

No Toxic Travel on the Streets

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Editor: I'm glad that the truck driver in East Baltimore saw the leak in his tank truck when he was on Boston Street. He was headed straight for a combined commercial and residential area on Fleet Street, where I live. Five more minutes, and he would have dumped an acid anhydride on my front steps. We were all very, very fortunate. This time, anyway.

This incident could serve as a very cheap lesson for the powers that be in this town, if they are willing to learn from it. It is bad enough that the residents of Fleet

and Aliceanna streets have to endure the torments of heavy trucks careening past their homes at all hours without their property and lives being endangered by toxic or flammable materials.

There is simply no substitute for banning the transport of toxic substances through residential areas, and I urge the city council to do so immediately, before we have a real crisis on our hands. I don't want to live in the Chernobyl of Maryland.

Michael T. Banta,
Baltimore.