

**Fort Carson Regional Growth Plan
Colorado Defense Mission Coalition Meeting
Wednesday, July 21, 2010; 3:00 – 5:00 pm
Meeting Summary**

Meeting attendees:

- Mary Barber, Fort Carson Sustainability
- Brian Binn, Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce
- Kate Hatten, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG)
- Terence Jackson, Pikes Peak Workforce Center
- Rob MacDonald, PPACG
- Tom Miller, PPACG
- Ursula Miller-Waldrip, Fort Carson Education Center
- Tim Roberts, City of Colorado Springs
- COL Todd Robison, US Air Force Academy
- Dave Roudebush, Fountain-Fort Carson School District 8
- Laura Russmann, Apartment Association of Colorado Springs
- Mike Shaffer, Peterson Air Force Base
- Susan Silva, Fort Carson - Child Youth and School Services
- Jerry Stafford, Fort Carson Family Housing
- Frank Stampf, Partners in Housing
- Mary Thurman, Colorado Springs School District 11
- Sarah White, PPACG
- Jason Wilkinson, PPACG

Growth Plan Update

Ms. Sarah White started introductions and led the discussion. On July 14th, the PPACG Board of Directors approved the final Fort Carson Regional Growth Plan (Growth Plan), which is available on PPACG's website (<http://www.ppacg.org/military-impact/fort-carson-regional-growth-plan-intro/project-materials/growth-plan-documents>). Supplemental reports regarding planning for improvements to State Highway 115, an analysis of Fort Carson-related transportation survey data, behavioral health training for child care providers, and an assessment of impacts to the El Paso County Department of Human Services are forthcoming and will be added to the final Growth Plan once finalized.

Ms. Kate Hatten announced that the Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) awarded PPACG approximately \$500,000 for Phase 3 of the Growth Plan. Phase 3 will consist of continuing information-sharing and communication, including the ongoing impacts of deployments, and implementation of the recommendations from Phases 1 and 2 of the Growth Plan. Updated information will include a new survey of Soldiers and family members to update demographic information and modeling developed in Phase 2 and track any changing trends related to deployments, housing, etc. Phase 3 implementation efforts include the development of a comprehensive website/portal to facilitate coordination and information-sharing to assist active-duty service members, veterans, and their families with behavioral health and social services needs in the Pikes Peak region; PPACG will issue a Request for Proposals for the development of the site in the near future. The OEA funding will also assist in the development of a regional sustainability plan which will link the sustainability efforts of Fort Carson (along with other military installations and local institutions with sustainability goals) with other regional efforts.

PPACG will continue to work with Fort Carson and the community to share information regarding Fort Carson growth and deployments, as well as track regional infrastructure and

operational needs related to Fort Carson growth in order to help identify and obtain federal or other funding to support local projects.

Ms. Hatten provided a summary of Phase II recommendations from the Growth Plan to the group members for their reference.

Partnership Group Reports

With Phase 2 of the Growth Plan completed, most of the partnership groups will not meet as frequently and some of the partnership groups will be consolidated.

Adult Education

The role of this partnership group will now be handled by the Advisory Council on Military Education (ACME). ACME held a successful conference in May. Terence Jackson noted that the Pikes Peak Workforce Center's pilot MyCAA program (career advancement accounts for spouses dislocated because of BRAC) will be completed by June 2011. Clarification of the DoD-wide CAA program for spouses is still being addressed, but funding has been made available for some spouses.

Child Development

The Child Development group is using the recommendations from the Growth Plan to bring attention to the economic impacts of child care and the current capacity needs. In May, the Colorado Children's Campaign held an event to educate business leaders, elected officials and other policy makers at the local and state level about the importance and economic benefit of quality early care and education. Alliance for Kids presented talking points and supplied a fact sheet developed by PPACG, BBC Research & Consulting and partnership group members that highlights the economic impacts of child care in the region, Fort Carson's direct impact to the child care industry and the off-post capacity needed to accommodate Fort Carson children.

K-12 Education

This group will meet in August. As school begins, districts will continue to monitor student enrollments as deployments continue.

Medical/Behavioral Health & Social Services

During Phase 3, PPACG will continue to host community provider trainings on a quarterly or as needed basis. PPACG hosted a very well attended training in May, which focused on the impacts and stresses military families experience during deployments. PPACG will host another community provider training in the fall. Housing Partnership Group members have expressed interest in having a training opportunity for property managers who may experience challenges among Soldier tenants.

Sustainability

As noted above, PPACG will be working with a broad group of stakeholders to develop a regional sustainability plan with long-term sustainability goals for transportation, energy & water, built & natural environment, economic development, materials management, and health. Fort Carson and other institutions with sustainability plans need community support and assistance to reach some of their sustainability goals, especially for transportation, recycling and

renewable energy projects. PPACG will convene a project kick-off meeting on August 3rd with stakeholder representatives, elected officials and the public to discuss the regional sustainability project. Draft goals for each of the above stated topic areas will be developed by focus groups, which will be reviewed by a Consensus Committee and then presented to the public for their input at the Southern Colorado Sustainability Conference in November 2010. The final goals should be completed by the end of the year.

Other Business

PPACG will host the Fort Carson Community Partnership Forum at the Antler's Hilton on August 26th from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. Representatives from Fort Carson and PPACG will be presenting information regarding upcoming deployments in fall and the impacts of growth and deployments in the community.

Next Meetings:

- **Regional Sustainability Planning Kick-Off meeting on August 3, 2010 from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. at PPACG**
- **Fort Carson Community Partnership Forum on August 26, 2010 from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Antlers Hilton Colorado Springs**