

From: Spaulding, Jeb
Sent: Monday, June 04, 2012 1:59 PM
To: Lofy, Bill; MacLean, Alex
Subject: F-35s
Attachments: F 35 Questions for EIS Process.docx

This is just to remind us all of the outcome of the meeting Alex and I had with Mayor Michael O'Brien and Deac Decarreau, at their request, about the F-35 issue. It was a cordial meeting.

They asked us to consider the following:

Support their request for information. See attached. Suggest we do so. The more factual information, the better. This would not be inconsistent with our general support for this initiative.

Support the creation of an ad hoc citizens advisory committee, as suggested by the Vermont Guard wing commander. Suggest we do so.

Support their request for a seat on the Airport Commission. I believe this would be a decision by the Burlington City Council. It might be a good idea for Bill or Alex to broach this possibility with Mayor Weinberger.

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People are our greatest asset



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EIS Response from City of Winooski requesting answers on the following items.

QUESTIONS ON F-35A

1. Can the F-35As take off without use of afterburners?
2. Does the F-16 always use afterburners during takeoff? Why and when did this begin?
3. What is the range of maximum noise levels for the F-35As at full afterburner versus non-afterburner takeoff?
4. How will the takeoff noise from the F-35A (both with and without afterburner) differ from the F16? What data can be provided to substantiate these noise levels?
5. What is the proposed normal operation schedule for the F-35As if based in Burlington? (# of planes, time of day) How can that change?
6. What is the anticipated duration of the maximum noise impact on Winooski?
7. What are the decibel levels over Winooski, at downtown, St. Francis, at Colchester?
8. What changes can be made in the flight patterns to minimize the noise impact on Winooski, i.e. change flight path to follow Winooski River, higher elevation?
9. How can the 65 db DNL contour be changed to retain its current location?
10. What noise mitigation processes have been used at other Air Bases?

11. Can you explain what the DNL is and how it is calculated? What is the median noise level (as opposed to average)?
12. How does the noise of the F-35A compare to the noise from the former F4s?
13. Can the Air Force provide a fly over of the F-35A or a recording comparing the F-35A to the F-16?
14. Is the developer of the F-35A working on reducing the noise emissions from the plane?
15. Are there other noise mitigation strategies being used in other places that can be used here? (insulation, windows)
16. Why is Burlington one of the top two preferred alternative sites for the F-35A given the "adverse impacts" – including dense population outlined in the EIS?
17. Has the Air Force studied the impact of noise on property values in other areas? What data is available (seems to be missing from EIS, although it is listed in Table of Contents - per Corey Mack's email)?
18. Will expansion of the 65 db DNL contours into Winooski make affected properties eligible for a buy out? What assurances do we have that this program will not expand into Winooski?
19. Does the Air Force have information related to noise and hearing loss? Specifically, at what noise levels does hearing get impacted? Do short bursts of noise similar to those projected from the F-35As have a potential impact on hearing loss? Where is the data on this?
20. What will the payload of the F-35A be during normal operations?
21. What is the correct address for public comments, and what is the deadline (BFP reports deadline has been extended to June 20th)? Snail mail, phone and email please!