



Diane N. Tradd  
*Assistant City Manager/DPD Director*

R. Eric Slagle  
*Director of Development Services*

David Fuller  
*Building Commissioner*

TO: Eileen Donoghue, City Manager *EMD*  
FROM: R. Eric Slagle, Director of Development Services  
DATE: December 13, 2018  
RE: Motion by C. Leahy - Req. City Mgr. Investigate the Reasons for Idling Trains in the Lawrence St. Area.

This memorandum addresses the request from Councilor Leahy regarding idling trains in the Lawrence St. area.

After outreach from Asst. City Manager Kara Keefe-Mullin, Pan Am agreed to a meeting with the City on various issues, including the reports of 'idling' of trains on Pan Am tracks near Lawrence St. On November 29, 2018, City staff met with Pan AM. At the meeting, Pan Am explained that the parking of trains for less than 4 hours was not considered idling of trains. These trains in the Lawrence St. area are parked for a process where one train crew leaves the train and another train crew is brought to the tracks via taxi to take over the train. There are requirements for this process which involve having safe and reasonable access to the tracks close to a location where access to taxi service is possible. During this process, Pan Am cannot have the trains shut off as that would require a complete safety check to restart the trains, including every car and connection, which can take upwards of 6 hours.

As a result of the meeting, Pan Am indicated that they would review the locations of the parked trains to see if there was a location where the train crew could safely and quickly access the locomotives in an area without residential homes adjacent to the tracks. However, they indicated that they were not aware of any locations close by that would be suitable. Additionally, if we have reports of trains parked and running for more than 4 hours, we can reach back out to Pan Am.

ES

12/13/2018