

DATE OF MEETING: January 21, 2009

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
ACTION ITEM
Board Member Initiative**

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SUBJECT: Resolution of Appreciation/ Fifth Anniversary of the Opening of the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center

ELECTION DISTRICT: Countywide

CRITICAL ACTION DATE: January 21, 2009

RECOMMENDATIONS: Supervisor Burk recommends that this resolution be adopted by the Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Burk would like the Board of Supervisors to recognize the Fifth Anniversary of the Udvar-Hazy Center, an integral component of the airport community at Washington Dulles International Airport. The Udvar-Hazy Center, a branch of the National Air and Space Museum, opened on December 15, 2003. The center has attracted more than 6 million visitors worldwide and is an excellent corporate partner to Loudoun County, although it is actually located on the Fairfax County portion of the airport property.

The Smithsonian's flight collection is the largest and most significant of its kind, with some 60,000 artifacts, including many of history's most rare and iconic aviation artifacts. Fully one-third of the aircraft in the aeronautics collection are one-of-a-kind examples. In five years, the Udvar-Hazy center has doubled the number of artifacts on display, and its two hangars are filling rapidly, with 158 large aircraft, 153 large space artifacts and thousands of small artifacts. It houses iconic aircraft such as a Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird, the Concorde, the B-29 Superfortress Enola Gay and the space shuttle Enterprise. The Udvar-Hazy Center plans to open phase two in 2011.

The Udvar-Hazy Center is active in Loudoun County Public Schools. A Loudoun County teacher is assigned to The Center and educates approximately 120 students per day that come through for field trips. The field trip typically includes a prearranged learning lab and tour and in some cases, an IMAX movie. These educators also go offsite, once a week, to visit Loudoun County Public Schools to conduct outreach classes.

The Udvar-Hazy Center representatives work diligently with the LCVA, local hotels, etc. to attract visitors to their museum. They make sure that information is provided for planning and guest services for their visitors. The Loudoun hotels include the Hazy Center as a tourism destination where they shuttle their guests and the Center has provided a location for a regional kiosk of guest services that anyone may use to find dining, shopping, events, etc. while people are visiting. The

Udvar-Hazy Center is an important part of the tourism experience for many Loudoun visitors as well an important educational resource for all.

The National Air and Space Museum Udvar-Hazy Center's "NASM on the Road" was created in the fall of 2006. This outreach program provides a quality day away from the hospital environment for recuperating Service Members and their families residing at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Nation Naval Medical Center and the Veterans Administration Hospital located in Washington DC and introduce them to the treasures of the Hazy Center and for those recuperating Service Members who are hospital bound, provide a virtual tour of the Hazy Center based on images displayed on a laptop.

For those Service Members and their families traveling to the Udvar-Hazy Center, they are provided with a special 90 minute Docent tour, a ticket to the IMAX movie followed by lunch at McDonald's. All fee based activities are at no cost to these guests as the program is funded 100% through private individual donations. At the end of lunch, the Service Members are invited into Gen. Anderson's office and Gen. Anderson personally thanks them for their service and sacrifice while handing each a copy of "America's Hangar" as a remembrance.

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution, NASM On the Road, Learning Lab Descriptions

CONTACT PERSON: Juanita Tool, Staff Aide to Supervisor Kelly Burk

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
COUNTY OF LOUDOUN
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Resolution of Appreciation

Fifth Anniversary of the Opening of the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center

WHEREAS, December 15th 2008, marked fifth anniversary of the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center;

WHEREAS, the Udvar-Hazy Center has attracted more than six million visitors from around the globe,

WHEREAS, the Udvar-Hazy Center has become one of the most visited aerospace museums in the world (second only to the museum's Mall building) and is the most popular museum attraction in Virginia.

WHEREAS, the Udvar-Hazy Center houses part of the Smithsonian's flight collection which is the largest and most significant of its kind, with some 60,000 artifacts, including many of history's most rare and iconic artifacts such as the Space Shuttle Enterprise, the Enola Gay and the SR-71 Blackbird;

WHEREAS, the Udvar-Hazy Center is an educational partner with the County of Loudoun and houses a Loudoun County Public School teacher at The Center and provides tours and learning labs, as well as outreach to individual schools on-site;

WHEREAS, the Udvar-Hazy Center is an outstanding corporate partner with the County of Loudoun;

WHEREAS, the Udvar-Hazy Center works closely with the Loudoun County tourism community through their participation in committees, programs, tours, and media opportunities;

WHEREAS, the Udvar-Hazy Center works with the LCVA, hotels, B&Bs and others to ensure that information is provided for planning and guest services for their visitors as well as making The Center a part of the tourism experience for Loudoun visitors;

WHEREAS, the Udvar-Hazy Center's "National Air and Space Museum on the Road" (NASM) provides a quality day away from the hospital environment for recuperating Service Members and their families residing at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Nation Naval Medical Center and the Veterans Administration Hospital located in Washington DC, and introduces them to the treasures of the Udvar-Hazy Center and for those recuperating Service Members who are hospital bound, provides a bedside virtual tour of the Hazy Center based on images displayed on a laptop;

WHEREAS, the Udvar-Hazy Center is an integral part of the larger airport community at Washington Dulles International Airport, the largest economic engine in Loudoun County and which contributes more than 18 billion dollars in business revenue to the regional economy;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors does hereby congratulate the Udvar-Hazy Center on their Fifth Anniversary and thanks them for their outstanding performance as a destination museum, as well as for their contributions to Loudoun County tourism, education, economy and their dedication to veterans through NASM.

Scott K. York, Chairman, At-Large

Kelly Burk, Leesburg District

Sally R. Kurtz, Catocin District

James G. Burton, Blue Ridge District

Stevens Miller, Dulles District

Andrea McGimsey, Potomac District

Susan Klimek-Buckley, Vice-Chair, Sugarland District

Eugene A. Delgaudio, Sterling District

Lori L. Waters, Broad Run District