

The Fort Carson Regional Growth Plan is a comprehensive regional planning effort to help local communities and service providers address the impacts of Fort Carson growth and challenges of ongoing deployments. The Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG), with funding from the Department of Defense, Office of Economic Adjustment and other state and local funding, oversees the Growth Plan effort to facilitate regional communication and coordination between the installation and surrounding communities in to order plan for and address the impacts of population growth on Fort Carson and its surrounding communities.

The communities of the Pikes Peak Region have seen significant military-related population increases in recent years, as Fort Carson's troop numbers have nearly doubled since 2006. The rapid increase and fluctuation in troops, their families and other personnel present unique opportunities and challenges for the region. The Growth Plan is a crucial part of helping the region anticipate and prepare for these changes.

The three phases of the Growth Plan have addressed a myriad of resource areas, including the following sectors:

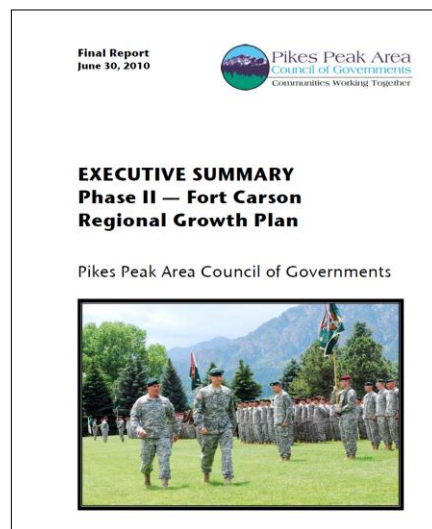
- Childcare & Development
- Economic Impact & Development
- Education
- Healthcare
- Housing
- Planning, Land Use & Compatibility
- Public Safety & Emergency Services
- Public Utilities and Infrastructure
- Social Services & Behavioral Health
- Sustainability
- Transportation

PHASE I OF THE PLAN (Completed in 2008)

- Provided a high-level look at the issues facing the Pikes Peak region as a result of anticipated population increases;
- Developed recommendations for further research and action steps to meet Fort Carson growth-related needs;
- Initiated regional communication and infrastructure to ensure a coordinated approach to address Fort Carson growth impacts; and
- Initiated transportation improvements to mitigate congestion and improve traffic flow near Fort Carson.

PHASE II OF THE PLAN (Completed in 2010)

- Assessed current conditions, including economic fluctuation affecting regional housing and growth;
- Developed the Fort Carson Demographic Model (FCDM) to provide greater analysis of Soldier and family demographics and preferences;



FORT CARSON REGIONAL GROWTH PLAN FACT SHEET



- Projected future needs, taking into account factors such as deployments; and
- Provided detailed data to help local communities and service providers manage resources and coordinate services in response to Fort Carson’s rapid growth.

PHASE III OF THE PLAN -- IMPLEMENTATION (July 2010-Dec 2011)

- Continues regional communication and coordination between Fort Carson, local governments, businesses, and community-based providers;
- Updates demographic modeling and analyses; and
- Implements the recommendations and actions identified in Phases I & II of the Growth Plan.

ONGOING PARTNERSHIPS AND COORDINATION

PPACG works with many stakeholders to monitor and assess the ongoing impacts of Fort Carson growth and deployments through the Colorado Defense Mission Coalition (CDMC), which serves as the Growth Plan steering committee. Key partnership groups include the following:

CHILDCARE & DEVELOPMENT

Stakeholders address Fort Carson-related demand and service needs for early care and education.

ECONOMIC IMPACT & DEVELOPMENT

PPACG staff and stakeholders analyze impacts to the regional economy and opportunities for coordinated economic development and workforce planning.

EDUCATION

PPACG works with school district representatives to assess ongoing trends and challenges in serving school age children, including services for children with special needs.

HOUSING

PPACG coordinates with Fort Carson and area housing representatives to analyze on- and off-post housing needs for Soldiers and families as a result of growth and ongoing uncertainties of deployments.

MEDICAL, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Stakeholders are working to develop a coordinated approach to behavioral health care and social services provision for Soldiers and families; PPACG works with the group to develop a Network of Care for service members, veterans, and their families.

SUSTAINABILITY

Based on the Phase II Growth Plan recommendations, PPACG is spearheading a Regional Sustainability Plan for the Pikes Peak region. Additional details on this effort are available on PPACG’s website (<http://www.ppacg.org/sustainability/aboutregplan>).

TRANSPORTATION, LAND USE & COMPATIBILITY

PPACG builds upon land use and transportation planning efforts to assess infrastructure and land use impacts, including compatible land uses, to meet off-post development needs and fulfill the installation’s training mission as Fort Carson grows.

For more information on the Fort Carson Regional Growth Plan, visit the Military Impact page at www.ppacg.org