

**Fort Carson Regional Growth Plan
Education Partnership Group Meeting
July 9, 2009**

Meeting attendees:

- Andee Edelberg, Academy School District 20
- Jim Felice, Widefield School District 3
- Kate Hatten, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments
- Doug Jeavons, BBC Research & Consulting
- Ruthi Manning-Freeman, Academy School District 20
- Dave Roudebush, Fountain-Fort Carson School District 8
- Shirley Swope, Peak Parent Center
- Cheryl Walker, Fountain-Fort Carson District 8
- Sarah White, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments
- Mark Zamora, Harrison School District 2

Phase 2 Update

An update on Phase 2 data gathering and analysis was provided. Doug Jeavons reviewed the information in the interim report sent to committee members prior to the meeting. It was noted that the report is very preliminary and does not include the most recent Fort Carson growth figures, taking into account the loss of the Grow the Army brigade (approximately 3,400 soldiers) or revised deployment schedules, which are currently being updated. Mr. Jeavons noted that the interim report details the Phase 2 modeling effort, what has been accomplished to-date, and how we expect to move forward. The model will provide PPACG with the ability to provide better estimates for the region on Fort Carson growth impacts. He asked that any comments be forwarded to him and PPACG. In general, attendees stressed the need for as much real-time information as possible regarding growth and deployments to help the districts plan.

Attendees noted that the data in the interim report tend to confirm the schools' estimates of numbers of students per household; the report also used the distribution of students across districts based on Phase 1 estimates; some questions arose regarding those figures, and BBC will verify them. It was noted that efforts to determine where soldiers live, taking into account rental and for-sale housing prices, will be a significant factor.

Another factor that BBC is working on is the prevalence of children with special needs. Attendees discussed preliminary data compiled by BBC (attached), recommending the expansion of the definition of special needs to include issues such as pre-school needs, speech, and other learning disabilities. Other issues, such as students with behavioral issues, should also be considered. It was also noted that the list of school districts included in the analysis will be expanded to include other impacted schools in the region, including D-20 and D-49. Cheryl Walker indicated that she would provide Impact Aid information regarding children with IEPs to assist in this effort.

State/Federal Issues

Kate Hatten indicated that PPACG and local entities, including three school districts, met with OEA's Project Needs Assessment (PNA) team on 11 June. The next step is for OEA to follow-up with a trip report documenting the meeting details. PPACG continues to work the OEA and others to stress the importance of the projects provided to OEA in order to obtain the resources critical to meeting Fort Carson growth needs.

Ms. Hatten also provided information on federal legislation (HR 2593) to provide additional funding for school construction for BRAC-impacted schools. A copy of this legislation is attached.

Other Business

The list of Phase 1 recommendations was briefly discussed. It was noted that more information is needed for districts to determine capacity constraints before the recommendations can be revised/updated.

School districts noted that soldiers and families have started to arrive and register for school; D-8 indicated that twenty-seven students have registered in the past two days. A key concern is the number of students who may register after October 1.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 10 September at 3:30pm. Any updates in the interim will be provided via e-mail.

The CDMC will meet on Wednesday, 15 July at 3:00pm

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.