

**Fort Carson Regional Growth Plan
Transportation/Planning and Zoning Partnership Group Meeting
March 11, 2010
1:30 – 3:00 pm**

Attendance:

- Mary Barber, Fort Carson
- Todd Frisbie, Felsburg Holt & Ullevig (FHU)
- Kate Hatten, PPACG
- Dave Menter, Colorado Springs Transit
- Tim Roberts, City of Colorado Springs
- Dave Smedsrud, City of Fountain
- George Sugars, Fremont County
- Elliot Sulsky, FHU
- Travis Waldrip, Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT)
- Brian Vitulli, PPACG
- Jason Wilkinson, PPACG

Phase 2 Update/Status

Following introductions, Todd Frisbie reviewed highlights of the draft document developed by FHU.

The report includes existing and projected future Fort Carson travel patterns, including Fort Carson generated traffic and gate capacity; Fort Carson impacts to area roadways, including daily and peak traffic and gate queuing issues; and a summary of findings and recommendations. It was noted that the planning time frame for the Fort Carson Regional Growth Plan transportation analysis is relatively short-term – through 2015. Longer term regional transportation issues are addressed in PPACG’s long-range (2035) transportation plan, which is currently in the process of being updated. Information from the Growth Plan analysis will be included in the long range plan; however, Fort Carson growth is only one component of overall transportation planning in the region.

Brian Vitulli distributed the draft non-motorized component of the Growth Plan analysis, including maps of bike and pedestrian facilities near the post. This section includes a status review of the Phase 1 Growth Plan recommendations; an overview of existing conditions, including Fort Carson bike/ped facilities; non-motorized efforts in the state and region, including an overview of PPACG’s Regional Non-Motorized Transportation Plan, and other local efforts, such as the City of Colorado Springs, the City of Fountain, El Paso County and Fort Carson, sustainability-related efforts (carless mobility, pedestrian/LIV system); and recommended improvements to the non-motorized system near Fort Carson.

Copies of the draft documents and meeting materials can be found on PPACG’s website: <http://www.ppacg.org/military-impact/fort-carson-regional-growth-plan-intro/meetings/583-transportation>.

The overall analysis indicates that current and planned roadway improvements are generally adequate to accommodate Fort Carson growth; however, gate capacity/queuing and bike/ped challenges, as well as on-post traffic issues remain.

Mr. Vitulli is also working on the transit component which will be distributed to the group via e-mail in the near future for review and comment.

Discussion/Recommendations

The group discussed proposed recommendations to address Fort Carson-related transportation needs, including a review of Phase 1 recommendations and proposed recommendations from the Phase 2 sustainability task. Recommendations include approach widening and re-striping to allow additional vehicle storage during peak gate queuing times and options to redistribute traffic to other gates; implementing already-identified priority bike/ped projects and bike/ped access at key gates; and identifying and addressing missing links in the non-motorized system.

The group discussed additional issues/recommendations, including the following:

- Pursuing additional study of how Gates 6 and 19 might mitigate traffic at other gates
- Utilization of the Fountain Regional Trail system along Fountain Creek to increase non-motorized access to Fort Carson
- Ensuring connections between Fort Carson's planned improvements to the off-post non-motorized system
- Exploring potential Transportation Enhancement (TE) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) projects to fill in missing non-motorized links
- Seek additional funding for transit services to Fort Carson, utilizing existing high-volume hubs, such as Pikes Peak Community College
- Ensuring Fort Carson representation in key on-going studies, such as the City of Colorado Springs regional transit governance and South Academy corridor studies, as well as PPACG's long range transportation plan update
- Exploring additional park and ride options near Gate 20

Next Steps:

- FHU and PPACG will update the draft report, incorporating all components, and distribute the revised draft to the group for review via e-mail.
- All components of the draft Fort Carson Regional Growth Plan will be made available for public review and comment in mid-April, including at the [Fort Carson Community Partnership Town Hall](#) scheduled for 16 April from 3:00pm-6:00pm at DoubleTree Hotel, World Arena.
- The next Transportation/Planning & Zoning Partnership Group meeting is scheduled for 13 **May at 1:30 pm**. The meeting will focus on the public comments received and finalization of the report; Phase 2 of the Growth Plan is scheduled to be completed by June 2010.

The meeting adjourned at 3:25pm.