

**Fort Carson Regional Growth Plan
Colorado Defense Mission Coalition Meeting
Wednesday, May 19, 2010; 3:00 – 5:00 pm
Meeting Summary**

Meeting attendees:

- Tim Amthor, Pikes Peak Workforce Center
- Mary Barber, Fort Carson Sustainability
- Rick Bengtsson, El Paso County Department of Human Services
- Mary Ellen Benson, Pikes Peak Mental Health – 1st Choice
- Terry Brubaker, Fort Carson Education Center
- Lisa Cochrun, City of Fountain
- COL Timothy Ferguson, 10 MSG/CC USAFA
- Lt. Thomas Harris, Colorado Springs Police Department
- Kate Hatten, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG)
- Andrew Kerrigan, Fort Carson Child Youth Services
- Rob MacDonald, PPACG
- Bill Moore, Pueblo Area Council of Governments
- Rick Orphan, Fort Carson Department of Public Works
- Dean Quaranta, Fort Carson Housing
- Dana Rocha, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
- Dave Roudebush, Fountain-Fort Carson School District 8
- Carl Schueler, City of Colorado Springs
- Sarah White, PPACG
- Jason Wilkinson, PPACG

Growth Plan Phase 2 Status

Ms. Sarah White started introductions and led the discussion. The public comment period for the draft Fort Carson Regional Growth Plan (Growth Plan) ended on May 14th. PPACG will compile the comments and make revisions to the draft Growth Plan as appropriate. The final Growth Plan will be presented to the PPACG Board of Directors in July for approval and adoption.

Ms. White provided a summary of Phase II recommendations from the draft Growth Plan to the group members and asked for any comments or suggestions for recommendations or partnering entities who can help implement the recommendations. Members were asked to email any comments to recommendations by next week.

Discussion

Ms. Kate Hatten discussed the Colorado Children's Campaign event on May 17, 2010, which educated 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 the flyer produced by PPACG and BBC Research & Consulting highlighting 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.

Mr. Rob MacDonald announced PPACG's intention to convene local leaders and stakeholders in addressing sustainability on a regional level. PPACG staff has participated for the past year with local sustainability leaders from Fort Carson, universities, the City of Colorado Springs, Colorado Springs Utilities, and other organizations, to identify a process for creating regional sustainability goals. In order to gain early leadership buy-in, the group, informally called SNAPP, circulated a letter of commitment for regional sustainability and successfully collected

signatures from elected officials, business and civic leaders around the region. By invitation from the Garrison Commander of Fort Carson (a proponent of sustainability), the signatories met for the first time on February 2nd to discuss regional sustainability and how to proceed with a sustainability planning process. A Steering Committee, Advisory Council, and Technical Team were then formed. The Steering Committee has met three times since, and the Advisory Council met in early May. The members agreed to have PPACG be the convening agency for the planning process.

The goal of this sustainability effort is not to supplant or duplicate existing efforts, but rather to bolster and leverage existing efforts. The intention is also to use existing goal plans from Fort Carson and other institutions to inform broader community sustainability goals. It is anticipated that the recommendations made in the Sustainability/Economic Development section of the draft Growth Plan will also be incorporated into this effort.

COL Timothy Ferguson announced Air Force Academy's commitment to sustainability and community partnership. The base is slated to be a "net-zero" base by 2015. Efforts are already taking place, such as the installation of 3 MW solar array and improvements to the base's infrastructure. However, the AFA needs community assistance in achieving some of the installation's sustainability initiatives.

Mr. Jason Wilkinson announced that PPACG will host a second Community Provider Training on May 21st from 12:30 – 4:30 p.m. The training will focus on issues related to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), secondary PTSD, and issues facing military families. PPACG hopes to continue hosting these trainings on a quarterly basis. It was suggested that this type of training also be offered to Apartment Association members who may encounter behavioral issues among military tenants. Ms. Dana Rocha also suggested having a Community Provider Training to address Soldier higher education and workforce training.

Partnership Group Updates

Adult Education

The Advisory Council on Military Education (ACME) conference will take place on Friday, May 21, 2010 from 8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. at UCCS. The funds raised will go towards scholarships for military families. So far \$13,000 has been raised. The meeting will include break out sessions.

Child Development

As stated previously, the partnership group is using the recommendations from the draft Growth Plan to bring attention to the economic impacts of child care and the current capacity needs.

Transportation

Fort Carson is meeting with Fountain and a private developer about a possible transit oriented development site for multi-family housing close to Fort Carson's gates. Hopefully the close housing, with a potential transit service to Fort Carson, will help reduce vehicular traffic on-post. The partnership group agreed to meet on a quarterly basis.

Public Safety

The Veteran Trauma Court (VTC) currently has 30 cases. The VTC is trying to address low income housing for veterans. Mr. Wilkinson suggested that VTC be included in a few partnership groups, as there are many overlapping areas of interest.

Other Business

As the Growth Plan process transitions to Phase 3, PPACG will streamline the partnership groups, which will convene on a quarterly or as-needed basis. The CDMC will also meet quarterly after the July meeting.

The American Institute of Architects will convene a community charrette on June 3-4 at Colorado College to address Smart Growth goals for the community.

Mr. Schueler announced that there will be a public meeting to discuss the South Academy Boulevard Corridor study on June 24th at Sierra High School.

The Southern Colorado Sustainable Communities Conference will be on November 18-19 at the Antler's Hotel.

Next Steps:

- The next CDMC meeting will be July 21st from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
- The Next Community Provider Training is scheduled for May 21, 2010 at 12:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.