



Office of the Mayor & Town Council

Mayor Bob Walkup
c/o 162nd Fighter Wing Minuteman Committee
PO Box 22343
Tucson, AZ 85734

Re: Tucson Lightning Project

Dear Bob,

I am writing on behalf of the Town of Oro Valley to state our full support of the region's selection to house the F-35 Lightning II, Joint Strike Fighter training program with the Arizona Air National Guard based at Tucson International Airport.

Oro Valley recognizes that the Tucson region has a long-standing history of successful flight training programs at the Air National Guard base, with little to no impact on surrounding residential communities. The economic impact of nearly \$300 million annually generated by the Air National Guard's 162nd Fighter Wing has generated jobs, support for services and industry locally, and provided much-needed revenue throughout the region. Further, the Air National Guard has demonstrated a commitment to the community, through their participation in and support of many nonprofit organizations.

The Tucson region offers many benefits for this program, including year-round flying weather and an abundance of training sites. We also offer a community of residents that support our troops, and the military resources that we offer to help make their jobs easier—and safer.

The Air National Guard's training programs in our region are a long-standing tradition and a source of great pride of our residents. We support the Air Force's consideration and strongly urge them to select Tucson as the training base for the F-35.

Sincerely,

Paul Loomis
Mayor