United States Air Force (USAF) & Air National Guard (ANG) Basing Process

The ANG uses three criteria when selecting bases for its future missions: ANG Capstone Principles, the Guard Missions Assessment Process (GMAP) and the ANG’s participation in the USAF’s Strategic Basing Process. Ultimately, these criteria hinge on three key aspects: Acceptability, Suitability and Feasibility.

Acceptability:
Q: How does the LRE mission support Federal and Iowa priorities?
A: The mission aligns with the National Security Strategy, the National Defense Strategy, Air Force, National Guard Bureau and Iowa ANG priorities. An Iowa LRE could fill a new squadron slot in the USAF’s ‘Air Force We Need’ expansion.

Suitability:
Q: Why is an LRE a good fit for the Iowa Air National Guard?
A: It meets AF Chief of Staff priorities for cost-effective modernization and driving new innovation. Des Moines' Distributed Training Operations Center (DTOC) enables a force cost-avoidance of $900 million a year by using simulators vs live fly. Next is to integrate a Live, Virtual, Constructive (LVC) network to combine simulated and live entity training. An Iowa LRE coupled to Fort Dodge’s 133d Test Squadron & the DTOC will enable the ANG to cultivate this USAF effort.

A: An MQ-9 LRE will excel in Title 32 missions. The 124th Attack Squadron retains a skilled MQ-9 aircrew corps that can add an LRE qualification. RC-26 crews have built a strong reputation among the nation’s law enforcement community. Together the 132d Wing will be poised to lead LRE domestic ops.

Feasibility:
Q: How will the Iowa ANG recruit and sustain the LRE force structure?

A: Right Base: Current infrastructure in-place to support LRE at minimal cost.

A: Right Community: Recruiting & retention potential as well as quality of life are both very high for Des Moines. Excellent historical support from the community.

WHY DES MOINES?
#1 BEST PLACE FOR MILLENIALS
- Growella, 2017
#2 BEST CITY TO WORK IN TECH
- SmartAsset, 2018
#3 LOW COST OF LIVING
- Business Insider, 2017
#4 US BEST PLACE TO LIVE
- US News & World Report, 2018