

## JOINING FORCES

# REGIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE

## **MARCH 2024**

#### INTRODUCTION

In 2008, following the initial Joint Land Use Study for Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, the NAS JRB Fort Worth Regional Coordination Committee was established. This group is made up of voting members from seven cities and Tarrant County surrounding the base. In addition, nonvoting members include school districts, chambers of commerce, and other critical community resource entities. The RCC meets quarterly to discuss compatible land use near the base as well as quality of life for residents living in the surrounding communities. This committee has contributed to improvements to compatibility over time but as it is primarily a policy body with meetings open to the public it is sometimes difficult to bring complex or sensitive issues that require in-depth discussion to this forum. The 2018 JLUS report recommended the creation of a Technical Subcommittee of the RCC to share best practices and assist in the implementation of changes to the RCC Development Review Tool.

In November 2021, Mike Coleman, Chairman of the RCC, appointed a group of eight individuals to the RCC Technical Subcommittee. The Community Planning Liaison Officer for NAS JRB Fort Worth and North Central Texas Council of Governments staff serve as resources to the Technical Subcommittee.

#### TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Technical Subcommittee has met nine times since January 2022, with plans for an additional meeting in April 2024. Following each meeting, a summary was prepared and sent out that included all materials presented and any action items for NCTCOG staff or committee members. These meeting summaries and materials are included as appendices as follows:

Appendix 1: January 5, 2022

Appendix 2: March 3, 2022

**Appendix 3**: April 27, 2022

**Appendix 4**: June 30, 2022

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Appendix 5: September 26, 2022

Appendix 6: November 15, 2022

**Appendix 7**: March 20, 2023

**Appendix 8**: June 29, 2023

Appendix 9: August 28, 2023

Several key tasks funded through the JLUS implementation grant were discussed in detail at the Technical Subcommittee. Some were best resolved by this group, while other issues had initial consensus at this level before going to the full RCC for approval. Separate white papers discuss both the Land Use Analysis update and City Planning, Zoning and Building Code recommendations. Guest speakers from the Building Inspection offices of Fort Worth and Benbrook presented about their efforts to ensure that the sound attenuation required by the cities for new construction within the noise contours, which is documented in a separate white paper. The Technical Subcommittee provided invaluable input into project staff efforts, which were ultimately presented to the RCC.

Also discussed in a separate white paper, the RCC Development Review Web Tool was completely updated in a new platform using recommendations from the 2018 JLUS. The initial concept was to move from a platform that features RCC member comments on proposed developments to a self-service platform for developers and cities to be able to determine compatibility of proposed developments. The Technical Subcommittee pushed back on this concept, indicating that a formal letter from the RCC outlining any compatibility concerns with a proposed development was critical in informing the City Council about the issue. This led project staff in a different direction to retain the commenting feature but modernize the platform.

A separate white paper documents the development of the Welcome Packet, another recommendation from the 2018 JLUS. The Technical Subcommittee provided direct review of the welcome packet as it was being developed and determined the best way to get the information distributed to residents of their communities.

The Strategic Parcel Acquisition and Reuse Program is also documented in a separate white paper. The Technical Subcommittee provided guidance on the criteria and scoring methodology for this program, which seeks to identify the most incompatible parcels that may be candidates for acquisition or reuse to improve compatibility.

As OLDCC has provided information about the Community Noise Mitigation Program, the Technical Subcommittee has provided a forum for initial discussions about possible application to the program for communities around NAS JRB Fort Worth. Members have shared concerns and priorities for any potential participation. Members also reviewed draft comments the RCC provided to OLDCC on its Draft Notice of Funding Opportunity. This is documented in a separate white paper.

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"A SIGNIFICANT FLOOD EVENT OCCURRED IN AUGUST 2022 AND THIS WAS A TOPIC OF CONVERSATION FOR THE GROUP TO IDENTIFY AREAS OF FLOODING."

A significant flood event occurred in August 2022 and this was a topic of conversation for the group to identify areas of flooding. This discussion progressed into ways the local governments could look into addressing the issue. NCTCOG applied for, and received, Direct Technical Assistance from the FEMA BRIC program to evaluate options to address debris before it enters the stormwater drainage system. In addition, the Technical Subcommittee has discussed the DCIP program and has heard about two applications made by cities surrounding NAS JRB Fort Worth.

Documented in a separate white paper, the Defense Community Safety and Security Committee, was discussed at the Technical Subcommittee. Regular updates on the committee's progress were provided.

Transportation projects were a regular topic of discussion for the Technical Subcommittee. Project staff also serves as staff to the transportation planning body for the Dallas-Fort Worth region and has good working relationships with the Texas Department of Transportation. This initiative is also documented in a separate white paper.

Not all recommendations from the 2018 JLUS report were able to be addressed during the current implementation grant. Project staff began work on drafting a scope of work for a second implementation grant, to be paired with a Military Installation Resilience study, and requested input from the Technical Subcommittee.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

The RCC Technical Subcommittee has proved to be a valuable forum for in-depth discussions that are not best conducted in the open forum of a policy board meeting. This group will continue to meet as needed. Meetings tailed off in the fall of 2023 as many tasks from the current implementation grant wrapped up, but will likely pick back up in 2024 as tasks for the second implementation grant (if awarded) get started.