



*Meeting Summary April 20, 2020*

## **Meeting Summary**

### **NAS Fort Worth JRB Regional Coordination Committee April 20, 2020 1:30 p.m.**

#### **Remote Access via WebEx**

The Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base (NAS Fort Worth JRB) Regional Coordination Committee (RCC) convened at 1:30 p.m. on April 20, 2020. The meeting was hosted by COG courtesy of WebEx video conference access. Due to the nature of the virtual meeting technology, a full list of attendees will not be provided. Roll was called for Voting Members and that information is reflected here.

#### **Voting Members in Attendance**

Councilmember Dennis Shingleton, Chair, City of Fort Worth  
Debbie Whitley, Vice Chair, City of Lake Worth  
Jack Adkison, City of River Oaks  
Stacey Almond, City of Lake Worth  
Mike Coleman, City of Westworth Village  
Jeff James, City of White Settlement  
Councilmember Laura Mackey, City of Benbrook  
Councilmember Dr. Larry Marshall, City of Benbrook  
Councilmember Paul Moore, City of White Settlement  
Paul Paine, City of Fort Worth

#### **Meeting Summary Outline**

1. Welcome and Roll Call
2. Approval of January 27, 2020, Meeting Summary (Action)
3. Update on F-35 Draft Environmental Impact Statement
4. Environmental Assessment for Dallas Army Aviation Support Facility Relocation
5. Office of Economic Adjustment FY 2018 Defense Spending Report
6. Draft RCC Position for 87th Texas Legislature
7. NAS JRB Fort Worth Update
8. Administrative Updates
  - Scheduling Update
  - West Tarrant Alliance Group Scheduling Update
  - Transportation Project Implementation Update
  - Media Alerts
  - Correspondence
  - Attendance Report
9. Public Comments

#### **Item 1. Welcome and Roll Call:**

Councilmember Dennis Shingleton called the Committee to order at 1:30 p.m.



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**Item 2. Approval of January 27, 2020, Meeting Summary (Action):**

The motion to approve the meeting summary was made by Jack Adkison. Mike Coleman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Item 3. Update on F-35 Draft Environmental Impact Statement:**

Dan Kessler gave a summary of the public hearing process on the F-35 Draft Environmental Impact Statement. A public hearing was held on March 5, 2020, at Brewer High School in Fort Worth. Dan said it was well attended by 50 plus people. The US Air Force hosted the hearing for the public to comment on the Draft EIS findings. Four bases, located in Arizona, Florida, Texas, and Missouri, are being considered to house 24 aircraft to replace aging aircraft. NAS JRB Fort Worth is the preferred base due to compatible infrastructure and access to airspace. At the public hearing, the Air Force gave an overview presentation which was followed by public comments. Chairman Shingleton represented the RCC and provided comments in support of locating the F-35s at NAS JRB Fort Worth. At this time, all public hearings held across the country are complete. Comments and questions from these meetings will be compiled into written form. The final EIS is scheduled to be out by late summer or early fall of 2020 with construction activity expected to begin in 2021 with the first aircraft arriving by 2024.

**Item 4. Environmental Assessment for Dallas Army Aviation Support Facility Relocation:**

Mr. David Boucher, with the United States Army, presented to the committee the Environmental Assessment of the Dallas Army Aviation Support Facility relocation. The facility is planned to move from Grand Prairie to Fort Worth. Six Chinooks would be moving along with aviation support/maintenance. Vehicle maintenance would remain in Grand Prairie. Two hangers at NAS JRB Fort Worth, #1404 and #1405, will be acquired and renovated in two phases. Phase one will involve hanger #1405 and phase two will involve hanger #1404. Dan Kessler mentioned that Fort Wolters in Mineral Wells is the primary training facility for the Chinooks, so the move would be a favorable one.

**Item 5. Office of Economic Adjustment FY 2018 Defense Spending Report:**

Kyle Roy gave a brief summary of the FY 2018 Defense Spending Report for the DFW area, produced by the Office of Economic Adjustment. Texas ranks number three nationwide in total defense contract spending at \$50.8 billion, and number three nationwide in defense personnel spending at \$10.9 billion. Texas ranks number two in defense contract spending (behind the state of California) at \$39.90 billion. Tarrant County is the top defense contract spending location in the United States (five percent nationwide). Specifically, Tarrant County ranks number one in contract defense spending in Texas due to Lockheed Martin as the top defense contractor in the state of Texas with \$19.4 billion in spending during FY 2018.

**Item 6. Draft RCC Position for 87th Texas Legislature:**

Amanda Wilson provided an update that the legislative subcommittee met in March to discuss what occurred at the last legislative session; to draft a legislative position; and to strategize on how to approach the next legislative session. Amanda presented draft copy of the 2021 Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base, Fort Worth Regional Coordination Committee Legislative Position to



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the committee for review. The RCC seeks legislation which promotes compatible development and quality of life, as well as, minimizes encroachment through various avenues/tools.

No action was requested from members of the committee at this time, but requests were made to provide comments to staff prior to the next meeting. Staff will seek approval of final legislative position at the next RCC meeting scheduled for July 20, 2020.

#### **Item 7. NAS JRB Fort Worth Update:**

Captain Jonathan Townsend provided an update on NAS JRB Fort Worth. Captain Townsend introduced his relief – Captain Mark McLean – who was online and spoke to the committee. Captain McLean said he is currently in New York but will be relocating to Texas this summer and is looking forward to working with the committee.

Captain Townsend said the base is designated, by the US Northern Command, as a region logistics site. The base was tasked as COVID-19 mission support at the Kay Bailey Hutchinson Convention Center, which was set up as a temporary hospital. The base provided 225 personnel for support. Due to a limited number of cases, the mission was not required in Dallas and personnel was redeployed to New Orleans, LA where there was a greater need for assistance. Captain Townsend announced the 301<sup>st</sup> Fighter Wing has a new commander – Colonel Allen Duckworth.

#### **Item 8. Administrative Updates:**

- **Scheduling Update:** The next RCC meeting will take place Monday, July 20, 2020 with the meeting format to be determined.
- **West Tarrant Alliance Group Scheduling Update:** The next meeting scheduled for May 7, 2020, has been cancelled.
- **Transportation Project Implementation Update:** Dan Kessler said public meeting turnout for concerning the Meandering Road project was good; 90 percent design goal by August with construction for 2021 is feasible.
- **Media Alerts:** Included in the packets.
- **Correspondence:** Included in the packets.
- **Attendance Reports:** Included in the packets.

#### **Item 9. Public Comments:**

No public comments were made during the meeting.