



TOM HARVEY/LOCKHEED MARTIN

The Air Force is looking for bases to train pilots on the new F-35 Lightning II fighter jet. Luke Air Force Base is a contender.

Residents can register support for Luke

Residents can now show their support for Luke Air Force Base and the F-35 fighter jet online.

Fighter Country Partnership, a community support group for the military installation, has set up a page on its Web site for people to register their support. The names are published.

"We haven't officially launched the site and we already have more than 300 registered supporters," said Steve Yamamori, executive director.

"We will launch in mid-October."

— Cecilia Chan/*The Republic/azcentral.com*

WEB PAGE PURPOSE

Tell decision makers in Washington, D.C., that there is tremendous community support for Luke becoming a training base for the new F-35 and its military personnel, Yamamori said.

WHY NOW

The Air Force is scouting possible bases for F-35 pilot training. Luke is phasing out its F16s and needs the next generation of fighter jets to ensure it stays operational in the future.

LUKE IMPACT

Luke Air Force Base pumps \$2.17 billion a year into the state's economy.

REGISTRANTS

Nearly 400 people registered their support of Luke and the F-35 since last Friday. Registrants include elected officials, city employees, year-round and winter residents from across the Valley.

TO REGISTER SUPPORT

www.lukeforward.com.