

B.R.A.C. Commission

AUG 08 2005

"A Historic Past" Received



"A Bright Future"

Mayor
Cordelia W. Bennett
Vice Mayor
James A. Parker
Councilmembers
Rebecca Keifer
Paul L. Parets
Ronald R. Graham II
Edward H. Davis

THE CITY OF DELAWARE CITY

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City Manager
Paul H. Morrill, Jr.
Chief of Police
Daniel A. Tjaden
City Solicitor
Daniel R. Losco
City Treasurer
Kathleen M. Walls
City Secretary
Leah Beets

July 20, 2005

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

RE: Support of the Delaware Air National Guard

To the Honorable Principi:

As Mayor of the City of Delaware City, I strongly urge the federal B.R.A.C. to reconsider its recommendation for the closure and/or realignment of the Delaware National Guard Base at the New Castle County Airport. The realignment would result in a direct economic loss of over \$28.7 million annually for civilian, fulltime military, and Guard military positions. It would also be a financial detriment to the surrounding businesses. The transfer of Base firefighters would create serious voids in fire service and safety in the area.

The realignment and/or closure of the Delaware Air National Guard would have a negative economic and social impact on the public welfare, safety, and standard of living for the citizens and workforce of New Castle County. Once again, I strongly recommend that you reconsider your recommendation for the closure and/or realignment of the Delaware National Guard Base.

Sincerely,

Cordelia W. Bennett
Mayor, City of Delaware City

CWB/kc

**CITY OF NEWARK
DELAWARE**

RESOLUTION NO. 05-V

**URGING THE FEDERAL BASE REALIGNMENT AND
CLOSURE COMMISSION TO REMOVE THE DELAWARE
NATIONAL GUARD BASE LOCATED IN NEW CASTLE COUNTY
FROM CLOSURE CONSIDERATION**

WHEREAS, the Delaware National Guard Base in New Castle County is under consideration for closure and/or realignment; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Base Realignment and Closure Commission has recommended that the New Castle County Air National Guard Base be realigned which would result in a loss of all currently possessed aircraft, 47 full-time military personnel, 101 full-time civilian personnel, 485 Guard military positions, and the relocation of 39 firefighters; and

WHEREAS, a realignment would result in a direct economic loss of over \$28.7 million annually for civilian, full-time military, and Guard military positions, as well as operations and maintenance expenditures; and

WHEREAS, the Base is an integral component of the local economy and its closure would have a direct financial impact on an assortment of businesses surrounding the Base who rely heavily on services provided to Base personnel and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, a serious void in fire service delivery in New Castle County would result in the transfer of Base firefighters, as well as adversely impact the Federal Aviation Administration's rating allowing commercial air service at the New Castle County Airport, thereby creating significant safety risks for the County in the event of natural or other disasters; and

WHEREAS, the realignment and/or closure of the Base would have a considerable negative economic and social impact on the public welfare, safety and standard of living of the citizens and workforce of New Castle County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Newark hereby strongly urges the Federal Base Realignment and Closure Commission to reconsider the closure and/or realignment of the Delaware National Guard Base located at the New Castle County Airport.

RESOLVED at a Regularly Scheduled Meeting on July 25, 2005.

VOTE: 5 to 0.

Nancy A. Turk III

Mayor

Attest:

Diana G. Zamboni

City Secretary