

DCN 4918

FAX TRANSMISSION

6700 McKennon Blvd., Suite 200
Fort Smith, AR 72903
479.452.7000 x 50
Fax 479.452.7008



To: Mr. Kenneth Small

Date: July 19, 2005

Fax #: 703.699.2735

Pages: 2 including this cover page

From: Kenneth L. Penney, Jr.

Subject: 188th Air National Guard Fighter Wing, Fort Smith, Arkansas

If you do not get all pages, call 479-452-7000 Ext 50



Fort Smith Airport Commission
6700 McKennon Blvd., Suite 200, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72903
Telephone: 479-452-7000 Ext. 50 ♦ Fax: 479-452-7008

July 19, 2005

Mr. Kenneth Small, Air Force Team Leader
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 S. Clark St., Ste. 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RE: 188th Air National Guard Fighter Wing, Fort Smith, Arkansas

Mr. Small:

In our discussion with you and your colleagues on July 5th, in Washington D.C., we were asked to provide the costs of replacing firefighting services provided by the Air National Guard. The Air Guard currently provides Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) services at the Fort Smith Regional Airport through a cooperative agreement established in the early 1990's. ARFF services are necessary to maintain airline service to the community and area.

The airport currently has airline service provided by American Eagle and Pinnacle Airlines each with regional jets. There are 18 airline operations per day scheduled from 0540 to 2159 each day of the week. Each of these operations, and any unscheduled airline operations require this ARFF protection. In addition, each branch of the military also relies upon this ARFF protection as they train in the nearby MOA's and Razorback Range.

The Department of Defense's BRAC proposal is to relocate the ARFF equipment and personnel to other bases. In order to replace the ARFF service, a new building, new equipment, and new personnel would need to be brought on board at predominately local government expense. The one-time replacement cost for the equipment and building is estimated to be \$7.5 million. The annual recurring cost of personnel and operating expenses is estimated at \$2.0 million.

To say the least, this \$7.5 million in capital costs and \$2.0 million in annual cost would be a significant impact upon local governments which was not addressed in any manner by the DOD's BRAC proposal.

We appreciate your acceptance of this additional information and please contact me if you have any questions.

Very Truly Yours,

FORT SMITH REGIONAL AIRPORT



Kenneth L. Penney, Jr., A.A.E.
Airport Director

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