



CITY of NORFOLK

Office of the Mayor

Paul D. Fraim
Mayor

July 27, 2005

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi
Chairman
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RE: Naval Air Station Oceana

Dear Chairman Principi:

On behalf of the Norfolk City Council, I write to voice our unanimous and unequivocal support for retaining NAS Oceana as a U.S. Navy Master Jet Base.

Hampton Roads offers unparalleled quality of life for service members and their families. Its world-class recreational features, educational and spousal employment opportunities, state-of-the-art medical facilities, mild climate and moderate cost of living make Hampton Roads a favorite duty assignment and retirement location.

NAS Oceana's co-location with the major Atlantic Fleet home port facilitates squadron movements, to and from aircraft carriers, allows the 10,000 military and civilian personnel access to numerous Navy schools and training activities without leaving home, and provides ample opportunities for sea/shore duty rotations within the Hampton Roads region. These advantages save money while enhancing morale and retention.

Recent testimony by Secretary England and Vice Admiral Willard stated that encroachment of NAS Oceana is manageable and does not significantly impact the Navy's ability to operate and provide realistic training at NAS Oceana. As I mentioned in my letter to you on July 18th, over the past 18 months, the cities of Virginia Beach, Norfolk and Chesapeake, along with the Navy and the US Office of Economic Adjustment, completed a Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) that proactively addresses any encroachment issues that may have previously existed and will allow the base to retain its military value. The three cities worked collaboratively on the JLUS Report, and each City Council adopted by resolution their support and commitment to the recommendations in the report. Our Council's resolution in support of the JLUS is attached.

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi

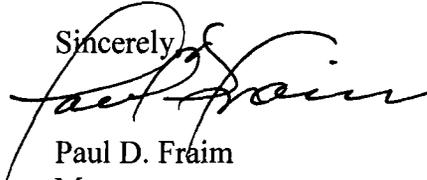
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In light of Oceana's exceptional advantages and military value, we urge you to support the Secretary of Defense and U.S. Navy position on NAS Oceana.

Thank you for your consideration and the work of your Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul D. Fraim". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and "F".

Paul D. Fraim
Mayor

Attachment

cc: Governor Mark Warner
City of Virginia Beach City Council
Norfolk City Council
Norfolk City manager
Art Collins, Hampton Roads Planning District commission

Form and Correctness Approved:

Contents Approved:

[Signature]
Office of the City Attorney

By _____
DEPT. _____

[Signature]

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

Resolution 1,276

R-10

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE REPORT OF THE JOINT LAND USE STUDY IN WHICH THE CITY PARTICIPATED WITH THE CITIES OF CHESAPEAKE AND VIRGINIA BEACH, AND WITH THE UNITED STATES NAVY AND THE HAMPTON ROADS PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION.

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WHEREAS, by ordinance number 41,331 adopted on February 24, 2004, the City Council authorized the City's participation in a Joint Land Use Study initiated and coordinated by the Office of Economic Adjustment of the Department of Defense, with the participation also of the Navy, the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission and the cities of Chesapeake and Virginia Beach; and

WHEREAS, a final Joint Land Use Study report was issued in March 2005; and

WHEREAS, the report includes recommendations for the adoption of regional goals and local policies intended to promote cooperative and compatible land use planning, to minimize the impact of military operations in proximity of naval air force bases, to prevent land use that would interfere with operations of the United States Navy and to increase citizen awareness of the impact of these operations; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that the findings and recommendations contained in the report will help protect the public health, safety and welfare of our citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Norfolk:

Section 1:- That the Council approves the final report of the Joint Land Use Study.

Section 2:- That this resolution shall be in effect from and after its adoption.

Adopted by Council May 17, 2005
Effective May 17, 2005

TRUE COPY
TESTE:

R. BRECKENRIDGE DAUGHTREY, CITY CLERK

BY: _____
DEPUTY CITY CLERK