**[Release](https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/)**

**Immediate Release**

Readout of Kirtland Deputy Commander Col. David J. Wyrick Speech at Executives Association of Greater Albuquerque event

May. 6, 2025

* Col David Wyrick speaks at the Executives Association of Greater Albuquerque.
* Kirtland’s Sandia Base Elementary School will complete renovations and open in the fall and is a joint venture between the Defense Department and the state of New Mexico
* Enhanced Use Lease is being offered along the Gibson Boulevard corridor and supports job and economic growth in New Mexico.

ALBUQUERQUE N.M. - U.S. Air Force Col. David J. Wyrick, 377th Air Base Wing and installation deputy commander, spoke at the Executives Association of Greater Albuquerque’s recent reception highlighting Kirtland’s partnership to the community.

He discussed the fiscal relationships between the base and the city by highlighting in particular the $53.5 million Sandia Base Elementary School renovation project. The school, which is scheduled to open this fall, included a grant from the Department of Defense and an additional $10.6 million from the state of New Mexico.

He also discussed the Enhanced Use Lease area along Gibson Boulevard, a 350,000-square-foot mixed-use development that supports professional job growth and generates new tax revenue for Albuquerque and Bernalillo County. The development leverages a portion of the installation’s corridor to promote employment and economic growth for state and local communities and is currently open for partnerships.

EAGA, a network of more than 100 small and mid-sized businesses, brings together executives who own or hold strategic leadership positions in their companies. By engaging with EAGA members, Wyrick emphasized the importance of public-private partnerships in driving economic growth and innovation.

He concluded his speech by inviting the community to Kirtland’s air show and open house on May 31 and June 1, which will showcase the base’s diverse missions and operational excellence.