

**RESOLUTION NO. 96-92**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR GRANTS IN AID FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT AND THE CALIFORNIA TRADE AND COMMERCE AGENCY AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST**

**WHEREAS**, downsizing by the Department of Defense has caused significant hardship for the workers, businesses and community of Ridgecrest where nearly 85% of the jobs are defense related or defense spending derived; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1989-90 there were approximately 9,864 jobs at Naval Air Weapons Station, China Lake; and

**WHEREAS**, the community had lost approximately 3,139 jobs by the fall of 1996; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that by the end of the decade the base will have experienced a cumulative loss of 3830 direct defense jobs. The remaining employment on the base will be only 6,025 jobs or 39% less than in 1990. The job losses on base will mean that the community as a whole will have lost more than 25% of its job base. This represents a loss of more than 1.2% of the total jobs in Kern County; and

**WHEREAS**, The job losses have hit the economy hard. City revenues have fallen, many businesses have closed, real estate vacancies have increased and real estate values have fallen; and

**WHEREAS**, The Department of Defense Office of Economic Adjustment and the California Trade and Commerce Agency offer financial assistance to local governments in planning adjustment and economic development programs when hardship has arisen as a result of Defense Department downsizing. The loss of jobs in Ridgecrest qualifies our community for such assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, It is clear that the economy of Ridgecrest must be diversified in order to develop employment opportunity for our citizens.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL HEREBY RESOLVES**  
as follows:

1. It will seek planning grant impact aid to provide the community with guidance, coordination and insight on the means of making transitions to diversified non-

**Resolution No. 96-92**

**Page 2**

defense economies, and hereby directs the City Administrator to use resources to apply for grant funding from the OEA and the CT&C defense adjustment matching grants programs that may be used to define courses of action and put into place programs that can result in the community's economic recovery.

2. That the City Administrator, or his designee, is hereby authorized and empowered to apply, approve, sign and execute in the name of the City of Ridgecrest any documents necessary for applying for funding under the OEA and/or CT&C and for entering into an agreement, including any and all amendments or revisions thereto, with the OEA and/or CT&C in the event that funding is awarded under those programs.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS** 20th day of November 1996, by the following vote:

Ayes: Vice Mayor Lalor, Council Members Auld, Bitney and Parode.

Noes: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Mayor Bryan.

  
William R. Lalor, Vice Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Pamela Bartlett, CMC  
City Clerk