

**Mayor**  
Willard Rodarmel  
**Mayor Pro Tem**  
John Plourde  
**Council Members**  
John Gordon  
John Murray  
William Siegel



**Office of the  
Executive  
Director**  
  
119 Fox Street  
Lemoore ♦ CA 93245  
Phone (559) 924-6700  
FAX (559) 924-9003

February 15, 2011

Captain James R. Knapp  
Commanding Officer  
Naval Air Station Lemoore  
700 Avenger Avenue  
NAS Lemoore, CA 93246

Subject: Support for the F-35C Joint Strike Fighter at Naval Air Station Lemoore

Dear Captain Knapp:

On behalf of the Lemoore City Council, I am writing to you to express our enduring support of Naval Air Station (NAS) Lemoore and of the homebasing at such of the F-35C Joint Strike Fighter. We understand that the Navy is seeking input for an Environmental Impact Statement. The community of Lemoore has enjoyed a mutually beneficial relationship with NAS Lemoore since 1961 when the base was first commissioned. Therefore, we formally acknowledge our full support of NAS Lemoore and welcome the opportunity to request the Joint Strike Fighter be homebased in Lemoore.

NAS Lemoore is a good neighbor, one that is highly respected and honored. We recognize the importance of the military in our great Nation and of the families that commit their lives to it. Many of the families at NAS Lemoore have become an integral part of our community and we have developed strong personal relationships with them. Many of them now call Lemoore their home and we welcome them with open arms.

We also understand the economic impact that NAS Lemoore brings to our community and the value of its contributions. It is one of the top economic engines in our local economy and we acknowledge that the financial impact is of great importance to the City of Lemoore. According to a recent report to City Council, in fiscal year 2008, NAS Lemoore contributed \$654 million to the regional economy, it generated \$75 million in federal, state and local tax revenue, and it supported more than 4,540 jobs in Kings County and the surrounding area. We realize that the continued success of NAS Lemoore will have a significant economic effect on our community for many years to come and that is why we stand firm in our commitment to support it.

*"In God We Trust"*

Captain James R. Knapp  
Support for F-35C JSF  
February 15, 2011  
Page 2

NAS Lemoore is the premier West Coast naval master jet base. We embrace it and all of its endeavors. Therefore, we support NAS Lemoore and recommend that the decision makers chose NAS Lemoore as the homebase for the F-35C Joint Strike Fighter.

Sincerely,

Willard J. Rodarmel, Mayor