



RESOLUTION 10-49

A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE TOWN OF TAOS ADAMANTLY OPPOSING THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ESTABLISHING A LOW ALTITUDE TACTICAL NAVIGATION TRAINING AREA IN NORTHERN NEW MEXICO

WHEREAS, the United States Air Force (Air Force) would like to establish a Low Altitude Tactical Navigation (LATN) training area in Northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado for Cannon Air Force Base (AFB) aircraft training flights; and

WHEREAS, personnel at Cannon AFB have proposed to utilize the training area to support Low Altitude Tactical Navigation training for the C-130 Hercules and CV-22 Osprey aircraft; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Town of Taos and Northern New Mexico must be allowed full enjoyment of the peaceful surroundings and quality of life that this area has to offer and that we have been accustomed to; and

WHEREAS, over a million and a half tourists and visitors travel to Taos annually for the serenity and peaceful life style and should be able to enjoy the serenity they've come to expect; and

WHEREAS, our community is rich in history and is world renowned for its peaceful natural beauty and cultural sensitivity; and

WHEREAS, the Taos Pueblo is part of our community and is the only United Nations sanctioned Living World Heritage Site located in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Low Altitude Tactical Navigation training flights would pose serious threats to human health, particularly to special needs individuals such as military veterans and others with post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and those with autism; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Low Altitude Tactical Navigation training flights would pose threats to health and interfere with peaceful and quiet enjoyment of inhabitants and visitors even in sparsely populated areas; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Low Altitude Tactical Navigation training flights would be harmful to agriculture and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Low Altitude Tactical Navigation training flights would pose a danger of forest fires in the event of aircraft crashes, with adverse effects on the watershed; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Low Altitude Tactical Navigation training flights would increase the emission of greenhouse gasses, adding to environmentally detrimental climate change; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Low Altitude Tactical Navigation training flights will have a direct negative impact on the sacred historic culture and quality of life of the citizens of Taos including by the introduction of noise pollution, emissions pollution, and vibrations that could harm historic adobe structures, particularly those of the Taos Pueblo; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Taos sees these Low Altitude Tactical Navigation training flights having a direct negative impact on the travel and tourism that our community is economically dependent on, and the enjoyment of peacefulness and beauty the tourists and visitors come here to enjoy; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Taos acknowledges that these Low Altitude Tactical Navigation training flights will have a direct negative impact on the culture and way of life for Taos Pueblo, a UNESCO Living World Heritage Site;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Taos that the Town of Taos adamantly opposes the establishment of any Low Altitude Tactical Navigation training flights or any other training flights in this region of Northern New Mexico.

Passed, adopted and approved, this 27 day of September, 2010, at the Special Meeting of the Town Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Rudy C. Abeyta _____
Councilmember A. Eugene Sanchez _____
Councilmember Amy J. Quintana _____
Councilmember Michael A. Silva _____

TOWN OF TAOS

Darren M. Cordova, Mayor

ATTEST:

Renee Lucero, Town Clerk

