



Looking Ahead

Winter 2018

Don't Miss this Opportunity!!!

TOWN HALL MEETING

Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.
Fairway Center – 10600 W Peoria Avenue

LUKE AIR FORCE BASE 56 FIGHTER WING BRIEF • Learn about Current Activity at Luke!



- Short history of Luke AFB
- Update on F-16 to F-35 transition
 - Force structure overview
- Types of training conducted on Luke
- Partner Nations training at Luke AFB

Guest Speakers:

James “Rusty” Mitchell is the Director, Community Initiatives Team, Luke Air Force Base, AZ. As the liaison between the base and surrounding communities, he coordinates dialogue and interaction to facilitate compatible growth in areas that impact Luke Air Force Base. He engages with eleven municipalities, Maricopa County, and the State of Arizona to advance the ability of the base to coexist with its neighbors. Mr. Mitchell served 22 years in the Air Force flying fighters from Europe to the Far East, retiring in October 1998.



Christopher P. Toale is assigned to the Community Initiatives Team (CIT) where he is the manager of the Air Installation Compatible Use Zone. He is responsible for fostering relations with community elected officials and civic leaders to ensure encroachment issues do not affect flying mission accomplishments. As a part of the Luke Community Initiatives Encroachment Management Team, he ensures flight sustainability of America's premier fighter aircraft through managed growth surrounding Luke Air Force Base. As part of Air Education and Training Command, Luke AFB is home of the 56 Fighter Wing, the United States Air Force's largest fighter wing. Luke AFB CIT maintains responsibility to protect terminal airspace in the Phoenix West Valley as part of the National Airspace System. This airspace encompasses 8,000 cubic miles surrounding Luke AFB, including 20 private airstrips and 7 public airfields.

Mrs. Barbara Plante is assigned to the 56th Fighter Community Initiatives Team at Luke AFB, Arizona as the Deputy Director. She works with community organizations and individuals to determine compatible land use on proposed development that could potentially affect the mission of the 56th Fighter Wing. Her proactive involvement was instrumental in Luke AFB being selected as the premier training base for the F-35, Joint Strike Fighter. She organizes, coordinates, publicizes, and conducts community events, meetings, briefings, tours and speaking engagements in regards to air and land management around the base. With 13 cities surrounding Luke AFB, she provides daily contact to local elected government officials, city planners, business leaders, community councils, and civic organizations.



Following the presentation, questions are welcome.