



TOWNSHIP of HOWELL

251 Preventorium Road
Post Office Box 580
Howell, New Jersey 07731-0580

(732) 938-4500
FAX (732) 938-4818

BRAC Commission

website: www.twp.howell.nj.us

AUG 22 2005

August 17, 2005

Received

The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

RE: Resolution Opposing the Closure of Fort Monmouth

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld:

Enclosed you will find a certified copy of the Resolution adopted by the Township Council at their meeting of August 16, 2005 wherein the governing body opposed the closing of Fort Monmouth as proposed by the United States Department of Defense.

Should you have any questions or if I can be of any further assistance to you, please let me know.

Very truly yours,

Bruce Davis
Township Clerk
Township of Howell

BD/paw
Attachment

cc: Base Realignment & Closure Commission
2521 S. Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Mr(s). Lucey offered the following Resolution for adoption seconded by Mr(s). Schomaker

Resolution No. R-05-314

RESOLUTION

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOWELL
OPPOSING THE CLOSING OF FORT MONMOUTH AS PROPOSED BY THE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2005, the Department of Defense announced that it was recommending the closure of more than 30 major military bases in the United States, including Fort Monmouth; and

WHEREAS, Fort Monmouth, which has been in service since 1917, is the largest employer in Monmouth County, with over 5,000 military and civilian personnel; and

WHEREAS, Fort Monmouth contributes \$3 billion to the local and State economies and its closure would not only put thousands of people out of work, but would also have a devastating impact on local businesses; and

WHEREAS, Fort Monmouth, which is the home to the Army's Communications and Electronics Command has long been at the forefront of developing state-of-the-art battlefield technology including many devices currently being used by our troops in Afghanistan and Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Fort Monmouth's contributions to the war in Iraq include electronic jamming devices to interfere with the detonation of roadside bombs, airborne sensors to provide troops with radar images of both stationary and moving targets and fielding systems to locate enemy artillery pieces and prevent friendly fire casualties; and

WHEREAS, the relocation of the Army's Communications and Electronics Command to another base would disrupt this vital and time sensitive research and development program; and

WHEREAS, long before the actual close of Fort Monmouth, should the closure take place, members of this vital research and development team who do not intend to make a move may seek other employment opportunities; and

WHEREAS, keeping Fort Monmouth open is not only vital to the economy of the State and the County, but also to our nation's efforts in Iraq and the war on terror.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Howell as follows:

1. That the Township Council of the Township of Howell hereby opposes the closure of Fort Monmouth and urges the United States Department of Defense to reconsider its recommendation of closure.

2. That upon the adoption of the within resolution, the Clerk is authorized to forward a duly-authenticated copy of it to the Secretary of Defense, the Base Realignment and Closure Commission and all Monmouth County Municipalities.

VOTE: **AYES** **NAYS** **ABSTAIN** **ABSENT** **DISQUALIFY**

Mr. Lucey	X
Mr. Malave	X
Mr. Tobasco	X
Mrs. Schomaker	X
Mayor DiBella	X

This is to certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Township Council of the Township of Howell during a regular meeting held on August 16, 2005.



BRUCE DAVIS, TOWNSHIP CLERK