



COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

Fort Carson 25-Year Goals for Community Well-Being

Attendees of the Fort Carson Installation Sustainability Workshop, which convened on 4-6 September 02, developed the following long-range goals:

Improve communication to foster understanding and attain a “Community of One.”

Create regional partnerships to influence implementation of sustainability plans.

The primary issues and goals discussed in the Community Well-Being working group are described below. This information will be helpful in developing the short-term objectives and five-year plans needed to reach the long-range goals.

Breakout Group Membership

Facilitator: Mr. John Wuichet

Recorders: Mr. Roc Tschirhart, Mr. Mark Clements, Ms. Michelle Hanson

Rank	Name	Organization
Mr.	Jim Cobb	Headquarters, Forces Command
Mr.	Paul Andretti	Colorado Environmental Partnership
Mr.	Nelson Kelm	Fort Carson, DECAM
Mr.	Steve McCoy	Fort Carson, HHC, USAG
Mr.	George Gricius	Headquarters, Forces Command
Mr.	Howard Drossman	Colorado College and Catamount Institute
Ms.	Moonja Kim	US Army Corps of Engineers – CERL
Ms.	Irene Kornelly	Kornelly & Associates (<i>Our Group’s Plenary Presenter</i>)
Mr.	Denis Leveille	Fort Carson, ACAP
Mr.	Bob Ownbey	City of Colorado Springs Police
Ms.	Janie Anderson	City of Colorado Springs Police
Mr.	Randy Zettlemyer	City of Colorado Springs Public Works
Mr.	Bill Smith	Agilent Technologies
Ms.	Helen Zachry	Fort Campbell
Mr.	Dean Quaranta	Fort Carson, DPW (<i>Our Group’s Team Leader</i>)
Mr.	Jerry Haile	El Paso County Environmental Services
Mr.	Neil Katz, AIA	El Paso County Parks
Mr.	Joe Gorney	El Paso County Planning
Mr.	Danny Gray	Fort Carson, DECAM/NR
Ms.	Susan Galentine-Ketchum	Fort Carson, DECAM/PR Contractor
Mr.	Bill Alt	Colorado Conservation Board
Mr.	Bruce Miller	Fort Carson, DECAM (<i>Our Group’s Subject Matter Expert</i>)



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Mr.	Jim McGannon	City of Colorado Springs
Ms.	Catherine Stewart	Army Center for Health Promotion & Preventative Medicine
Ms.	Judy Woolley	Fort Carson ACS
Mr.	Max Canestorp	US Fish and Wildlife Service
Mr.	Doug Jardine	Fort Carson, Restoration Advisory Board
Mr.	Bill Klesch	US Army Corps of Engineers
Ms.	Dianne Thiel	US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8
Ms.	Netty Eastlake	Fort Carson DCA
Ms.	Vicki Williams	Headquarters Air Force Space Command
Mr.	Bill Morgan	
Mr.	Lee Trovas	BTR Group Inc., formerly w/ City of Colorado Springs
Mr.	Christopher Juniper	Catamount Institute

Issues and Potential Responses to Issues

Encroachment (15 votes)

Issues

- Noise and dust cause nuisances to neighboring residents
- The number neighboring residents is increasing

Desired End States

- No person or community exposed to unsafe or innervating noise levels
- City/county residents understand encroachment issues
- Noise overlay is a part of county master plan and is coordinated with local building permit applications
- Thick buffer around Fort Carson/PCMA with compatible uses (parks, open space, industrial)
- Purchase conservation easements around perimeter
- Identify encroachment on maps; market to community
- Require disclosure by developers on final plats
- Purchase ranches in Highway 115 corridor

Planning (18 votes)

Issues

- Fort Carson/PCMA and the community share some resources (e.g, air quality, water quality and quantity)
- The community knows little about Fort Carson/PCMA master planning processes
- There is a lack of regional/joint land use planning entities/processes

Desired End States

- Fort Carson/PCMA has Memorandums of Understanding with surrounding counties and municipalities
- Expanded buffer/open space works with TOPS and TOSC
- Fort Carson/PCMA representatives at council meetings provide feedback to builders on proposed plans
- Fort Carson/PCMA builds and staffs an outreach and information facility in the community, not on post



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- Land use easements (shared land)
- Establish regional planning groups to include military and civilian stakeholders
- Joint planning commission that includes civilian and military at Fort Carson and Pinon Canyon
- Landscape installation maintenance plan for a quality community
- Broader concept of regional planning (City, County, State, Federal, Tribal, School District)
- More strict security
- Joint planning group – Fort Carson, counties, cities, chambers of commerce
- County-wide on-line interactive GIS for planning information in real time
- Integration into city and county plans (comprehensive plans, park plans, water plans, etc.)
- Develop flexible and clear assumptions on each end state (i.e., growth, development, resources, war-fighting mission, support of strategic force protection)

Pressure on Resources Due to Growth/Growth vs. Development (18 votes)

Issues

- The distinction between growth and development is poorly understood
- Development may exacerbate drought.
- Resource capacity/natural water
- Resource protection
- Loss of cultural resources both on- and off-post
- Surface and ground water quality and quantity are affected by Fort Carson/PCMA and the community
- Housing market (economic) Housing growth
- “Development” lacks adequate collaboration among appropriate stakeholders
- Greater collaboration to achieve development
- Public access
- Disparate enforcement of federal laws (on-post requirements are different from off-post)
- Parks, trails, and open space
- Protection of native plant and animal species expected to be Fort Carson’s job, not the community’s job
- Wildlife
- Conservation of utilities (water, energy, gas)
- Resource obtainment: share of the federal pie

Desired End States

- All bluegrass lawns are replaced with buffalo grass
- Community and installation requirement for xeriscaping within the region
- Water leaving Fort Carson is drinking water quality
- Fort Carson reduces ecological footprint of each person on base
- Recycling and other resource conservation measures are mandatory
- Public has access to Fort Carson properties for consumptive and non-consumptive recreational uses
- Limit development on and off post to sustainable levels
- Ecological motivation for forest thinning
- Eco-regional natural and cultural resource management team
- Establish JLUS (DoD’s Joint Land Use Study program)



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- Natural and cultural resource studies maintained on Fort Carson properties
- Continue support for environmental cleanup at Fort Carson
- Federal laws on resource protection applied equally (to both federal and nonfederal entities in the region)
- Fort Carson has an approved expansion plan to implement
- Join water resources to development concept, not to the growth concept
- Intergovernmental/DoD policy plan regarding growth of Pike's Peak region and active interagency group
- Water usage is reduced 20% from 2003 baseline
- Improve regional water quality; partner with other resource managers (Nature Conservancy, Parks)
- Training to be implemented within the constraints of natural and cultural resource integrity sustainment
- Carson and region avoid additional trans-mountain water diversions; live entirely on front-range water

Transportation (14 votes)

Issues

- Commuting time is increasing for soldiers, convoys, civilians, and community

Desired End States

- High speed train east to transport soldiers for training to eastern training ground
- Park and Ride/shuttles: no vehicles driving on post
- Well-integrated multimodal transportation system (bike, pedestrian, car, rail, trails for recreation)
- Soldier/civilian reporting times are staggered, reducing congestion on I-25 and at the Gates
- Free, multi-route, high-speed, light rail uses wind-generated power all along front range (e.g., Pueblo to Denver, Pueblo to Fort Collins, Fort Carson to Colorado Springs)
- Flexible workplace – reduce traffic and energy
- Non-polluting, no congestion, serving the public, low/no cost safe reliable
- Connectivity with reduced mobility requirements (virtual office)
- Bike trails
- Mass transit and good roadways get soldiers to and from base effectively
- More access gates at Fort Carson
- DAR road connecting Fort Carson with Peterson AFB
- No fossil-fuel vehicles are used
- Regional transportation plan under joint regional plan

Education/Transfer of Information/Community Interaction (15 votes)

Issues

- There is no champion of sustainability for the region
- Front range communities have a poor understanding of the Army mission, the economic impact and accomplishments of Fort Carson/PCMA, and the Army environmental program
- Safety: crime, domestic violence
- Lack of communication
- Fundamental knowledge of ecological issues by ALL at installation, creating stewards
- Fort Carson rapidly becoming a community of the larger community
- Sometimes the mentality on both sides of the fence is “We against them!”



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Desired End States

- “The Mountaineer” (on-post newspaper) is exported to Colorado Springs communities
- The community realizes the value of Fort Carson to national and local area environment
- Information shared in both directions via TV channel 18/city website
- TV commercials market Fort Carson mission accomplishments
- Local newspaper sections dedicated to Fort Carson and the Services
- Regular open-topic town hall meetings are held for the community to discuss items of interest
- There exist standing stakeholder committees within the community to address various issues
- Establish long-range community planning committee for Colorado Springs, Fort Carson, security
- Regular interaction with elected officials; open post as a venue for selected community events
- All on-post deeply understand sustainability and desire to incorporate its principles into their lives
- Downtown/mall storefront outreach office
- There is a “two-way” flow of information from Fort Carson to Colorado Springs and back
- Speakers Bureau of experts

Soldier Readiness/Well-Being/Family Focus (0 votes)

Issues

- The well-being of soldiers and their families is inextricably tied to the well-being of the community
- Sustaining Carson MWR and family programs; family well-being begins in a stable community
- Growth causing hydrologic imbalance
- Impact of war-fighting center mission
- Need availability of career initiation or continuation for spouse/families of military personnel
- Congressional support/political support
- Cost of Operations and Maintenance at Fort Carson may reduce efficiency and long-term sustainability
- BRAC 2005
- What If? (understand systems, and relationships between them)
- Education (schools) resourcing, availability, student turnover

Desired End States

- Employment partnerships are established to create mobile careers
- Recreational and leisure services are provided
- Continued public and military access to PCMA is assured
- Fort Carson Morale Welfare and Recreation programs are integrated with those of nearby installations
- Cultural/social gaps between military/civilian communities are closed, achieving a “Community of One”
- Create sustainability training positions for family members
- Entertainment, recreation, and parks functions of all Army/Air Force sites in the region are integrated
- Regional educational/vocational support center
- Schools have planned adequately for expanding populations



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Initial Goals and Proponents Developed

Initial Strategic Goal 1

- **Desired End State:** Maintain a working and living environment within the limits of regional resources
- **Metric:** multiple metrics of resource availability – recreation, trails per capita, cultural site availability and access, water resources – water use per capita, recycling – products produced – green buildings at gold and/or platinum standard, ecological resources – measures of biodiversity
- **Timeframe:** 2027 in 5 year increments
- **Proponent:** Dept Army and local/state resource agencies
- **Issue:** Address the development pressures on our natural resources and their depletion

Initial Strategic Goal 2

- **Desired End State:** Light rail from Denver to Pueblo
- **Metric:** Number of users/reduction of air pollution/ vehicle miles/fossil fuel
- **Timeframe:** 2025
- **Proponent:** Government entities military and voters
- **Issue:** Transportation/congestion/air quality/ road rage/readiness – the ability to get to work

Initial Strategic Goal 3

- **Desired End State:** Increase communication to attain a “Community of One”
- **Metric:** # Periodic public surveys to include #of hits on web site, # of visits of outreach office, increased attendance at military and community functions, reduction in number of complaints to PAO and G5
- **Timeframe:** 20% increase in visibility every 5 years
- **Proponent:** Fort Carson Commander, Mayors of Cities, County Commissioners, State Legislators
- **Issue:** Lack of knowledge about on- and off-post communities

Initial Strategic Goal 4

- **Desired End State:** A viable and sustainable 25-year regional comprehensive development plan by 2005
- **Metric:** # of proponents participating in, adopting, implementing the plan
- **Timeframe:** 2005
- **Proponent:** Local Cities, State, DoD, Federal (non-DoD) stakeholders, community developers,
- **Issue:** There is no integrated regional plan for sustainable development; water, infrastructure, services, ecological, quality of life

Initial Strategic Goal 5

- **Desired End State:** Preclude training restrictions to enhance future training opportunities
- **Metric:** # of impacted acres purchased or protected under conservation easements in coordination with recommended new plan
- **Timeframe:** Phase 1: 2010. Phase 2 re-evaluate in 2020, Phase 3 2027
- **Proponent:** El Paso County, Fort Carson, and Local communities
- **Issue:** Future growth/development adjacent to active training areas will restrict training



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Final Goals and Team Members

Final Community Well-Being Goal #1

Improve communication to foster understanding and attain a “Community of One.”

- **Issue:** Lack of knowledge about on- and off-post communities; communication and education
- **Desired End State:** Southeast Colorado and Ft. Carson are a single community of understanding
- **Metric:** # Leader tours; # Journal references; Visitor center counts; Ft. Carson practices adopted by other organizations; # Community presentations; Periodic public surveys to include: # of hits on web site, # of visits of outreach office; Increased attendance at military and community functions, reduction in number of complaints
- **Timeframe:** 20% increase in metrics in first 2 years with continual improvement over next 20 years
- **Proponent Organization:** PAO
- **Team Members/Roles:**
 - Law enforcement PIO/participate and communicate
 - DECAM/technical experts
 - Chambers of Commerce/participate and communicate
 - EDCs/ participate and communicate
 - Councils of governments/participate and communicate
 - Other DoD and Federal agencies/participate and communicate
 - Local media/participate and communicate
 - Elected officials/participate and communicate
 - Colorado sustainable business network/participate and communicate
 - Schools and community organizations/participate and communicate



Final Community Well-Being Goal #2

Create regional partnerships to influence implementation of sustainability plans.

- **Issue:** There is no integrated regional plan for sustainable development; water, infrastructure, services, ecological, quality of life, natural resources and their depletion.
- **Desired End State:** A working and living environment within the limits of regional resources
- **Metric:** multiple metrics of resource availability – recreation, trails per capita, cultural site availability and access, water resources – water use per capita, recycling – products produced – green buildings at gold and/or platinum standard, ecological resources – measures of biodiversity; # of proponents participating in, adopting, and implementing the plan as a part of performance objectives and political agendas; alignment of Ft. Carson sustainability plans with community sustainability plans
- **Time Frame:** 2030, with annual updates; in SPPO performance appraisals by 2004
- **Proponent Organization:** SPPO
- **Team Member/Role:**
 - Law enforcement PIO/participate and communicate
 - DECAM/technical experts
 - Chambers of Commerce/participate and communicate
 - EDCs/ participate and communicate
 - Councils of governments/participate and communicate
 - Other DoD and Federal agencies/participate and communicate
 - Local media/participate and communicate
 - Elected officials/participate and communicate
 - Colorado sustainable business network/participate and communicate
 - Schools and community organizations/participate and communicate