

RESOLUTION NO. 94-20

A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL:

RECOGNIZING THE NAVAL AIR WARFARE CENTER WEAPONS DIVISION, CHINA LAKE AND THE CHINA LAKE NAVAL AIR WEAPONS STATION AS BEING OF GREAT CONTINUING STRATEGIC VALUE TO THE WELL BEING AND SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA;

RECOGNIZING ITS IMPORTANCE AS ONE OF THE NATION'S PREMIER MILITARY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FACILITIES;

RECOGNIZING ITS ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE TO THE CITY'S WELL BEING;

AUTHORIZING CITY STAFF TO UNDERTAKE ACTIVITIES THAT SUPPORT THE CONTINUATION AND EXPANSION OF MISSIONS AT THE CHINA LAKE NAVAL AIR WEAPONS STATION, AND URGING THE RIDGECREST REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY TO DO LIKEWISE; AND

REQUESTING THAT ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS TAKE EVERY ACTION NECESSARY TO ENSURE THE CONTINUING VIABILITY OF THIS IRREPLACEABLE NATIONAL DEFENSE RESOURCE

WHEREAS, the City of Ridgecrest, with a population of 30,000, is a unique national defense industry city, the home of the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWPNS), China Lake site, our largest employer; and

WHEREAS, with 1.1 million acres, a land area greater than the State of Rhode Island, the China Lake Weapons Division of NAWC, renowned for its research accomplishments, serves as a premier Department of Defense research, development, testing, and evaluation facility, and in conjunction with the Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS) employs more than 5,100 civilians and 700 military personnel in our community; and

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WHEREAS, NAWNS, China Lake, is one of the locations meriting consideration by the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) for expansion as mission and base consolidations occur elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, there are potential Defense Department projects ideally suited to the research and technical capabilities of the NAWCWPNS that could be of immense value to our community and our state as an economic development impetus; and

WHEREAS, the support facilities, infrastructure and scientific-technological skills for these programs are already in place in our community, and employment is an issue critical to Ridgecrest and California; and

WHEREAS, a significant proportion of Ridgecrest's employment base is comprised of a unique professional population with diverse scientific and technical skills; and

WHEREAS, the Naval Air Warfare Center, Weapons Division, Naval Air Weapons Station is the site of a premier Department of Defense National Laboratory and Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation Center which has a 50 year demonstrated record of developing numerous weapons systems and technologies in a variety of scientific and engineering disciplines such as: SIDEWINDER, WALLEYE, CONDOR, SHRIKE, HARM, SPARROW, PHOENIX, CRUISE, ROCKEYE, SNAKEYE, HARPOON, FAE, remotely piloted aircraft A-4, A-7, A-6, F-14, F/A-18, LH-1 aircraft software and integration; and

WHEREAS, it is the philosophy of the City to foster a healthy, vigorous, diverse and enduring economy resulting in a prosperous and affluent community; and

NOW, THEREFORE THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES as follows:

1. The City Council of the City of Ridgecrest supports continuation of "China Lake" as an irreplaceable resource of vital importance to the Nation and the City.
2. The City staff is directed and authorized to pursue activities to strengthen the NAWCWPNS China Lake, its missions and its future, and the Ridgecrest Redevelopment Agency is encouraged likewise.
3. Elected State and Federal Representatives are requested to give this local facility every consideration for continuation and expansion.

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4. The public is encouraged through its own resources, action groups and organizations, to contact their representatives in the State Legislature and United States Congress requesting their support and action on behalf of the City and the Naval Station.

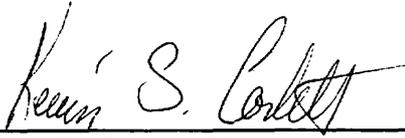
APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 20th day of April, 1994, by the following vote:

Ayes: Mayor Corlett, Council Members Auld, Bitney, Bryan, and Parode.

Noes: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.



Kevin S. Corlett, Mayor

ATTEST:



Pamela Bartlett, City Clerk