

# City of Newman

CORRESPONDENCE 2  
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November 12, 2007

Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors  
1010 Tenth Street, Suite 6500  
Modesto, CA 95354

RE: Crow Landing Air Base Reuse Plan.

Dear Supervisors:

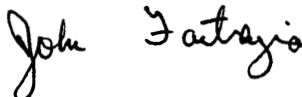
In February 2007, the City of Newman sent the Board of Supervisors a letter outlining concerns the City believes the Board should consider when making decisions regarding the redevelopment of the Crows Landing Air Base site. While the Board chose to disregard the concerns of the residents of west Stanislaus County with its February 2007 vote, the City will remain vigilant as the Board moves forward. In an effort to re-emphasize our position, the City has elected to state our concerns with the current project.

1. While a final development plan has yet to be reviewed by the Board, the City believes it is imperative that the project fully mitigate all impacts associated with its development. It is extremely important that this project have a positive influence on west Stanislaus County communities and residents.
2. Aesthetics are important to the residents of our community. In particular, the City of Newman has invested a significant amount of capital into improving our downtown streetscape and developing plans for the downtown plaza. The City is concerned that a rail yard will have a negative impact upon the area and deter future investment in our community. The City will not support a plan that transforms west Stanislaus County into a rail yard with stockpiles of graffiti laden storage containers and railcars.
3. The City strongly opposes a project that expands beyond the existing limits of the air base property. The proposed project is more than four times larger than our existing city limits and over 30% larger than our sphere of influence. While the City understands the need to plan for the future, the current proposal is inconsistent with size and scale of communities in west Stanislaus County.
4. While not specifically identified in the initial proposal, the City steadfastly opposes a project that contains a residential component now or in the future. In 2004, over 62% of the Newman electorate voted to advise the Board to direct urban growth into the incorporated areas. This vote should also be considered as opposition to expanding the proposal beyond the footprint of the existing air base.

In closing, the City of Newman remains unconvinced the Board will protect the values and quality of life of the west Stanislaus County residents and communities during the re-

development of the Crows Landing Air Base. Previous Board decisions and the failure of the Master Developer to engage local leadership and incorporate them into the development process reinforces the belief that this project is based more upon politics than job development and sound planning. While the City can not endorse the current direction of the project, we remain hopeful the Board will not blindly endorse a plan without considering the west Stanislaus County residents and communities. It is not too late to show the residents of west Stanislaus County that you hear their concerns and promise to respect and protect their values and way of life.

Sincerely,



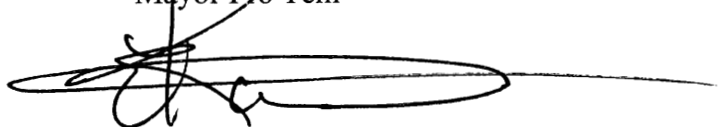
John Fantazia  
Mayor



Robert Martina  
Mayor Pro Tem



Michael Crinklaw  
Councilmember



Ed Katen  
Councilmember



Ted Kelly  
Councilmember