

**Fort Carson Regional Growth Plan
Colorado Defense Mission Coalition Meeting
Wednesday, January 19, 2011; 3:00 – 5:00 pm
Meeting Summary**

Meeting attendees:

- Carlene Bandt, Apartment Association of Southern Colorado
- Terry Brubaker, Fort Carson Education Center
- Joe Hanke, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG)
- Kate Hatten, PPACG
- Armanda Hunt, Fort Carson Children and Youth Social Services
- Terence Jackson, Pikes Peak Workforce Center
- Cpt. Guy Mahoney, Fort Carson Behavioral Health
- Tom Miller, PPACG
- Dan Molner, AspenPointe
- Bill Moore, Pueblo Area Council of Governments
- Rick Orphan, Fort Carson Department of Public Works
- Diane Price, Early Childhood Connections
- Dave Roudebush, Fountain-Fort Carson School District 8
- Carl Schueler, City of Colorado Springs
- Kelley Vivian, El Paso County Public Health
- Sarah White, PPACG

Growth Plan Update

Sarah White started introductions and provided a brief overview of the Military Impact Planning program and the Fort Carson Regional Growth Plan (Growth Plan) and the Colorado Defense Mission Coalition. The PPACG Board of Directors approved the final Phase 2 Fort Carson Regional Growth Plan in July 2010 which is available on PPACG's website (<http://www.ppacg.org/military-impact/fort-carson-regional-growth-plan-intro/project-materials/growth-plan-documents>).

The Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) approved funding for Phase 3 of the Fort Carson Regional Growth Plan, for the continuation of demographic analysis of Fort Carson Soldiers and their families, information-sharing and communication, including the ongoing impacts of deployments, and implementation of the recommendations from Phases 1 and 2 of the Growth Plan. The timeframe for Phase 3 is July 2010-June 2011.

PPACG will be conducting a 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. The survey will be circulated on the post electronically within the next couple of weeks. Depending on the amount of participation, PPACG may receive the results within the next 30 days. The purpose of the survey is to identify what services (including child care, care for special needs, counseling, etc.) Soldiers and families utilize and/or need. The survey will also help PPACG learn about their housing preferences, their intentions for staying the region and their interest in seeking adult education, job training or other employment in the region.

One of the Phase 3 implementation efforts is the development of a comprehensive website/portal to facilitate coordination and information-sharing to assist active-duty service members, veterans, and their families. This effort is based off a recommendation made in the Phase 2 Growth Plan Behavioral Health & Social Services report for the development of a primary

source of information for active-duty members, veterans and their families seeking behavioral health and social services in the community. PPACG is working with Trilogy Integrated Resources (Trilogy) to develop this website (called “Network of Care”). Trilogy will use San Diego County’s Network of Care for Service Members, Veterans & Their Families website as a template for the development of PPACG’s website, but will customize the website to meet the needs of the Pikes Peak region.

Ms. Kate Hatten provided a brief presentation about the San Diego Network of Care website and how the same tools and features could be applicable to PPACG’s site. She asked the group to think of other key categories or features that should be included on the website. Group members are encouraged to visit San Diego County’s website at <http://sandiego.networkofcare.org/veterans/home/index.cfm>.

The website will not be used for referrals and or commercial activity. All providers can apply to have their links and service descriptions posted on the site, but PPACG reserves the right to exclude providers that practice predatory, illegitimate or unlawful services. PPACG is working with Pikes Peak United Way 2-1-1, Army OneSource, and Fort Carson’s Warrior Family Community Partnership and members of the Growth Plan’s Medical, Behavioral Health & Social Services Partnership Group to help coordinate information for the website. Ms. Hatten also explained PPACG is working with community partners to identify and secure funding for the ongoing maintenance and operation of the website.

Partnership Group Reports

Adult Education

The Colorado Advisory Council on Military Education (CO-ACME) will be meeting Friday, January 21st from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at Pikes Peak Community College. Mr. Terry Brubaker provided an update to the Fort Carson Education Center’s recent funding cutbacks. He stated that Fort Carson leadership found money by in-sourcing contractor positions. The Center is now hiring 12 additional people who will be federal staff, not contractors. He also announced that construction on the elevator is almost complete. He invited members of the group to join him at his retirement celebration on

Child Development

Ms. Diane Price discussed continuing capacity and quality education issues with off-post child development services. Representative Marsha Looper introduced a bill that would create a Department of Defense quality child care standards pilot program in the CO State Department of Human Services. Pilot child care facilities would need to meet DoD quality standards and State standards. These facilities may be required to have more inspections, but it is unclear how these inspections will be funded. PPACG and Alliance for Kids will monitor the bill’s progress.

PPACG is working with Child Development Partnership Group to map current home care site and centers and areas of greater Fort Carson Solider density. These maps will help identify areas that have a greater capacity needs.

The Alliance for Kids continues to meet and work on professional development issues with child care providers.

K-12 Education

Mr. Dave Roudebush announced that he received five area school districts' student numbers and is expecting to receive more results shortly. This data on student growth will help to validate the Fort Carson Region Growth Model's projections and determine growth impacts, especially on special education.

Housing

Mr. Joe Hanke and Mr. Tom Miller are currently working on developing an apartment database using information provided in the Colorado Multi-Family Housing Vacancy & Rental Survey reports by Gordon Von Stroh and other sources. They are overlying that information with DEERS data to geographically match where Soldiers and their families are living. These apartment datasets and maps will be useful for travel analyses, like targeting areas with higher densities to determine transit needs. PPACG will roll out the datasets and maps to the Housing and Transportation/Planning & Zoning partnership groups at a housing and transportation forum on March 4th.

PPACG continues to work with the Voorhees Center through the University of Illinois to enhance and supplement the center's national level analysis for growth communities with more specific and actual data from the region.

Medical/Behavioral Health & Social Services

During Phase 3, PPACG will continue to host community provider trainings to help educate off-community health and service providers about military culture and issues. PPACG is working with Evans Army Community Hospital to conduct the trainings on a regular basis.

PPACG continues to meet with off-post and on-post service providers to develop the Network of Care website discussed above to help active duty service members, veterans and family members. Off-post providers are also continuing to meet to coordinate care and identify funding opportunities to serve military families.

Sustainability

Ms. Sarah White discussed the Pikes Peak Regional Sustainability Project, an effort to create a long-term regional sustainability plan for El Paso and Teller counties. This effort was based off a recommendation made in the Phase 2 Growth Plan for a regional sustainability plan that links Fort Carson's 25-year sustainability plan and other regional sustainability efforts. During Phase 1 of the Pikes Peak Regional Sustainability Project, which ended in December, focus groups and a Consensus Committee comprised of stakeholder representatives and elected officials, developed 20-year sustainability goals for El Paso and Teller counties in the areas of transportation, materials management, built and natural environment, economic development, water and energy, health, education and arts and culture. PPACG is currently working on compiling baseline data to help develop strategies and benchmarks during Phase 2 of the Pikes Peak Regional Sustainability Project, which started in the beginning of January. A Phase 2 "kick-off" meeting will be on February 17th from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at PPACG.

Transportation

The Transportation/Planning & Zoning Partnership Group met in December and discussed PPACG's mapping efforts, sustainability efforts and the updates to PPACG's long term transportation plan. The partnership group will meet in February to discuss the housing and transportation forum in March.

Mr. Carl Schueler announced that the recommendations from the Great Streets South Academy study will be presented to the public and elected officials on January 26th.

Mr. Bill Moore announced that Pueblo West received FASTER funding for the development of a park and ride, which will accommodate civilians working on Fort Carson. Pueblo West is working on using the park and ride for van pooling options as well.

Mr. Rick Orphan announced that Fort Carson continues to work with Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) on safety improvements on highway 115 outside of Gate 5. There will be another phase to improve the road conditions outside of Gate 6. The plan is to open another access to Gate 6 and to eventually create a four lane connection on highway 115 between Gate 6 and Gate 1. Gate 6 may be open by the end of the year, depending on decisions from the Department of the Army.

Other Business

Next Meetings:

- Next CDMC meeting: 20 April 2011
- Fort Carson Community Partnership Town Hall: 5 May 2011 from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the Crown Plaza Hotel