



Grissom Air Reserve Base Joint Land Use Study
Public Kick-Off Meeting
Meeting Summary and Presentation
June 7, 2017, 5:30 p.m.

Consultant Team Members Present:

Tyson Smith, White & Smith, LLC Planning and Law Group
Doug Allen, Marstel-Day
Vagn Hansen, Benchmark Planning
Brooke Thomas, American Structurepoint, Inc.
Kelly Cousino, White & Smith, LLC Planning and Law Group

Mr. Smith welcomed everyone and reviewed the meeting agenda. He introduced the four consulting firms and their representatives comprising the Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) Project Team, and noted each firm's role in the project.

Mr. Smith provided an overview of the purpose of a JLUS as described by the Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA), which provided funding for the Grissom Air Reserve Base JLUS and many others across the country. He showed a map of the 130 Joint Land Use Studies conducted from 1985 through 2016.

Mr. Smith reviewed the initial compatibility areas to be studied, which include noise, accident potential, security associated with nearby development, renewable energy, potential for increased development, and height of off-base structures. He noted the stakeholder interviews conducted by the Project Team may reveal additional areas of study.

Mr. Smith noted two steering committees will oversee the JLUS process, the JLUS Policy Committee and the JLUS Technical Working Group. He reviewed the membership and role of the two committees. Mr. Smith provided a list of organizations with which the Project Team is conducting interviews to gain a better understanding of the local context and the relationship between the community and the military installation.

Mr. Smith reviewed maps of the JLUS Study Area, and noted the area will be refined as the Team gains a better understanding of the local context and potential compatibility issues. He provided a summary of the JLUS process, which includes an evaluation of existing conditions, a land use compatibility assessment, and provision of implementation options.

Ms. Thomas provided a brief overview of American Structurepoint and its role in the project. She noted the firm has completed over eighty projects in the four-county JLUS Study Area.

Mr. Hansen provided an overview of the land use compatibility analysis and showed examples from a previous JLUS at Marine Corps Air Station – Beaufort (South Carolina). The analysis will be performed for the unique impacts associated with Grissom Air Reserve Base and will assess both current and future operational impacts, along with current and future compatibility concerns.

Mr. Smith reviewed the final phase of the JLUS planning process, which is implementation. He noted the JLUS could include recommendations for a range of implementation areas, from voluntary coordination to regulatory requirements.

Mr. Allen reviewed the components of the JLUS public awareness campaign, which includes and outreach and awareness component and a public input component. The outreach and awareness component includes a project website (www.grissom-jlus.org), Facebook page (@GrissomARBjLUS), informational brochures (which will be posted on the website), and an interactive “story map” accessible through the website. The public input component includes a survey, live polling at tonight’s meeting, and public questions and comments (accepted throughout the study process). Mr. Allen noted the survey may be filled out online or may be mailed to the Project Team, and responses will be accepted until August 18.

Mr. Allen began the live polling exercise, which asked general demographic questions (such as county of residence) and more specific questions about the impact of Grissom Air Reserve Base on the community (such as the frequency of noise experienced as a result of proximity to the installation).

Mr. Smith completed the presentation by noting the Team will return in the fourth quarter of 2017 to present the results of the public survey, stakeholder and public input received to date, and the initial land use compatibility assessment. He asked whether anyone in the audience had questions or comments.

Cass County Councilman Bishop inquired as to the potential impacts of agricultural dust on Grissom’s operations and noted the community’s important economic development objectives. Councilman Bishop also noted the NIPSCO [Northern Indiana Public Service Company] highline is being moved south of Galveston to avoid negative impacts on Grissom ARB.

Mr. Jim Tidd, Miami County Economic Development Authority (project sponsor), thanked everyone for his or her participation.