



CITY OF WINOOSKI CITY COUNCIL

MAYOR MICHAEL O'BRIEN

Mayor@winooski.vt.org

COUNCILOR SETH LEONARD
COUNCILOR JOHN LITTLE

COUNCILOR SARAH ROBINSON

COUNCILOR SALLY TIPSON

KATHERINE R. DECARREAU

CITY MANAGER

Resolution

RE: Comment on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the Proposed Beddown of the F-35A at the Burlington Air National Guard Station

Whereas the United States Air Force is considering changing the current fighter jets at the Burlington Air Guard Station from the current F 16 to the F 35A, and

Whereas the City of Winooski is directly impacted by the operations of the Vermont Air National Guard and, as such, wished to respond to a request for comments on the Revised Draft of the Environmental Impact Statement issued by the United States Air Force, and

Whereas the City of Winooski wishes to support the Vermont Air National Guard located at the Burlington International Airport, and

Whereas the City of Winooski recognizes the valuable impact of the Air Guard Station on the local economy, and

Whereas the City of Winooski, the State of Vermont, the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, and our private partners have invested over \$175 million dollars in revitalizing our downtown which, in turn, has sparked a revitalization of the entire City of Winooski as an attractive place to live and work, and

Whereas the Revised Environmental Impact Statement has been released by the United States Air Force, indicating increased noise in the City both in maximum volumes and in the average Day Night Level (DNL) resulting in adverse, unavoidable impacts on noise level, which will rise to or above the Federal Aviation Administration has determined to be incompatible with residential land use, and

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Whereas the sixty five (65) decibel DNL contour band in either scenario would encompass more than fifty percent (50%) of our community as a result of the proposed change in operations, disproportionately impacting the residents of the city including most of the low income and minority populations outlined in the study, and

Whereas the Revised Environmental Impact Statement indicated that the F 35A is louder than the F 16, leaving serious concerns about the potential increase in health risks related to the exposure of residents including those in a nursing home, several senior living complexes, and a school, and

Whereas the conditions outlined in the Revised Draft of the Environmental Impact Statement leave open the possibility that property values would decline and the downtown would become less desirable, and

Whereas the Revised Draft of the Environmental Impact Statement indicates significant impact to a healthy environment for the community, and

Whereas the Environmental Impact Statement process has been difficult and divided our community, the overwhelming number of public statements demonstrate our citizen's desire to stop the deployment, and

Whereas the Winooski City Council has issued a Resolution on May 21, 2012 and a Statement on June 18, 2012 in response to the original Draft Environmental Impact Statement, and

Whereas in that Resolution, the City of Winooski has requested information from the United States Air Force and have yet to receive complete responses, and

Whereas the Revised Draft of the Environmental Impact Statement in Section 2.2.6 states that McEntire Joint National Guard Base is the "environmentally preferred alternative for ANG basing locations", and

Whereas we are proud of our little city of 7,300 people where over twenty (20) languages are spoken; we are proud to hear the number of our residents who love living and working in the City; and we recognize our responsibility to protect that new energy and investment of time and passion as well as money,

Now, by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Winooski, therefore be it

Resolved the Revised Draft of the Environmental Impact Statement did not adequately address the questions and concerns expressed in our Resolution of May 21, 2012 and our Statement issue on June 18, 2012, and

Further Resolved the Winooski City Council opposed any activity that will increase noise in a manner that will have a detrimental effect on our community, and

Further Resolved that noise impacts must be mitigated to ensure that both the DNL contours and the maximum noise levels remain at their current state (magnitude and spatial orientation) as with F 16 operations, and

Further Resolved that the Winooski City Council formally requests that the Burlington Air Guard Station be removed from consideration of current basing of the F 35A.

Resolution # 2013 - 2

Dated July 13, 2013

Introduced by _____

Affirmative Vote _____

Negative Vote _____

Adopted 7/12/13 _____

Rejected _____

Attest _____

City Clerk _____

Approved Date _____