

CITY OF ROSWELL

RESOLUTION NO. 05-14

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE "KEEP CANNON" INITIATIVE.

WHEREAS, the Clovis Army Air Base was activated during World War II and closed at the end of the war; and

WHEREAS, the base was reactivated during the Korean conflict and has been continuously serving the national defense since that time; and

WHEREAS, Cannon Air Force Base has a long history of both combat and peace time service to the safety and security of the country; and

WHEREAS, the Clovis community has strongly supported Cannon Air Force Base, its mission and the United States Air Force personnel and their families; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Defense, on May 13, 2005, announced its recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base as a part of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) program; and

WHEREAS, Cannon Air Force Base meets all announced criteria governing the base closure evaluation; and

WHEREAS, Cannon Air Force Base has favorable flying conditions, is in close proximity to the Melrose Bomb range, has recently refurbished both runways and other infrastructure, and has infrastructure capable of accommodating an expanded mission; and

WHEREAS, through foresight and planning by local and state officials, air tight easements have been previously acquired to eliminate encroachment issues that have impacted other Air Force bases; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Training Range Initiative should be finalized before the end of 2005, allowing supersonic training at Melrose Bomb Range and the associated military airspace; and

WHEREAS, from the inception of the air expeditionary force (AEF) concept, Cannon Air Force Base has served as a lead wing; and

WHEREAS, Cannon personnel and their families have contributed greatly to the local community, and the local community has provided a supportive home to those military families; and

WHEREAS, the closure of Cannon Air Force Base would have a significant adverse impact on the community, both financially and culturally; and

WHEREAS, Clovis believes that the closure recommendation fails to follow the announced criteria; and

WHEREAS, Governor Richardson has vowed to lead and support efforts to overcome the recommendation of the Defense Department; and

WHEREAS, Congressional leaders have also pledged to lead efforts to overcome the recommendation; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Clovis, Portales, Curry County, Roosevelt County, eastern New Mexico and west Texas support Cannon Air Force Base and the efforts to resist closure; and

WHEREAS, Clovis leaders have developed a strategy and initiative to collect and present data that will demonstrate that Cannon Air Force Base is a necessary component for the military and security needs of the country far into the future; and

WHEREAS, the Clovis City Commission seeks the involvement, support and assistance of all citizens to successfully persuade the BRAC Commission to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the closure list.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the City of Roswell, New Mexico, the Roswell City Council, to support whatever means and energy is necessary to obtain the removal of Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list, and encourages the citizens of Roswell and eastern New Mexico to actively and aggressively support this effort by writing letters, emails and communications showing the support of the community for the continued existence of Cannon Air Force Base.

DONE this 9th day of June 2005.

THE CITY OF ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO

By: Bill B. Owen
Bill B. Owen, Mayor

ATTEST:

T.D.S.
TIMOTHY D. STOESEL, CITY CLERK