

**City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report**

Meeting Date: 03/09/15		Item Number: <u>A-2</u>	
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of the Adoption of a Resolution which Supports the Los Angeles Air Force Base and Opposes any Relocation Attempt of the Space and Missile Systems Center.			
Contact Person/Dept.: Shelly Wolfberg		Phone Number: (310) 253-6008	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☐ No ☒		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒	Attachments: ☒
Commission Action Required: Yes ☐ No ☒		Date: _____	
Public Notification: Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation-SoCal Jobs Defense Council; Agenda and Meetings – City Council (E-Mail) (03/03/15)			
Department Approval: Martin R. Cole (03/03/15)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (03/02/15)	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by M. Noller) (03/03/15)		City Manager Approval: John M. Nachbar (03/03/15)	

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends City Council consider adoption of a Resolution which supports the Los Angeles Air Force Base (LAAFB) and opposes any relocation attempt of the Space and Missile Systems Center (SMC).

BACKGROUND:

At the January 26, 2015 City Council Meeting, Vice Mayor O’Leary received the City Council’s consensus to direct the City Manager to place this item on a future agenda.

DISCUSSION:

President Obama has recently proposed in his budget that there be a new round of Base Realignments and Closures (BRAC). The LAAFB and SMC, located in El Segundo, may be under consideration for potential realignment and closure for the 2015 or 2017 closure periods.

Jointly, it is estimated that these facilities directly employ over 5,800 military, civilian, and contract workers and indirectly employ an additional 11,800 Los Angeles County residents. The Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation has conveyed the following reasons why the SMC’s location in the Los Angeles region is critical to national defense:

City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report

- 1) The LAAFB's location in the most populated county in the nation and on the Pacific Rim is of strategic geopolitical importance to our national defense and is also relied on heavily due to this location by other military commands throughout the state as well as the nation.
- 2) Los Angeles County remains the top location for aerospace and defense in the nation—home to major prime contractor operations, such as Northrop, Lockheed, Boeing, Raytheon, and Honeywell, as well as more smaller and mid-sized companies in the aerospace and defense supply chain than any other location in the nation.
- 3) Los Angeles County's institutions of higher learning also graduate more engineers than anywhere else in the nation and have developed sophisticated programs at community colleges and universities to meet the needs of our Nation's aerospace and defense industries well into the future.
- 4) Both the proximity to a significantly large system of aerospace and defense companies coupled with an unmatched skilled workforce to support this system provides LAAFB with unparalleled built-in benefits to advance its mission.
- 5) Given the diversity of workforce employed at SMC (with military as well as civilian employees and contractors) and the lifestyle many of the civilian and contractor employees have grown accustomed to in the Los Angeles Region, any relocation attempt with SMC would trigger a disruption and risk at a time when SMC's role in our national defense could not be more important.

Dating back 10 years, at the February 14, 2005 City Council Meeting, the City Council discussed the closure of LAAFB as part of the 2005 BRAC process. At that meeting, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2005-R004: supporting the retention of the Los Angeles Air Force Base.

On February 3, 2015, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to approve the following recommendation, as submitted by Supervisor Don Knabe:

“Send a five-signature letter to Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel and Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James expressing the Board's firm support of the Los Angeles Air Force Base and stating that any relocation attempt of the Space and Missile Systems Center would be detrimental to national defense and the mission of the Los Angeles Air Force Base; and

City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report

send a five-signature letter to the Mayors of the County's eighty-eight cities encouraging them to pass resolutions in support of the Los Angeles Air Force Base and the Space and Missile Systems Center to the Secretaries of Defense and the Air Force."

On February 6, 2015, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors sent a letter to Mayor Sahli-Wells requesting similar support for the LAAFB and SMC from the City Council. The League of California Cities' Los Angeles Division has indicated its support, and the City Councils of the Cities of Cerritos; El Segundo; Hawaiian Gardens; Hawthorne; Lomita; and Palos Verdes Estates have also voted in support for this effort. On February 10th, the Los Angeles City Council referred a Resolution on this issue to its Rules, Elections and Intergovernmental Relations Committee. Tonight, the City Council has an opportunity to consider a proposed Resolution in support of LAAFB and which opposes any relocation attempt of the Space and Missile Systems Center.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

There is no fiscal impact to support the attached resolution.

ATTACHMENT:

1. Letter from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, February 6, 2015.
2. Proposed Resolution.

MOTIONS:

That the City Council:

- 1.A. Adopt a resolution supporting the Los Angeles Air Force Base and opposing any relocation attempt of the Space and Missile Systems Center and direct staff to forward letters in opposition to the closure of LAAFB and SMC;

OR

- 1.B. Provide other direction as deemed appropriate.