

Mayor
GERALD J. TARANTOLO

Council

THEODORE F. LEWIS, JR., President
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Phone: (732) 389-7600
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June 21, 2005



06232005

Chairman of the BRAC Commission
Mr. Anthony Principi
2521 South Clark Street
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Re: **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE REQUIREMENT FOR IN-DEPTH
REVIEW BY THE BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE COMMISSION OF THE
POTENTIAL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY THE INCLUSION
OF FORT MONMOUTH ON DOD PROPOSED CLOSURE LIST**

Dear Mr. Principi:

A copy of a resolution passed by the Governing Body of the Borough of Eatontown on June 8, 2005 regarding the above matter, is hereby submitted for your review and consideration.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call my office at 732-389-7600.

Yours truly,

Valerie I. Sapienza

Valerie I Sapienza
Deputy Borough Clerk

enc.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE REQUIREMENT FOR IN-DEPTH REVIEW BY THE BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE COMMISSION OF THE POTENTIAL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY THE INCLUSION OF FORT MONMOUTH ON DOD PROPOSED CLOSURE LIST

WHEREAS, the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 stipulates that Closure and realignment decisions must be based upon selection criteria developed by the Secretary of Defense; and

WHEREAS, the Final Selections Criteria requires the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) to consider the economic impact on existing communities in the vicinity of military installations in its selection of military installations to be closed; and

WHEREAS, Fort Monmouth is the Army's premier center for research and development in communications, electronics, and network-centric warfare, supported by a highly educated skilled people that have proven expertise that cannot be replaced by transferring their work elsewhere or by contracting out to private laboratories; and the loss of more than 5,300 people employed by Fort Monmouth due to closure will have a significant impact on the unemployment rate and tax revenues in the region; and

WHEREAS, the West Gate of Fort Monmouth is located in the Borough of Eatontown and the Fort Monmouth community had been a part of the culture of Eatontown for many years and the potential closing of Fort Monmouth will affect 650 Eatontown families who will have their employment directly impacted, the Borough of Eatontown school system which will lose 220 military dependent students that currently attend Eatontown schools, the Eatontown Recreation Department which will lose many of those same children who now participate in Recreation programs and the Eatontown Emergency Services which lose the mutual aid and assistance in the areas of emergency services now provided by Fort Monmouth; and

WHEREAS, the reduction of disposable income due to the closure of Fort Monmouth will impact Eatontown shops, supermarkets, restaurants, service establishments and business in general; and

WHEREAS, a reduction in spending of such a significant amount would likely cause some marginal business to fail, resulting in the loss in tax revenues, subsequently raising property taxes for Eatontown residents and the business community; and

WHEREAS, as significant an issue as the loss of on-site employment, is the number of defense contractors operating from offices in Eatontown that would likely be vacated should Fort Monmouth be closed, thereby, affecting the value of office buildings, resulting in a reduction in the tax revenues; and

WHEREAS, BRAC elected to hold the required public hearing on the closure of Fort Monmouth one hundred and seventy five miles from Fort Monmouth, thereby, limiting public comment by Eatontown residents and members of the business community;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Eatontown on behalf of the residential and business community of the Borough of Eatontown that will be potentially impacted by the proposed closure of Fort Monmouth and that are precluded from attending the public hearing in Baltimore on July 8, 2005, endorses the Department of Defense requirement for in depth review by BRAC of its recommendation to close Fort Monmouth and the United States Government Accountability observation that BRAC has an obligation to use specific models for assessing the potential economic impact on communities affected by the closure of Fort Monmouth.

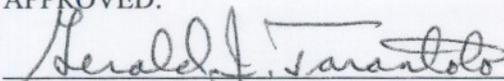
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the community of the Borough of Eatontown objects to the addition of Fort Monmouth to the BRAC closure list that is based on the Final Selections Criteria focused more on assessing military value based on military missions and operational capabilities without recognizing important support capabilities such as research, development, test, and evaluation.

OFFERED: COUNCILMAN LEWIS
SECONDED: COUNCILMAN DAVIS

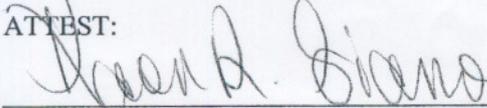
ROLL CALL

AFFIRMATIVE: LEWIS, DAVIS HOPKINS, EISEN
NEGATIVE: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: ENGLEHART, KINNEY

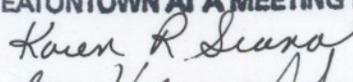
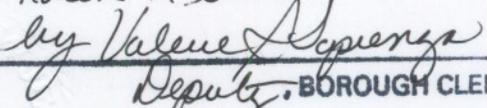
APPROVED:


GERALD J. TARANTOLO, MAYOR

ATTEST:


KAREN R. SIANO, BOROUGH CLERK

I HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE
A TRUE COPY OF RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY
THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH
OF EATONTOWN AT A MEETING HELD ON 6/8/05



Deputy, BOROUGH CLERK

DATED: JUNE 8, 2005