

BRAC Commission

AUG 11 2005

Received

TOWNSHIP OF ROBINSON
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION NO. 9 OF 2005

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROBINSON, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF THE REGIONAL COALITION TO RETAIN MILITARY BASE FACILITIES IN ALLEGHENY COUNTY, AND FURTHER, CALLING ON THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND THE BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE COMMISSION TO KEEP THE 911TH AIRLIFT WING, 99TH REGIONAL READINESS CENTER AND THE 171ST AIR REFUELING WING OPEN AND OPERATING.

WHEREAS, the Pentagon is preparing to close up to a quarter of the nation's 425 bases and on May 16, 2005, released a list of recommended closings; the recommendations were then provided to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission appointed by the President for review and further recommendations before being presented to the President by September 8, 2005, and then on to Congress for final approval; and

WHEREAS, urban encroachment on existing bases is considered to be a major drawback - a concern that doesn't exist in Allegheny County, as the Allegheny County Airport Authority set aside land adjacent to the military bases near Pittsburgh International Airport to give the three (3) installations headquartered there (the 171st Air Refueling Wing, the 911th Military Airlift Group, and the 99th Regional Readiness Command) additional land if needed; and

WHEREAS, a coalition of interested parties in this region have been working proactively to retain the military operations and services in Allegheny County. Members include the Military Affairs Council of Western Pennsylvania, the Allegheny County Airport Authority, the Allegheny Conference on Community Development, the Airport Area Chamber of Commerce, local veterans groups, the Chief Executive, and members of the Allegheny County Congressional Delegation including Congresswoman Hart and Congressmen Doyle, Murtha and

Murphy; and

WHEREAS, the presence of the three (3) military operations and services in Allegheny County is of great value to this community as an economic engine for the region, pumping more than \$8 billion of economic activity each year into Pennsylvania communities, including payroll and contracts with local firms; Pennsylvania is home to the nation's largest National Guard and thousands of troops are currently serving our nation overseas; and

WHEREAS, the Base Realignment and Closure Commission is required, by statute, to treat all military installations equally and are looking specifically at each installation's current and future mission capabilities and the impact on operational readiness of the total force, including the impact on joint warfighting, training and readiness; our local units serve as a focal point for the defense and homeland security facilities in Southwestern Pennsylvania, are important to the military's mission, and have been documented to be cost-effective units; and

WHEREAS, the Military Affairs Council, as a member of the Coalition, has commissioned a study that will not only review the military value and mission of retaining military facilities in Southwestern Pennsylvania, but will also discuss specific opportunities that exist at the airport for military operations expansion that would benefit the Department of Defense and Homeland Security; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Robinson desire to support the Coalition and join other officials such as U.S. Senators Arlen Specter and Rick Santorum, and State Senator John Pippy and State Representatives Mark Mustio and Nick Kotic who represent the airport area, in their support of the Coalition and its mission.

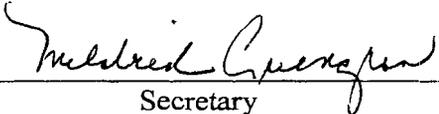
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED
BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROBINSON AS
FOLLOWS:

1. The Board of Commissioners of the Township of Robinson support the efforts of the Regional Coalition to retain military base facilities in Allegheny County, and further, call on the U.S. Department of Defense and the Base Realignment and Closure Commission to keep the 911th Airlift Wing, 99th Regional Readiness Center, and the 171st Air Refueling Wing open and operating.

RESOLVED AND ENACTED this 13th day of June, 2005, by the undersigned Commissioners of the Township of Robinson in this lawful session regularly assembled.

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF ROBINSON


Secretary

By: 
William L. Blumling
Chairman, Board of Commissioners