

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 13, 2020

The Honorable Barbara M. Barrett
Secretary of the Air Force
1160 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20330

Dear Secretary Barrett,

Thank you for your continued leadership of the Department of the Air Force and your commitment to launching the United States Space Force. As the Air Force works to select the permanent location of U.S. Space Command headquarters (USSPACECOM), we believe Arizona offers the best combination of the necessary military infrastructure, future workforce, and community support to be the permanent location for USSPACECOM.

Arizona is uniquely qualified to serve as home for USSPACECOM. With more than 300 days a year of sunshine, Arizona is a great location for training. Our state has also attracted aerospace and defense industry giants such as Raytheon, Honeywell, Boeing, Lockheed Martin, General Dynamics, and more. More than 1,200 Arizona-based companies make our state America's third-largest supply chain contributor for aerospace and defense and the second largest employer in space and defense systems manufacturing. Arizona also ranks fourth nationwide in aerospace industry payroll and aerospace revenue.

Arizona military installations are deeply imbedded into our community, with Luke Air Force Base, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, and Ft. Huachuca among three of the largest employers across the state. Arizona is also home to Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, the busiest air station in the Marine Corps and U.S. Army Yuma Proving Grounds, one of the largest military installations in the world. The addition of USSPACECOM would further contribute to the success of the diverse network of already established defense installations that contribute to our national defense strategy. Arizona has several cities that meet the evaluated criteria set forth by the Air Force, with a number of qualified cities located within a few miles of Luke Air Force Base and Davis-Monthan Air Force Base—both of which would contribute to the cutting-edge development at USSPACECOM. Luke Air Force Base hosts the 56th Fighter Wing, the world's largest fighter wing, and Davis-Monthan Air Force Base hosts the 355th Fighter Group. Both facilities are critical to our nation's national and aerospace defense.

We request a conversation with you to discuss Arizona's exceptional qualifications for hosting USSPACECOM and the community support its arrival would have. It would be an honor to host you in a virtual meeting at your earliest convenience. Please contact Senator Sinema and Congresswoman Lesko's offices through their scheduling team at

[Laura Piccioli@sinema.senate.gov](mailto:Laura.Piccioli@sinema.senate.gov) and Brendon.Gallo@mail.house.gov respectively, with any follow-up questions and to coordinate.

In the interim, we request clarification on the following on behalf of the nominated Arizona cities:

- When will the Air Force make an official determination for potential selected cities in Arizona?
- Will the nominated Arizona cities receive an official site visit?

We eagerly await your response.

Respectfully,




Debbie Lesko
Member of Congress



Kyrsten Sinema
U.S. Senator



Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton
Member of Congress



Tom O'Halleran
Member of Congress



Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress



David Schweikert
Member of Congress



Ann Kirkpatrick
Member of Congress



Andy Biggs
Member of Congress