**Regional Background**

Communities in close proximity to a military base encounter a unique set of challenges associated with noise, safety concerns, land use compatibility, transportation, emergency preparedness, and housing. Economic development and growth are vital to the long-term economic well-being and quality of life of a community, but growth and planning around military bases should consider the operational and safety needs associated with military installations.

A regional example of communities coordinating with the military is found around the Naval Air Station Fort Worth, Joint Reserve Base (NAS Fort Worth, JRB) in western Tarrant County. This facility has been integral to the growth and stability of the communities surrounding the important regional asset. Over the past several years, the communities and the base have coordinated to complete a Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) and formed the Regional Coordination Committee. These efforts to coordinate safety and land use considerations are being continued through additional planning studies.

**Planning for Livable Military Communities Grant**

Continued efforts to plan for livable military communities in the region were spurred by a Community Challenge Grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This three year planning project will result in planning updates that support sustainable economic development strategies while considering land uses and development options that are compatible with military operations.

The desired outcomes of this project include the development of planning studies, reports, resources, and tools that allow the communities to continue to implement recommendations from the JLUS and the incorporation of sustainable transportation, housing, land use, and energy efficiency considerations into local comprehensive plans. All of the desired outcomes of this project will support HUD’s Livability Principles of Sustainable Communities. The project consists of four major planning activities: conducting a housing and retail study, planning for sustainable transportation options, developing ordinances to support sound reduction and energy efficiency measures, and updating local government comprehensive plans. Public involvement and outreach will be incorporated throughout the entire project.

**Participating Entities:** Cities of Benbrook, Fort Worth, Lake Worth, River Oaks, Sansom Park, Westworth Village, and White Settlement and Tarrant County

**Additional Stakeholders:** NAS Fort Worth, JRB, Chambers of Commerce, Department of Defense Office of Economic Adjustment, Transportation Agencies, Housing Interests, and Citizens
Development Context
When the base was first built, it was surrounded almost entirely by vacant land. Today, the base is bordered by residential, commercial, and industrial uses. Some of the existing development is incompatible with the noise and safety regulations of the base. Updating local government comprehensive plans and building codes will help ensure more compatible uses to increase the quality of life of residents and safely continue military operations.

Livability Principles
This project also aims to meet the HUD Livability Principles of Sustainable Communities.

For more information about the Planning for Livable Military Communities project, please visit: www.nctcog.org/livablecommunities or contact NCTCOG Transportation Department at (817) 695-9240

US Department of Housing and Urban Development Website: www.hud.gov