

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 20, 2006
TO: CAC Members
FROM: Ann Oatman-Gardner, Military Impact Planner
SUBJECT: Military Impact Planning Program

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion

Ann Oatman-Gardner will present information on the new Military Impact Planning Program, including the scope and timeline of the Fort Carson Regional Growth Coordination Project and the role of the PPACG Community Advisory Committee.

On August 24, 2006, PPACG was awarded a \$518,000 grant from the Department of Defense's Office of Economic Adjustment to develop a regional growth coordination plan related to the expansion of Fort Carson. The arrival of over 22,000 military personnel, civilian personnel and their families in the next four years will have a discernible impact on the Pikes Peak Region, particularly in areas such as housing, transportation, schools, public utilities, social services and the economy.

Through the 18-month program, to be called Military Impact Planning, PPACG will continue a partnership with the Economic Development Corporation (EDC), Greater Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce and other community organizations to develop long-term strategies for accommodating the growth at Fort Carson and addressing its impact. A policy committee comprised of elected officials from El Paso, Pueblo and Fremont counties and the existing Colorado Defense Mission Coalition (CDMC) will help oversee and promote the plan. The CDMC, which includes representatives from the EDC, the Chamber, the Colorado congressional delegation, the military and other stakeholder groups, helped lay the foundation for this grant and worked closely with PPACG to gain its approval.

Similar to other expansion initiatives in places like Fort Riley, Kansas, PPACG's plan will provide strategies for municipal and county governments to address growth, recommend capital improvement projects, offer program planning tools such as a housing market affordability study, and identify funding opportunities. PPACG will create a website to disseminate information to stakeholders and the general public.