

**Fort Carson Regional Growth Plan  
Education Partnership Group Meeting  
January 14, 2010**

Meeting attendees:

- Kate Hatten, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments
- Carmelita Holien, Fort Carson
- Doug Jeavons, BBC Research & Consulting
- Ruthi Manning-Freeman, Academy School District 20
- Shirley Stevens, Colorado Springs School District 11
- Mary Thurman, Colorado Springs School District 11
- Sarah White, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments
- Mark Zamora, Harrison School District 2

**Phase 2 Update**

Doug Jeavons presented preliminary information on student projections by school district (please see attached presentation). He noted that the data are preliminary and will change as the most recent federal Impact Aid data for the districts are included in the analysis. The distribution of students by district is based on historical data, as well as the Growth Plan's demographic modeling and analysis of Soldier and family housing location, taking into account numerous factors, including deployments. One key assumption in the model is that the typical makeup of a Fort Carson unit (ages/ranks of Soldiers) will not change over time; therefore, projections of students for this project do not age the students (as matriculation models do). Other model inputs assume that Fort Carson on-post housing will essentially remain full; therefore, most new families will live off-post. It was noted that housing analysis information would be beneficial to the school districts as well. Kate Hatten indicated that preliminary housing information is available on PPACG's website (<http://www.ppacg.org/military-impact/fort-carson-regional-growth-plan-intro/meetings/578-housing>).

Mr. Jeavons noted that intent of the Growth Plan is to provide data on the projected number of Fort Carson-related students by district, which will enable the school districts to determine capacity needs over the next several years. He also noted that the Growth Plan model projected significant overall student increases between FY 2009 and FY 2010, and incoming data will verify whether the modeling is close or if the model or assumptions should be adjusted. Preliminary data indicate modest increases of Fort Carson students in districts 8 and 12, but a significant increase (40%) in Widefield D-3. As data from other school districts are obtained, the model may be adjusted to account for overall findings to-date.

While most of the growth at Fort Carson (in terms of unit movements) has occurred as of fall of 2009, some additional growth is anticipated over the next few years. The model assumes that current deployment cycles (1-2 brigades deployed at any given time) will continue. Scenarios with all Soldiers/families physically present will also be addressed in the Education section of the Growth Plan report.

The next steps for the education component will be the distribution of a draft report to the partnership group. This draft will update the data presented today, based on actual FY 09 Impact Aid data from the school districts, as well as information regarding special needs challenges for the districts. The group also requested that pre-K projections be included. Questions about including on-line student projections were raised; BBC will look into this matter, which is a growing issue for the districts. Mr. Jeavons also noted that the draft will include recommendations to assist the school districts for review/discussion at the next meeting. Key issues include special needs students and needs for capital and operational funding under extremely challenging fiscal conditions.

### **Other Business**

Carmelita Holien announced that Fort Carson will hold an Education Summit in early April to address impacts of deployments for schools and school-age children. The summit will be offered for teachers, administrators, counselors, etc., as well state officials and others. A planning meeting is scheduled for 27 January; please contact Ms. Holien for details.

Prior to the next meeting, BBC/PPACG will provide the group with the draft report and updated analysis for review and comment at the meeting. Over the next two months all partnership groups will review draft reports and recommendations, which will then be presented to the CDMC. A community forum to present the Growth Plan findings to the general public is tentatively planned for mid-April.

### **Upcoming Meetings/Events**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 11 February at 3:30pm.

The CDMC will meet on Wednesday, 17 February at 3:00pm

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.