely
— manner.
— 4) First responders and firefighters would have to be trained in the special control of
— any disaster in this facility due to these various chemicals.
— It is inappropriate that such large quantities of potentially explosive and toxic materials
— would be stored in the immediate vicinity of a number of residential communities, as well
— as the 900-student Creekside Elementary School, which is 352 yards away from the
— potential site.

Date: Nov-17, 2018

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Please fold, fasten with tape and mail. No envelope necessary. Do not staple.

Place
Stamp
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