Resolution No. 1998-26

(Council Minutes 98/08/03)

RESOLUTION NO. 1998-26

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Lakewood, Washington, expressing its intentions regarding use and distribution of per capita state shared revenues should military lands be annexed into the City

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood finds itself in the unique position of being immediately adjacent to the urban areas of both Fort Lewis and McChord Air Force Base including having eight gates enter directly into the City; and,

WHEREAS, those areas within the corporate boundaries of the City that are among the areas closest to the military bases and their gates have been more prone to economic and societal problems than other areas of the City and of Pierce County; and

WHEREAS, it is emphatically and categorically the position of the Lakewood City Council that our military neighbors and our citizens who are members of the military are not the cause of the high level of problems experienced by these gate communities; and,

WHEREAS, not only are the military personnel not the basis for the problems felt by these gate communities, these problems have a significant impact on the military bases and their personnel, particularly those members of the military who reside in or near these gate communities, and those who travel through these gate communities to enter the military bases; and,

WHEREAS, in addition to the impact on military personnel, the problems experienced by these gate communities affect other citizens of the City and of other communities who travel through the gate communities to and from the military bases; and,

WHEREAS, these affected areas are also areas that border Interstate 5, and as such are visible to travelers entering and traveling through Pierce County, thereby having an impact on economic development opportunities of all communities in Pierce County; and,

WHEREAS, the gate communities are part of the two most impoverished census tracts in Pierce County outside of the City of Tacoma; and,

WHEREAS, the Cities, the County and the military bases would benefit if improvements were made in those areas of the City affected by such socioeconomic challenges, not only in terms of increased property tax revenue to the County if property values were increased, but also in recognition of the fact that the people impacted by these problems are citizens of the County as well as the City, and to a significant extent, are persons associated with the military; and,

WHEREAS, in order to be able to address the problems referenced above, the City has sought a change in its Urban Growth Area, with the eventual intention of annexing the urban areas of the military bases, with the cooperation of the military bases; and,

WHEREAS, in light of the federal sovereignty, the City of Lakewood recognizes that it would not have authority over any areas of typical municipal jurisdiction, but the annexation would nevertheless be consistent with current circumstances which include the fact that a portion of McChord Air Force Base, including a military housing area, is already located within the City of Lakewood; and,

WHEREAS, if such annexation were to take place, it could allow certain state shared revenues to be directed to the City for uses that would benefit the areas most seriously affected by the economic and societal problems and help address regional economic development needs; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council is willing to take action to assure the County that it would not be financially disadvantaged by the shift in state shared revenues, and is further willing to commit itself to utilizing the increased shared revenues for projects to benefit the affected areas of the City adjacent to the military bases.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, WASHINGTON HEREBY RESOLVES as follows:

Section 1. That upon the annexation of the urban areas of Fort Lewis and McChord Air Force Base by the City of Lakewood, the City commits that it would reimburse the County for the County's reduced per capita state shared revenues resulting from the annexation out of the increased per capita state shared revenues received by the City, with the intention of making the County whole in terms of such revenues affected by the annexation, and in terms of addressing the fiscal impacts to the County as contemplated in RCW 35A.14.310, and the City further commits that it will work in good faith with representatives of the County to identify such revenues and to reach an agreement for implementation of the reimbursement plan.

Section 2. That, further, upon the annexation of the urban areas of Fort Lewis and McChord Air Force Base by the City of Lakewood and the City's receipt of increased per capita state shared revenues, the City commits that it would direct and use such funds for the primary purpose of effecting significant changes and improvements to those areas of the City affected by such socioeconomic challenges, and would work with the military bases, Pierce County, and other surrounding jurisdictions to identify strategies and approaches to solving the problems and meeting the needs of these impacted areas.

Section 3. That, further, as part of addressing such challenges, the City would use such funds to enhance the public safety of these areas through the addition of police officers to focus their efforts in these areas.

Section 4. That, further, as a part of addressing such challenges, the City would use such funds to improve the infrastructure including creating safe pedestrian and non-motorized facilities, street lighting, and open space and parks facilities, and to study issues related to the provision of sewer services.

Section 5. That, further, as part of addressing such challenges, the City would use such funds to address human service needs of these areas.

Section 6. That, further, as part of addressing such challenges, the City would use such funds to redevelop property along the I-5 corridor to enhance the image of the region which would assist all communities with economic development efforts.

Section 7. That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon passage and signatures hereon.

PASSED by the City Council this 3rd day of August, 1998.

CITY OF LAKEWOOD

Attest:

Bill Harrison, Mayor

Alice M. Bush, CMC, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Daniel B. Heid, City Attorney

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