



**Meeting Summary**

**NAS JRB Fort Worth Regional Coordination Committee  
July 18, 2022  
1:30 p.m.**

**Pecan Grove Conference Center  
405 N. Las Vegas Trail  
White Settlement, TX 76108**

The Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth (NAS JRB Fort Worth) Regional Coordination Committee (RCC) convened at 1:30 p.m. on July 18, 2022. The meeting was hosted by the City of White Settlement.

**Voting Members in Attendance**

Mike Coleman, Chair, City of Westworth Village  
Councilmember Dr. Larry Marshall, Vice Chair,  
City of Benbrook  
Jeff James, City Manager, City of White  
Settlement  
Councilmember Brian Libbey, City of Westworth  
Village  
Councilmember Laura Mackey, City of  
Benbrook  
Councilmember Paul Moore, City of White  
Settlement  
Randy Skinner, Tarrant County  
Councilmember Gary Stuard, City of Lake  
Worth

Brinda Rhodes, White Settlement Chamber of  
Commerce  
Sandra Sadek, Fort Worth Report  
Mike Senigo, 301st Fighter Wing  
Ron Smith, Aledo/Tri-County Electric  
Cooperative  
Ed Spurlin, NAS JRB Fort Worth  
Susan Young, Tarrant County

**NCTCOG Staff in Attendance**

Nicholas Allen  
Jaclym Castillo  
Kyle Roy  
Kim Wilder  
Amanda Wilson

**Non-Voting Members in Attendance**

Dan Kessler, NCTCOG  
Captain Mark McLean, NAS JRB Fort Worth  
Tina Nikolic, Tarrant Regional Water District

**Others Present**

Charlie Cripliver, U.S. Representative  
Kay Granger's Office  
Master-at-Arms Ryan Gerth, NAS JRB  
Fort Worth  
Eric Greenman, CP&Y  
Ben Harrison, 301st Fighter Wing  
Doug Howard, City of Benbrook  
Stephen Murray, City of Fort Worth  
James Myrick, City of River Oaks  
Dan Novak  
Lt. Amy Pearson, NAS JRB Fort Worth  
Roger Peimann, Fort Worth Air Power Council  
Kevin Pottinger, Texas Military Preparedness  
Commission

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## **Meeting Summary Outline**

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Approval of April 18, 2022 Meeting Summary (Action)
4. 2023-2024 Officer Nominating Subcommittee
5. NAS JRB Fort Worth Tenant Commands Series: Military Working Dog Program
6. Defense Community Infrastructure Program Grant Submittal
7. NAS JRB Fort Worth Update
8. Development Review Tool Projects
9. JLUS Update
10. Legislative Program for 88th Texas Legislature
11. Administrative Updates
  - Annual Review of Non-Voting Members and Mission Statement Adoption
  - Scheduling Update
  - Transportation Project Implementation Update
  - Media Alerts
  - Correspondence
  - Attendance Report
12. Public Comments

### **Item 1. Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge**

Chair Mike Coleman called the Committee to order at 1:30 p.m.

### **Item 2. Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair read the RCC mission statement. Members and audience members in attendance introduced themselves.

### **Item 3. Approval of April 18, 2022 Meeting Summary (Action)**

The motion to approve amended minutes was requested by Chair Mike Coleman. The Chair also noted that the draft meeting summary had been corrected to show Councilmember Leonard Firestone's attendance. Randy Skinner made the motion. Councilmember Laura Mackey seconded the motion. The meeting summary for April 18, 2022, passed unanimously.

### **Item 4. 2023-2024 Officer Nominating Subcommittee**

An officer nominating subcommittee was established and appointed by the Chair. Amanda Wilson explained officers can serve for a two-year term which can be extended for an additional term if the nominating committee renominates them. She announced that three individuals have been selected to participate and all three agreed to serve on the committee: Randy Skinner, Stacey Almond, and Councilmember Paul Moore.

### **Item 5. NAS JRB Fort Worth Tenant Commands Series: Military Working Dog Program**

Captain Mark McLean introduced Navy Security Officer Lieutenant Amy Pearson and Petty Officer Master-at-Arms Ryan Gerth to present the Military Working Dog Program of NAS JRB Fort Worth. Lieutenant Pearson gave background on the mission of the program. The Security Department of

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the installation is mostly comprised of Master-at-Arms officers, and its primary focus is force protection. Force protection consists of anti-terrorism, physical security, and law enforcement, which are basic base security operations. The primary focus of a Master-at-Arms is security and force protection at sea, on shore, and expeditionary environments.

Master-at-Arms Ryan Gerth presented Military Working Dog (MWD) Bush to the committee and explained Bush's role as a Patrol Explosive Detector Dog for the United States Navy. Bush is an 8.5-year-old Belgian Malinois. MA2 Gerth explained there are two types of dogs: Drug Detector and Explosive Detector dogs. He has been Bush's handler for two years, and although they occasionally work on Navy ships, they are never assigned to them. Military Working Dogs will be assigned to work with Secret Service missions, including for the President of the United States, Vice President, First Lady, and former Presidents, to inspect locations for bombs.

MA2 Gerth then demonstrated training movements with Bush and described a typical day for him. Belgium Malinois are the primary MWD of the US Military and are similar to German shepherds. They are trained at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio and are taught sounds, verbal language (English) and sign language. In response to a question from Councilmember Stuard, MA2 Gerth explained the dogs are not trained to receive commands in foreign languages. MWDs will work as long as they are able. MA2 Gerth said there are thousands of MWDs in the US military, and he explained that dogs are able to detect explosives due to their complex and superior olfactory systems. Bush will retire with MA2 Gerth as his handler.

#### **Item 6. Defense Community Infrastructure Program Grant Submittal**

Dan Kessler gave an update on a grant submittal to the Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP) by the City of White Settlement. He said the proposal was submitted by the deadline of July 18, 2022, and thanked NCTCOG staff in attendance for their hard work preparing it. Dan also acknowledged NAS JRB Fort Worth and the Texas Military Department with their contributions to the proposal.

Dan said proposals are evaluated according to their ability to address military value, installation resilience, and military family quality of life. Qualifications are a minimum 30% non-federal match requirement, and proposals must be construction-ready within the first 12 months after the grant award. Eligible activities include only hard construction and renovation costs outside of local installation property; this is defined as property not owned by the local installation or any component of the Department of Defense (DOD).

The proposal is for the City of White Settlement Stormwater Mitigation Project. Funding is needed to address the undersized drainage system that causes flooding affecting the Texas Army National Guard facility and residential properties near Shoreview Drive, located west of NAS JRB Fort Worth. The total cost of the project was estimated to be \$1,470,000, with White Settlement providing \$440,000 in matching funds, but Dan said the final project cost has increased to approximately \$1.8 million. The design phase of the project began in October 2020 and will end in September 2022. Construction should start in July 2023 and end by July 2024. Dan said we expect to receive a response in two weeks, and, if selected, would submit a formal grant application in mid-August. Awards will be announced this fall. Dan also said that the area around NAS JRB has a long-term flooding issue that will continue to require attention. White Settlement City Manager Jeff James elaborated on the flooding problems in residential areas of his city.

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Councilmember Brian Libbey asked about where the new drainage ditch will direct water, and Dan explained the ditch will drain into Lake Worth. Captain McLean thanked Dan Kessler and Jeff James for their leadership on the project and said the base had recently received funding to build a retaining wall to address erosion. Dan added that there is currently lots of federal grant funding available and said NCTCOG staff are able to provide assistance with applications. He also advised cities to set aside funding to meet local match requirements for potential projects.

Finally, Dan updated the committee on the Strategic Parcel Acquisition and Reuse Program. The RTC approved \$2,250,000 to acquire a parcel at the southern end of NAS JRB's runway, which is occupied by Cowtown BBQ. With the acquisition, the parcel is now owned by the city of White Settlement. Staff are now working with White Settlement to acquire a second parcel with an easement to the west of Cowtown BBQ.

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

Captain Mark McLean provided updates on several items occurring at NAS JRB Fort Worth. He said the base is working to establish joint relation security training relationships with Fort Worth, Lake Worth, and Westworth Village. He noted the recent active shooter situation at the adjoining Lockheed Martin facility underscored the base's need to draw upon the experience of neighboring cities.

Captain McLean said Mr. Ed Spurlin is working on a Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant application with the City of Fort Worth to fund the installation of perimeter fencing with two-factor authentication at each of the base's four vehicle gates.

Captain McLean addressed inaccuracies in a recent Fort Worth Star-Telegram article. The newspaper reported an inaccurate lower base population and job numbers and did not properly value the economic impact of reservists. Captain McLean requested a correction and received an apology since the reporter had not asked the base to confirm the numbers in advance. NAS JRB is planning a media outreach day in September.

The base is planning to host an event, similar to Civic Leader's Day, in mid-September for local print and television outlets. The purpose of the event will be to help build a better relationship with the media by encouraging greater engagement with the base. It will also serve as an educational opportunity for our local media to learn more about NAS JRB.

The base's runway will close on Aug. 8 for repair work. It will reopen on Aug. 15, operating with 9,000 feet for four months while work occurs. The work should conclude by the end of the year, at which point the runway will reopen at its usual 12,000 feet. \$4 million in funding will be utilized to remove rubber from the runway and add joint sealant to straighten the runway's pavement.

Tarrant County Food Bank donated \$45,000 to the Holidays and Heroes 501(c)3 mission. The donation will help NAS JRB Fort Worth junior enlisted families with food to prepare a Thanksgiving meal. Finally, the City of Westworth Village has opened a new aviation-themed kids' park.

### **Item 8. Development Review Tool Projects**

Kyle Roy presented three projects submitted to the online Development Review Tool:

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- Fort Worth: Project 153 - The project is a proposed zoning change to a hotel zoning classification. The property is currently vacant and located at 9750 Legacy Drive Road, west of State Highway 820. The property falls outside the 65 dB Noise Contour of NAS JRB Fort Worth. The project was found to be consistent with JLUS recommendations.
- Fort Worth: Project 156 – The project is a proposed zoning change to expand an electrical substation. The property is located at 7400-7800 Calmont Avenue south of Interstate Highway 30, and the applicant is Oncor. The substation expansion would fall in the 70 dB Noise Contour and lie partially within Accident Potential Zone (APZ) I. However, no major above ground transmission lines are planned. Therefore, the project was determined to be consistent with JLUS recommendations.
- White Settlement: Project 157 – The project is a proposed zoning change to a mixed-use overlay district for manufacturing, assembly, and warehouse use with potential office space. The property is currently vacant and located at 1650 S. Cherry Lane, north of Interstate Highway 30 and falls within the 65 and 70 dB Noise Contours. The project was determined to be consistent with JLUS recommendations, provided there are sound attenuation measures are taken in office spaces.

## **Item 9. JLUS Updates**

Amanda Wilson provided updates on work for the Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) Implementation Grant. She said the summer and fall will be heavy mapping and analysis work. Since the last meeting, work has continued on mapping efforts such as a city-by-city analysis of parcel compatibility and recommendations; updating the 2018 JLUS report land use analysis with 2020 data; identifying eligible properties for the upcoming Noise Mitigation Program; finalizing a development review tool update; exploring options for a self-service compatibility map; documenting previous compatibility actions.

Amanda said work is being done to schedule a regional forum for all military installations as well as a workshop to review the steps needed to implement recommendations from the Planning Livable Military Communities study. She anticipates a fall timeframe for both events. Also, there will be a Texas Compatible Use Forum virtual meeting on Aug. 4. Forum topics discussed will be legislation and REPI, a DOD program that buys land or development rights to preserve natural areas. DOD has been asked to put together a panel for us to highlight features of successful applications. RCC members are invited to participate.

## **Item 10. Legislative Program for 88th Texas Legislature**

Nick Allen provided an overview of the draft Legislative Program for the 88th Texas Legislature. He shared with the committee the development timeline. The final legislative program will be an action item at the next RCC meeting on Oct. 17. Bill pre-filing will take place on Nov. 9, and the 88th Texas Legislature will convene on Jan. 23, 2023 through May 31, 2023. Nick read the Preamble of the Legislative Program to the committee and provided an overview; draft copies were provided in the Agenda packets distributed at the meeting. Amanda said staff prepared the legislative position in consultation with the legislative subcommittee. Dr. Marshall asked about a recent judicial ruling concerning SB 149. Nick said the ruling declared as unconstitutional legislation that prohibited unmanned aircraft operations near and around military installations; the RCC had supported this legislation. Nick said staff were hoping to see new legislation to address the judge's concerns but with a similar enforcement mechanism. Dan said the ruling also affected

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commercial airports, who now also lack any state or local enforcement mechanisms. Amanda explained that the legislative program is written broadly to allow the RCC to support many different approaches to address the issue.

### **Item 11. Administrative Updates**

- **Annual Review of Non-Voting Members and Mission Statement Adoption:** Amanda presented an update on implementing the new bylaws. She said the RCC approved the bylaws this past January, including a new provision to conduct an annual review of non-voting committee members. These members will consist of existing non-voting members, potential new non-voting members, and new non-voting members from outside organizations. Staff and the officers are working on an outreach plan and recommendations on the non-voting members for the RCC to approve. Also, Amanda said Kyle has communicated to all voting member cities and Tarrant County that the bylaws require RCC member jurisdictions to endorse the new mission statement by a council resolution. She said NCTCOG staff are available to attend council meetings upon request.
- **Scheduling Update:** The next RCC meeting will take place Monday, Oct. 17, 2022, in Benbrook.
- **Transportation Project Implementation Update:** Dan Kessler provided updates on several projects. Meandering Road has several issues at its intersection with Yale. The city council rejected a proposed urban roundabout in favor of a four-way stop. Due to this change, the project is delayed six months and will now let in March 2024. Las Vegas Trail is expected to let in early 2025. SH 183 consultants should be finished with their data collection, and that project is moving along as well.
- **Media Alerts:** Included in the packets.
- **Correspondence:** Included in the packets.
- **Attendance Reports:** Included in the packets.

### **Item 12. Public Comments:**

No public comments were made during the meeting.