

RESOLUTION drafted by Steven Klafka, Madison east side citizen and environmental engineer

February, 2017

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WHEREAS, Truax Field, located at the Dane County Regional Airport in Madison, is one of five locations in the U.S. being considered by the Air Force for replacing current F-16 fighter jets with new F-35 jets having a total cost of \$2 billion.

WHEREAS, the airport is located less than three miles from downtown Madison and there are over 68,000 people living within three miles of the county airport and Truax Field.

WHEREAS, over 75,000 airplanes fly in and out of the airport each year making surrounding neighborhoods less desirable, healthy and safe.

WHEREAS, Madison residents are currently exposed to the noise from over 4,000 military flights each year.

WHEREAS, noise from existing F-16 fighter jets is ear shattering and unacceptable for our neighborhoods and schools.

WHEREAS, the F-35 fighter jets are expected to be 2 to 3 times louder than the current F-16 jets.

WHEREAS, airport noise standards are over 30 years old and these standards do not account for the extensive impacts of noise including stress, sleep disturbance, high blood pressure, heart disease, strokes, and reduction in the educational performance of children.

WHEREAS, a disproportionate number of low-income and minority families live close to Truax Field, including a mobile home park adjacent to the airport parking garage.

WHEREAS, the majority of the children attending schools near the Truax Field are from low-income families.

WHEREAS, the noise impacts of existing military flights perpetrate an environmental injustice by targeting low-income and minority residents unable to defend themselves.

WHEREAS, operation of the F-35 fighter jets at Truax Field will expand the achievement gap between white and minority students.

WHEREAS, neighborhoods surrounding Truax Field will bear the brunt of impacts due to the F-35 fighter jets, but little if any of the economic benefits will be returned to these neighborhoods.

WHEREAS, neither the county airport or Truax Field have implemented the noise abatement measures used by other airports including noise monitoring, addition of noise insulation to

surrounding homes and schools, and the relocation of residents significantly impacted by airport noise.

WHEREAS, we have seen the dangers of existing F-16 fighter jet training over our city through the emergency dumping of 2 tons of fuel tanks into Lake Mendota and numerous jet crashes at Truax Field and one at Hudson Beach on Lake Monona.

WHEREAS, the other four candidates for the F-35 fighter jets, including Dannelly Field, Montgomery, Alabama; Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho; Jacksonville Air National Guard Base in Florida; and Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Detroit, are more suitable because they are located further from the urban center where fewer people will be impacted.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Common Council oppose the Air Force selection of Truax Field for placement of the F-35 fighter jets.