

June 4, 2003

**Honorable Mayor and Members of
the Hermosa Beach City Council**

**Regular Meeting of
June 10, 2003**

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE LOS ANGELES AIR FORCE BASE

Recommendation:

That the City Council adopt the attached resolution supporting the Los Angeles Air Force Base.

Background:

I have attached a resolution that has been adopted by several cities in the South Bay supporting the renovation of the Los Angeles Air Force Base. The City Council has, over the years, supported the Los Angeles Air Force Base because of the economic importance of the base to the City and the South Bay.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen R. Burrell
City Manager

Resolution No. 03-

A Resolution by the City Council of the City of Hermosa Beach supporting the retention and modernization of the Los Angeles Air Force Base

The City Council of the City of Hermosa Beach does hereby find, order and resolve:

Whereas, The Space and Missile Systems Center at the Los Angeles Air Force Base (LAAFB) manages \$60 billion of face value contracts deliverable over the next several years and employs 90% of the people involved in military space work. LAAFB is why the South Bay is home to so many of the nation's top defense companies and the approximately 30,000 direct and indirect jobs LAAFB creates through contracts and synergies; and

Whereas, The aerospace/defense companies as well as the indirect benefices of this critical workforce (such as restaurants, service companies, health clubs, grocery stores) pay the taxes that help fund police, fire and school services; and

Whereas, If the LAAFB is not modernized it will be a target for base closure when later this year the government-mandated process to review all military bases for consolidation and closure will begin; and

Whereas, One of the top factors used in the past to close bases has been the condition of base facilities. The current facilities at LAAFB, built in the 1950s and 1960s, are in severe disrepair and do not meet building codes for fire or earthquake safety, putting the base at increased risk of closure if new facilities are not immediately built; and

Whereas, Through a new innovative federal law, a private developer who was selected through a competitive bid process will build a state-of-the-art 560,000 SF facility for the Air Force in exchange for the Air Force deeding ownership to the developer of two properties in El Segundo and Hawthorne that will be entitled and developed to create the financial return to help pay for the new Air Force facilities; and

Whereas, If LAAFB is not modernized it will than be at an increased risk of closure and many of our citizens that are directly employed in the aerospace and defense industries would be at risk of losing their jobs and our employers who count on our citizens to patronize their businesses are at risk of experiencing hardships; and

Whereas, During the previous base closure rounds California lost 29 defense installations and more than 92,000 direct jobs. The Department of Defense has

already announced it would like to consolidate and close 20 to 25 percent of US bases during the coming closure round; and

Whereas, The Cities of Hawthorne and El Segundo have taken the lead in working to dedicate funding and resources to the Base modernization; and

Whereas, It is in the public interest for the City to take all reasonable and necessary actions to help preserve jobs and local businesses that are dependent on the LAAFB and the aerospace/defense community in the South Bay.

Now, Therefore, The City Council of the City of Hermosa Beach resolves to support the retention and modernization of the Los Angeles Air Force Base by the following:

- Passing this resolution and informing our citizens of the importance of the modernization effort; and
- Directing the City Manager to explore potential funding and support opportunities the City can proactively take in helping to ensure the modernization of LAAFB.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 10th day of June, 2003.

PRESIDENT of the City Council and MAYOR of the City of Hermosa Beach

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Clerk

City Attorney