



Board of Directors, Anchorage Chamber of Commerce

Resolution 2003/04-01

In support of the Military's intention to fence 34 miles of Fort Richardson's boundaries inside the Municipality of Anchorage

WHEREAS both Fort Richardson Army Post and Elmendorf Air Force Base are part of the Municipality of Anchorage;

WHEREAS Military personnel and their families volunteer thousands of hours to our community;

WHEREAS Military personnel donate hundreds of thousands of dollars to support community agencies through the Combined Federal Campaign;

WHEREAS the Alaska Department of Labor cites the Military as the largest employer in the State, employing 21,192 men and women;

WHEREAS the Municipality of Anchorage is home to 47 percent of the State's military population;

WHEREAS the Municipality of Anchorage receives 49 percent of the State's military expenditures totaling \$725 million dollars;

WHEREAS the Military annually contributes \$800 million into the State's economy;

WHEREAS Alaska offers the unique distinction of having Army and Air Force personnel train on the same land;

WHEREAS Fort Richardson is hosting a new Stryker Brigade, thus increasing the amount of Military Personnel stationed in the Anchorage area and increasing the amount of revenue seen by the Municipality of Anchorage;

WHEREAS Fencing Fort Richardson has been under consideration on post for many years. Lack of funding has prevented initiation of the project;

WHEREAS Post fencing is a basic military security cornerstone, completed long ago at most Army posts across the country;

WHEREAS it is a direct public safety hazard not to fence in military lands where live training exercises are held;

WHEREAS the terrorist attack in NYC on September 11, 2001 and the activation of the Homeland Security Office have refocused military attention to security issues and have supported the need for additional security funding;

WHEREAS Congress is expected to close 25 percent of its military facility infrastructure in 2005;

WHEREAS a supportive community is critical if Fort Richardson is to remain an integral part of the defense infrastructure and an important and valuable part of our community;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce supports the Military's intention to fence 34 miles of Fort Richardson's boundaries within the Municipality of Anchorage;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to the local media, all members of the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce, the mayor, the Anchorage Assembly, and be a part of environmental documents necessary to make this fencing possible.

Dated September 3, 2003



George Vakalis, 2003-2004 Chair



Stacy Schubert, President