



**MAYOR BOB FOSTER
CITY OF LONG BEACH**

May 1, 2012

MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach

RECOMMENDATION:

**Request that the City Attorney prepare a resolution declaring
May 15, 2012 as C-17 day.**

DISCUSSION

The C-17 Globemaster III, the most advanced strategic airlifter ever made, remains the most vibrant symbol of Long Beach and Southern California's aerospace legacy – it is the only wide-body aircraft assembly line remaining in the state. The advanced airlifter, manufactured by The Boeing Company at its facility in Long Beach, is a critical component of the nation's ability to quickly and effectively deploy strategic military assets to crucial locations around the world.

The 174-foot-long C-17 can carry military equipment such as tanks, helicopters and armored transport vehicles, as well as personnel. The C-17's capability to land on short, unprepared fields makes it a key component of the nation's defense. It also is a valuable tool to deliver humanitarian supplies around the world in response to natural disasters. The airlifter has performed superbly in support of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, and it is a critical asset delivering humanitarian relief to disasters around the world. C-17s also save lives by transporting wounded service members from the battlefield, sustaining ground forces with direct delivery of supplies, and airdropping food, water and medical supplies into remote areas following a natural disaster.

Earlier this year, Boeing delivered the United States Air Force's 216th C-17 aircraft. A total of 25 C-17s have been delivered to Australia, Canada, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and the 12-member Strategic Airlift Capability initiative of NATO and Partnership for Peace nations. India has 10 C-17s on order for delivery in 2013 and 2014. Based on current, confirmed orders, C-17 production will continue through third quarter 2014. Closure of the C-17 puts at risk nearly 4,000 Boeing jobs at the Long Beach facility. Moreover, the C-17 program represents a significant part of the nation's industrial base, supporting 30,000 direct and indirect jobs in 44 states and with an annual economic impact exceeding \$5.8 billion. The C-17 program is vital to the economy of Long Beach, Los Angeles County, and the state of California.

Consistent with actions taken by the City Council in 2006 through 2011, it is recommended the Council direct the City Attorney to prepare a resolution that will declare May 15, 2012 "C-17 Day" in Long Beach to honor the plane, the women and men who build it, and the women and men who fly it in support of our nation; and to support the continuation of the C-17 Globemaster III program by urging the Congress of the United States to continue supporting this vital program.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Foster". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mayor Bob Foster

Dated: April 20, 2012