## FORMAL CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION FOR CAMP MAXEY AND FORT WOLTERS: TECHNICAL MEMO

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### **APRIL 2024**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

During the Joint Land Use Study completed in 2018, project staff utilized project review committees at each of the military installations. These groups included members from the local communities as well as base leaders. At all of the Texas Military Department installations studied (Camp Maxey, Fort Wolters, Dallas Army Aviation Support Facility), it was clear that regular communication between the military and surrounding communities was happening on an ad-hoc basis, if at all. The relationship at Dallas Army Aviation Support Facility was not at the point of having a recommendation for an ongoing, formal channel of communication, as it was seen more as an owner/tenant relationship with the City of Dallas. For Camp Maxey and Fort Wolters, however, ongoing and regular communication seemed to be possible and that it would be beneficial for all parties.

The 2018 JLUS recommended the creation of formal channels of communication for both Camp Maxey and Fort Wolters, based on the model of the Regional Coordination Committee near Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

Following the 2018 JLUS report, it was the intention of project staff to immediately apply for an implementation grant, but this ended up taking two years to complete. At that point, the COVID-19 pandemic was at its full strength and project staff fell out of communication with community and military leaders near Camp Maxey and Fort Wolters. During the study that concluded in 2018, it was found that only in-person meetings served to generate participation in these areas, so project staff waited to initiate any communication until in-person meetings were able to resume. At this point, nearly all of the military and community leadership positions had turned over to new individuals who had not participated in the original study. It took time to identify new individuals. By the time that was accomplished, project staff were focused on other priorities in the implementation grant.

Project staff still feels that Fort Wolters would benefit from a formal channel of communication with members of the surrounding communities. Work will be expected to commence during the second implementation grant. Contact has been established with new military leadership and leadership at the City of Mineral Wells. New leadership at Parker and Palo Pinto Counties will need to be contacted to participate.

It is unclear whether Camp Maxey could still benefit from a formal channel of communication. The

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installation is several miles from the nearest incorporated city, Paris. There are significant challenges at this installation, but the rural nature of the location makes any coordination a lower priority. This will be evaluated again during a second implementation grant.