Office of Mayor Tom Potter
City of Portland

June 9, 2006

Mr. Patrick J. O'Brien, Director
Office of Economic Adjustment
Department of Defense
400 Army Navy Drive, Suite 200
Arlington, VA 22202-4704

RE: Request by the City of Portland of Portland, Oregon that the Portland Development Commission is recognized as the Local Redevelopment Authority for the Sgt. Jerome Sears USARC and 2ndLT Alfred Sharff USARC military installations.

Dear Mr. O'Brien:

It is with pleasure that I formally transmit to you a request from the City of Portland that the Department of Defense recognize the Portland Development Commission (PDC) as the Local Redevelopment Authority for two sites in Portland: The Sgt. Jerome Sears USARC facility at 2730 SW Multnomah, and the 2LT Alfred Sharff USARC facility at 8801 N. Chautauqua Blvd. The attached resolution incorporates the following reasons why the City believes that the PDC should be designated as the Local Redevelopment Authority (LRA).

- The PDC is the designated redevelopment agency for the City of Portland. Its Commission members are appointed by and serve at the sole discretion of the Mayor of Portland.

- The combined 8.5 acres of the Installations fall entirely within the jurisdiction of the City of Portland.

- The City of Portland is the only jurisdiction with zoning authority over identified properties and regularly works in concert with the PDC to make appropriate zoning decisions as needed.

- The closure of the identified military installations presents a significant opportunity for the "Multnomah Village" and "Kenton" neighborhoods and economic development for the City of Portland.

  A variety of community and economic development opportunities will need to be carefully explored, all of which will benefit the citizens of Portland and the region, enhance the community, and increase economic vitality overall.

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- The Portland Development Commission, as the recognized and designated LRA will prepare a Reuse Plan, which will serve as the primary planning document that will establish the vision for base redevelopment.

- The Portland Development Commission will establish a Citizen's Advisory Committee for each identified site, representing diverse stakeholders within the City and the region. The advisory committee will provide input to the LRA during the reuse planning process.

  The overall approach of the Development Commission as it pursues the reuse planning process will be to keep the public informed and solicit input in order to develop a Reuse Plan that reflects local and regional desires. The LRA will form an advisory committee to provide advice on formation of the Reuse Plan. The advisory committee will represent the interests of diverse stakeholders in the community and region with an interest in the redevelopment of military installations and will be established for the duration of the reuse planning process. The Development Commission, serving as the LRA, will also receive input from neighboring jurisdictions and public agencies other than the City of Portland in order to develop a Reuse Plan that reflects both local and regional interests.

- Once the Portland Development Commission is recognized as the LRA, it will be eligible to receive economic adjustment assistance and funding for reuse planning.

We look forward to a partnership with the Office of Economic Adjustment which brings about exciting community and economic development in our community while meeting Department of Defense objectives.

Sincerely,

Tom Potter
Mayor

cc: Mr. Anthony Gallegos
Ms. Amanda Leiker
Portland City Commissioner Erik Sten
Andy Wilch, Portland Development Commission
Will White, Bureau of Housing and Community Development

TP: sc

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