Meeting Summary

NAS Fort Worth JRB Regional Coordination Committee
October 21, 2019
1:30 p.m.

Lake Worth Multipurpose Facility
7005 Charbonneau Road
Lake Worth, TX 76135

The Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base (NAS Fort Worth JRB) Regional Coordination Committee (RCC) convened at 1:30 p.m. on October 21, 2019. The meeting was hosted by Tarrant County at the Lake Worth Multipurpose Facility.

Voting Members in Attendance
Debbie Whitley, Vice Chair, City of Lake Worth
Randy Skinner, Treasurer, Tarrant County
Jack Adkison, City of River Oaks
Stacey Almond, City of Lake Worth
Mike Coleman, City of Westworth Village
Councilmember Larry Marshall, City of Benbrook
Councilmember Paul Moore, City of White Settlement
Sterling Naron, City of Westworth Village

Non-Voting Members in Attendance
Dan Kessler, NCTCOG
Rebecca Young Montgomery, Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce
Tina Nikolic, Tarrant Regional Water District
Captain Jonathan Townsend, NAS Fort Worth JRB
Evelyn Muelder, ELWNA
James Myrick, City of River Oaks
Dave O’Lenick, Sheraton Fort Worth
John Palmer, Gardner Capital
Roger Peimann, Fort Worth Air Traffic Control
Kevin Pottinger, TMPC
Jeremy Roman, 301 FW/Carswell Air Force Base
Ed Spurlin, NAS Fort Worth
Jill Van Hoewyk, Lamb-Star Engineering
Kevin Zeller, 301 FW/Carswell Air Force Base

Others Present
Dan Chisholm, City of River Oaks
Phil Dupler, Trinity Metro
Marcus Foote, City of Lake Worth
Greg Fox, Northwest Tarrant Chamber of Commerce (Retired)
Mike Galizio, Tarrant County
Eric Greenman, Lamb-Star Engineering
LTC Chris Hanna, Dallas Army Aviation Support Facility
Doug Howard, City of Benbrook
Joe Howell, Citizen
Cameron Lowry, Fort Wolters Training Center
Tal Milan, Air Power Council

NCTCOG Staff in Attendance
Kyle Roy
Kimberly Wilder
Amanda Wilson
Meeting Summary Outline

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge, Welcome and Introductions
2. Approval of July 8, 2019 Meeting Summary (Action)
3. Meandering Road Update
4. Update on 10th Air Force Civic Leader Tour
5. Joint Land Use Study Implementation Grant Update
6. NAS Fort Worth JRB Update
7. Administrative Updates
   - Scheduling Update
   - West Tarrant Alliance Group Scheduling Update
   - Transportation Project Implementation Update
   - Media Alerts
   - Correspondence
   - Attendance Report
8. Public Comments

Item 1. Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge, Welcome and Introductions:

Debbie Whitley called the Committee to order at 1:30 p.m.

Item 2. Approval of July 8, 2019, Meeting Summary (Action):

The motion to approve minutes was requested by Debbie Whitley. The meeting summary for July 8, 2019, passed unanimously.

Item 3. Meandering Road Update:

Dan Kessler introduced Eric Greenman and Jill Van Hoewyk with Lamb-Star Engineering who gave an update on the project. Eric gave some background on the process which started two years ago. The project is sponsored by the city of Fort Worth, but it also involves the city of River Oaks. The purpose of the project is to make Meandering Road a safer and accommodating place for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists to travel. Options to improve traffic flow are roundabouts, traffic circles and a cross section. Eric reported the cities of River Oaks and Fort Worth have agreed on a proposed cross section design that everyone is happy with to reduce potential crashes, and that it is currently at 50-60 percent level of design. TxDOT is actively involved in the project and the plan must accommodate cyclists and pedestrians due to federal dollars being involved. Dan commended Eric and Jill for a unique design solution that will allow traffic to flow better in and out of the base down Meandering Road during peak periods. A citizen asked the question of how cyclists will travel through the roundabout. Eric answered cyclists will exit the bike lane and go around the roundabout like a vehicle would and re-enter the bike lane accordingly. He added pedestrians would take the crosswalks to navigate around the area. Eric noted that the city of River Oaks would like a solution for Roberts Cut Off. The city suggested to straighten out the roadway to create a “T” intersection which would allow more uses of the land around it and to separate the intersection from 183. Eric said another work session will take place with River Oaks to discuss how to incorporate the suggestion into the final design. Dan said the updates will create a better economic opportunity for the city of River Oaks.

Item 4. Update on 10th Air Force Civic Leader Tour:
Amanda Wilson was invited, in April, to attend the 10th Air Force Civic Leader Tour and she presented on her experience while on the tour. Headquartered at NAS Fort Worth JRB, the 10th Air Force is one of 3 numbered air forces in the Air Force Reserve Command. They have 17 units across the country and Amanda toured 2 of the units: the Homestead Air Force Base, Florida – 482nd Fighter Wing and the Patrick Air Force Base, Florida – 920th Rescue Wing.

**Item 5. Joint Land Use Study Implementation Grant Update:**

Amanda Wilson presented an update on the JLUS implementation grant. Amanda recapped that our Joining Forces study was completed in 2018 and that NCTCOG has been asked by the Department of Defense to submit our implementation grant applying our 150+ recommendations. She said the DOD requested for us to connect the grant back to the original JLUS grant issues to be addressed. Amanda said NCTCOG met with the Texas Military Department, Base Commanders in Austin, and with the NAS Fort Worth JRB to confirm everything and to make sure everyone is in agreement with moving forward with the grant application process. She said we are now finishing up the grant application and budget, and the grant will be presented to the NCTCOG Executive Board for application approval. If approved, we will submit the grant to the DOD. Amanda is hopeful it will be awarded by the DOD by January 2020.

Dan Kessler stated an early estimate of the grant was approximately $200,000 – 300,000. After reviewing the scope of the project, the OEA agreed to fund up to $500,000 as well as the Regional Transportation Council with an additional $300,000 totaling $800,000. Dan said this amount should yield a duration of 3 years and that we may secure an outside engineering service for assistance.

**Item 6. NAS Fort Worth JRB Update:**

Captain Jonathan Townsend conducted a slide presentation of his report/update, covering the months of September and October, on the NAS Fort Worth JRB. Some notable events that occurred are: the base celebrated 25 years as a naval air station, the base housed 120 aircraft during Hurricane Dorian, President Trump made a VIP landing of Air Force One while in visiting the DFW area, and the base has begun the application process of applying for the Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant (DEAAG) to receive funding for renovations. Specifically, for a Fleet and Family Facility and for three colleges located on base.

He also gave an update on the F-35 Environmental Impact Study. Captain Townsend said the process has slowed down due to one requirement that has not been met. The requirement that the F-35 and afterburner usage in its operating procedures are disclosed and making sure that noise contours are as accurate as possible for full disclosure to the public.

Captain Townsend reported the base is in the transition phase of bringing in counter UAS capability (DOD wide) to handle the issue of drones flying over the base. He also mentioned the base will bid to host the airshow for 2021.

**Item 7. Administrative Updates:**

- **Scheduling Update:** The next RCC meeting will take place Monday, January 27, 2020 in Benbrook.
- **West Tarrant Alliance Group Scheduling Update**: The next meeting is Thursday, November 7, location to be determined.
- **Transportation Project Implementation Update**: Dan Kessler said the RTC has funded the Las Vegas Trail Project with $6 million and TxDOT has agreed to build the project.
- **Media Alerts**: Included in the packets.
- **Correspondence**: No correspondence to share at this time.
- **Attendance Reports**: Included in the packets.

**Item 8. Public Comments:**

Lake Worth private citizen Roger Peimann expressed concerns regarding to slow process of the completion of the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) at NAS/JRB. He stated the purpose of the RCC is to bring the F-35s and the 301st Fighter Wing to NAS/JRB. Mr. Peimann reported the community has been given several completion dates, only to be revised with another completion date once the original has passed. The delays in completing the EIS is affecting the building of new infrastructure for the new F-35s, therefore, affecting the economic impact (millions of dollars) to the community. He also expressed concerns regarding after burner take-offs at the base.

Captain Townsend reported that other parts of the country are experiencing the transition to after burner, so the base will go back to review the EIS.
Instructions:
1. Please mark the box indicating whether you would like to make an oral comment, a written comment, or both oral and written comments, and if you would like to be added to the mailing list.
2. Please fill in your name and affiliation along with address (postal and email).
3. If you are submitting a written comment, please write your comment on this form.
4. Please return this form to any NCTCOG employee.

☐ I wish to make an oral comment at the public meeting.
☐ I wish to submit a written comment at the public meeting.
☑ I wish to make both oral and written comments at the public meeting.
☐ I wish to be added to the NAS JRB Regional Coordination Committee's interested parties email notification list.
☐ I wish to be added to the NAS JRB Regional Coordination Committee's interested parties U.S. mail notification list.

Name/Affiliation: 

Postal Address: 

Email Address: 

Please provide written comments below. You may use the back of this page if you need additional space.

SEE ATTACHED

To submit comments or questions by mail, fax, or e-mail, please send to: NCTCOG, c/o Amanda Wilson, P.O. Box 5888, Arlington, TX 76005-5888 Phone: (817) 695-9284 Fax: (817) 640-3028 E-mail: awilson@nctcog.org

Website: http://www.nctcog.org/jrus

The work of the NAS Fort Worth, JRB Regional Coordination Committee is comprised of Tarrant County and the cities of Benbrook, Fort Worth, Lake Worth, River Oaks, Sansom Park, Westworth Village, and White Settlement.
I THINK THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE RCC IS TO BRING F-35’s TO NAS/JRB AND THE 301st FIGHTER WING. ARE WE IN AGREEMENT ON THAT?

SINCE 2018 WE HAVE HEARD THAT THE AIR FORCE WAS GOING TO CONDUCT AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY (EIS) AT NAS/JRB.

WE HEARD IN JULY 2018 THAT THE EIS STUDY WOULD BE COMPLETE IN FEBRUARY 2019.

IN FEBRUARY WE WERE TOLD THAT THE EIS WOULD BE COMPLETED IN APRIL 2019.

IN APRIL IT WAS TO BE FINISHED IN JUNE.

I MISSED THE JULY MEETING DUE TO A SCHEDULE CHANGE 7-15 TO 7-8.

NOW I HAVE HEARD THAT THE EIS WILL NOT BE FINISHED UNTIL EARLY 2020.

IT IS MY THOUGHT THAT WHOEVER IS DOING THE EIS FOR THE AIR FORCE HAS APPARENTLY CHANGED PARAMETERS IN SEVERAL TIMES WHICH HAS IMPACTED THE STUDY’s FINALIZATION. (CHANGED THE LENGTH OF RUNWAY PARAMETER; INCREASED THE PERCENTAGE OF AFTER BURNER TAKE-OFFS, AND PERHAPS OTHER ITEMS).

I THINK THERE ARE CONCERNS ABOUT AFTER BURNER TAKE-OFFS AT NAS/JRB. I HAVE DONE A LITTLE INVESTIGATING AND HAVE FOUND THAT BECAUSE NAS/JRB HAS A 12,000 FOOT RUNWAY, THE F-35 DOES NOT NEED TO USE AFTER BURNER TO TAKE-OFF AS IT WOULD ON A SHORTER RUNWAY. THE EIS SEEMS TO BE TRYING TO MAKE A ONE SIZE FITS ALL STUDY.

F-35’s HAVE BEEN TAKING OFF FOR MANY YEARS AT NAS/JRB AS LOCKHEED DOES FLIGHT TESTING. THE NUMBER OF PLANES, AND THE NUMBER OF TAKE-OFFS, AT THE 301st WILL NOT INCREASE AS IT WILL RETIRE F-16’s AS F-35’s COME ON INTO SERVICE. THE ECONOMIC IMPACT (HUNDREDs OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS) FOR THE AREA IS MAJOR AS NEW INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE F-35’s IS NECESSARY.

I SUGGEST THAT WE MAKE A CONCERTED EFFORT TO TALK TO OUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES TO DETERMINE WHAT IS DELAYING THE COMPLETION OF THE STUDY SO THAT THE PROCESS OF BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE, ETC. CAN PROCEED.

I WOULD BE INTERESTED TO HEAR YOUR COMMENTS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.