

# CITY of NOVI CITY COUNCIL

**Agenda Item 1**  
**September 28, 2009**

**SUBJECT:** Adoption of a resolution authorizing the participation in the signing of a Military Community Covenant with Oakland County and several local government officials on Sunday, October 11, 2009 in support of community members and their families who serve in the United States Armed Forces.

**SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT:** Neighborhood and Business Relations

**CITY MANAGER APPROVAL:** 

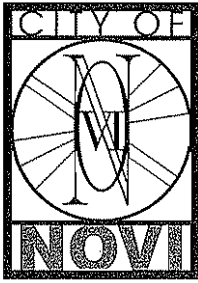
**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The Military Community Covenant is designed to develop and foster effective state and community partnerships with the Army in improving the quality of life for Soldiers and their families, both at their current duty stations and as they transfer from state to state. The Community Covenant is tailored at the local level, with leaders at both local and state levels participating in covenant signings. While the Community Covenant is an Army program, it extends to the other Military Services as well, recognizing that many community efforts support all Service Members and their families regardless of the uniform they wear.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Adoption of a resolution authorizing the participation in the signing of a Military Community Covenant with Oakland County and several local government officials on Sunday, October 11, 2009 in support of community members and their families who serve in the United States Armed Forces.

	1	2	Y	N
Mayor Landry				
Mayor Pro Tem Gatt				
Council Member Burke				
Council Member Crawford				

	1	2	Y	N
Council Member Margolis				
Council Member Mutch				
Council Member Staudt				



## Military Community Covenant *Supporting Those Who Serve*

### RESOLUTION

*Authorizing Participation in the signing of a  
Military Community Covenant  
on Sunday, October 11, 2009*

#### CITY COUNCIL

**Mayor**  
David B. Landry

**Mayor Pro Tem**  
Bob Gatt

Terry K. Margolis

Andrew Mutch

Kathy Crawford

Dave Staudt

Brian Burke

**City Manager**  
Clay J. Pearson

**City Clerk**  
Maryanne Cornelius

WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we honor the men and women of the United States Armed Forces who have stepped forward in all circumstances throughout American history so that we can live in freedom; and

WHEREAS, nothing is more honorable or noble than wearing the uniform of the United States Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard, National Guard, Reserves; and

WHEREAS, the City of Novi recognizes and honors the commitment our military personnel and their families are making every day for our community, State, and Country; and

WHEREAS, the City of Novi is dedicated to building partnerships that support the strength, resilience and readiness of Michigan's military personnel and their families; and

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved, that the Novi City Council authorizes the participation in the signing of a Military Community Covenant in partnership with Oakland County and several local government officials on Sunday, October 11, 2009 at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

### CERTIFICATION

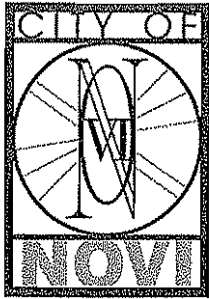
I, hereby certify that the forgoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Novi at a regular meeting held this 28th day of September, 2009.

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Maryanne Cornelius, City Clerk

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Novi, Michigan 48375  
248.347.0460  
248.347.0577 fax

cityofnovi.org



cityofnovi.org

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** CLAY PEARSON, CITY MANAGER  
**FROM:** SHERYL WALSH, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS  
**SUBJECT:** MILITARY COMMUNITY COVENANT  
**DATE:** SEPTEMBER 17, 2009

9/17/09  
To: Mayor & City  
Council Members

FYI - [Signature]

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The City of Novi has been asked to participate with Oakland County and several local government officials in the signing of a Military Community Covenant on Sunday, October 11 at the Detroit Pistons game at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

The Military Community Covenant is designed to develop and foster effective state and community partnerships with the Army in improving the quality of life for Soldiers and their families, both at their current duty stations and as they transfer from state to state. The Community Covenant is tailored at the local level, with leaders at both local and state levels participating in covenant signings. While the Community Covenant is an Army program, it extends to the other Military Services as well, recognizing that many community efforts support all Service Members and their families regardless of the uniform they wear.

In addition to the covenant signing at half-time, the Palace is providing up to 5,000 free tickets to military families for the event. The Palace will be listing information on their web site and we will be placing an item on **cityofnovi.org** and Novi Television to promote the free ticket availability. //

Following the event, all communities will receive signed copies of the Community Covenant to display.



I am requesting we place this item for consideration on the September 28<sup>th</sup> agenda for City Council consideration. If you have any questions, please let me know.



## BEST PRACTICES

### What is the Army Community Covenant?

The Army's Community Covenant is designed to develop and foster effective state and community partnerships with the Army in improving the quality of life for Soldiers and their Families, both at their current duty stations and as they transfer from state to state.

The Army Community Covenant is tailored at the local level, with leaders at both local and state levels participating in covenant signings, planned between April and December 2008, recognizing the strength of Army Soldiers and their Families and the support of their local community.

Listed to the right are some of the Best Practices of support to Soldiers and Family members provided by America's communities. For a more detailed listing of Best Practices, or for other opportunities to give to Soldiers and their Families, please visit: [www.communitycovenant.army.mil](http://www.communitycovenant.army.mil)



### National Initiatives

**CARE FOR THE GUARD AND RESERVE:** With more than 40 percent of the National Guard and Reserve engaged in overseas military operations, governors are offering expanded benefits such as health care cost, life insurance, unemployment benefits and emergency financial assistance.

**EDUCATION SUPPORT:** Many states and territories offer education benefits to Military Service members and their families, such as tuition assistance, scholarships for family members, and support to families of the fallen.

**EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT:** Many federal, state, and private sector initiatives have been developed that provide military spouses the opportunity to attain financial security and achieve employment goals through career mobility and enhanced employment options. Other programs support Soldiers as they transition from the military to civilian life.

**FAMILY SUPPORT:** Various non-profit organizations provide numerous forms of assistance to military families. Many programs focus on children and youth impacted by deployment or support children through trauma and loss.

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT:** A number of states provide unemployment compensation to spouses who leave employment because of a military move. There are also a number of non-profit programs that help military families with financial needs.

**VOTING SUPPORT:** Over 30 bills were enacted by states in 2007 to address flexible and expedited processes to aid military-connected voters in deployed areas.

**WOUNDED WARRIOR SUPPORT:** Many organizations provide support to wounded Soldiers and their Families, including tailored transition assistance and specialty housing.

### Featured Programs

**INTERSTATE COMPACT ON EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR MILITARY CHILDREN:** This important legislation addresses the educational transition needs of military children as they move from state to state. Features include: eligibility, enrollment, placement and graduation requirements. Eleven states have enacted legislation.

**IN-STATE TUITION:** Thirty-five states provide full in-state tuition to military families, including continuation of the discounted rate when military sponsor is reassigned out of state.

**ADOPT-A-UNIT (FORT HOOD):** All in uniform at Fort Hood are either deployed, have just returned, or are on the way. The communities of Central Texas provide unquestioned support to Fort Hood's Soldiers and their Families by sending letters and packages to Soldiers "downrange" while making the families who remain behind a part of their own.

**WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT:** This program raises public awareness of the needs of our severely injured Service men and women, and provides unique, direct programs and services to meet their needs.

**TRAGEDY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR SURVIVORS (TAPS):** TAPS provides help, hope, and healing to anyone who lost a loved one in military service. TAPS is accessible anytime to talk, to meet with others who have shared experiences and understanding, or to find support and information from a professional network of resources.

**AMERICA SUPPORTS YOU:** This program provides opportunities for citizens to show their support for the US Armed Forces. America Supports You connects Americans with homefront groups offering a variety of support to the military community.



## Army Community Covenant

SUPPORTING THOSE WHO SERVE

Together, We are committed to building strong communities.

We, the Community, recognize...

The commitment Soldiers and their Families are making every day.

The strength of Soldiers comes from the strength of their Families.

The strength of Families is supported by the strength of the Community.

The strength of the Community comes from the support of Employers, Educators, Civic and Business Leaders, and its Citizens.

We, the Community, are committed to...

Building partnerships that support the strength, resilience, and readiness of Soldiers and their Families.

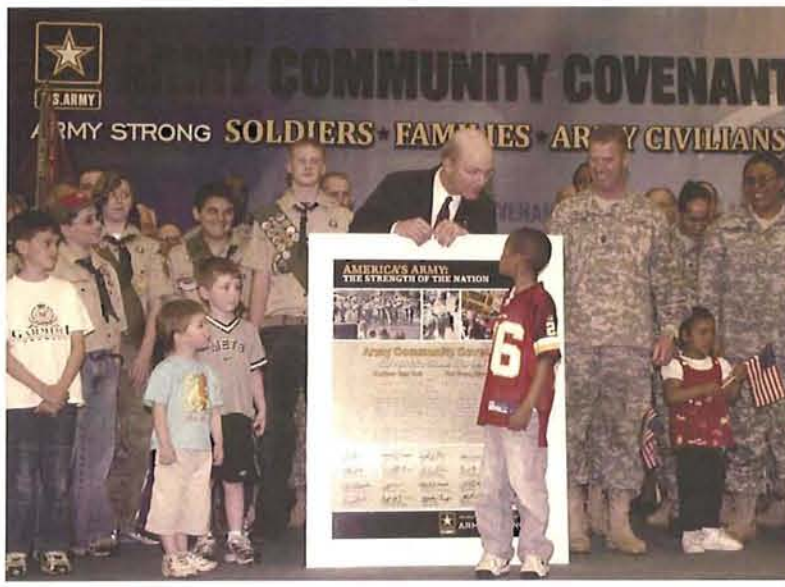
Assisting in the implementation of the Army Family Covenant.

## AMERICA'S ARMY: THE STRENGTH OF THE NATION™

For more information on the Army Community Covenant, please visit the Community Covenant Web site at:  
[WWW.COMMUNITYCOVENANT.ARMY.MIL](http://WWW.COMMUNITYCOVENANT.ARMY.MIL)

The site features a list of organizations and programs which currently support Army Soldiers and their Families.

Advertisements, promotions, statements and logos are those of the non-Federal entities listed. The United States Army neither states nor implies any endorsement, association or recommendation with regard to these organizations.



This Web site is not intended to solicit donations but to provide the American public with information on methods by which citizens, organizations, and corporations can donate cash or goods and services to benefit Soldiers and their Families. For more information, visit [giftstoarmy.army.mil](http://giftstoarmy.army.mil).



SOLDIERS \* FAMILIES \* ARMY CIVILIANS  
**ARMY STRONG.™**

**ARMY COMMUNITY COVENANT**  
SUPPORTING THOSE WHO SERVE