

adversely impact upon existing facilities.

Telephone pedestals, where telephone connections can be made and brought onto the proposed site, are located along the bordering streets. The proposed Center will not adversely impact existing telephone services because the location was a residential area and the lines already in use and presently underutilized the demolition of the private residences.

The Flint River lies approximately 3500 feet east of the subject site. A "basin", located in the south central section of Parcel A, appears to be lowest in the terminal area of the cul-de-sac. Run-off in this area is expected to collect in the basin and eventually infiltrate into the ground. The man-made earthen berm that parallels North Saginaw Street on the western side of the property and extends the entire length of the property blocks run-off from the property to North Saginaw Street. Groundwater in water table aquifers, which may underlie the site, may conform with the topographic relief and flow east towards the Flint River. The proposed Center will have no adverse impact on ground water flow.

The proposed use of the site has no significant impact on any natural systems, resources, or any endangered flora or fauna.

There are no buildings on or near the site that are designated as "historically significant" and no areas of archaeological significance are present.

The City of Flint is regulated under the Federal Clean Air Act, as amended in 1990. The proposed action will have no adverse effect on air quality.

Noise levels that may be generated from air conditioning and other equipment that may be installed in the new facility are expected to be consistent with the City of Flint regulations. Although there may be some short-term impact from additional noise during the construction activities, the completed facility is expected to remain within allowable noise limits and will not adversely impact neighboring properties.

Pole-mounted street lights presently provide general site lighting. On-site lighting will be installed as part of the new construction. The additional lighting should have a positive impact on the surrounding area. Lighting can improve security by reducing crime and vandalism, and also aesthetically enhance the site.

Although the proposed project will cause an increase in the traffic in the community, the increase is not expected to adversely impact traffic flow. The proposed action is not expected to

adversely affect emergency response companies, police and fire services, hospital service or the City's public transportation system.

A public forum was held on January 22, 1994 concerning the establishment and location of the Job Corps Center. Approximately 200 people were in attendance at the meeting representing over 30 agencies, members of the clergy, community members, neighborhood organizations, businesses and elected officials. The proposal to site a new Job Corps Center in the City of Flint was strongly supported by the people in attendance at the forum.

Analysis of the following three alternatives were made: (1) The "No Build" alternative; (2) the "Alternative Sites" alternative; and (3) the "Continue as Proposed" alternative. The "No Build" alternative implies that the Department of Labor would not proceed with the proposed Center in the Flint Area. Although this would result in no environmental impact upon the area, the socioeconomic loss to the City of Flint would be significant. Alternative sites in Saginaw and Ann Arbor, Michigan were considered by the Department of Labor for the new Job Corps Center site, but did not meet the minimum selection criteria for locating a new Job Corps Center. The "Continue as Proposed" alternative (preferred alternative) means that the site will be developed to provide facilities and a setting for the Flint Job Corps Center in Flint, Michigan.

Based on the information gathered during the preparation of the EA for the Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, the Office of Job Corps finds that the location of the Flint Job Corps Center at the proposed site will not cause any significant impact on the environment and, therefore, recommends that the project continue as proposed. This proposed action is not considered to be highly controversial.

Dated at Washington, DC, this 23rd day of December 1994.

**Peter E. Rell,**

*Director of Job Corps.*

[FR Doc. 95-671 Filed 1-10-95; 8:45 am]

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### **Job Corps: Preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the New Job Corps Center in Ft. Devens, MA**

**AGENCY:** Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

**ACTION:** Preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the New

Job Corps Center in Ft. Devens, Massachusetts.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR Part 1500-08) implementing procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Job Corps, in accordance with 29 CFR 11.11(d), gives notice that an Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared and the proposed plans for the establishment of a Job Corps Center on a portion of former Ft. Devens, Massachusetts, will have no significant environmental impact, and this Preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be made available for public review and comment for a period of 30 days.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted by February 10, 1995.

**ADDRESSES:** Any comment(s) are to be submitted to Lynn Kotecki, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave. NW., Washington, DC, 20210, (202) 219-5468.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Copies of the EA and additional information are available to interested parties by contacting Albert Glastetter, Director, Region I (One), Office of Job Corps, One Congress Street, 11th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts, 02114, (617) 565-2167.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The proposed site, located in the abandoned Verbeck Housing Complex on Ft. Devens, Massachusetts, is comprised of thirty-five (35) acres. The site is part of the larger Ft. Devens complex which consists of approximately 9,300 acres, but which is to be downsized pursuant to a recommendation by the Defense Base Realignment and Closure Committee. Ft. Devens has served its military role since 1917. The proposed site is located in the Main Post of Ft. Devens, bordered by West Main Street to the north, and the Town of Ayer to the east.

Prior to initiating the proposed action, the Verbeck Housing Complex is scheduled to be razed, along with ancillary facilities that currently occupy the site. Following the demolition, the proposed Job Corps Center would be constructed to accommodate 400 full-time residential students with dormitories, educational/vocational facilities, food service facilities, medical/dental facilities, administrative offices, storage and support. Approximately 201,200 gross square feet of new structures is planned. The

proposed project will be constructed in accordance with local fire, building, and zoning code requirements and will not adversely impact local police, fire, or emergency services.

The site is located in a rural/suburban setting with substantial open space extending in all directions. To the north, across West Main Street, in Ayer, Massachusetts is a substantial wetland. To the east is a wooded hill and to the west are large, grassy fields. Towards the south are playgrounds that surround an elementary school that is part of Ft. Devens.

The new facilities associated with the Job Corps would make use of an existing roadway network and infrastructure such as water and sewer lines, telephone poles, and stormwater drainage systems. The razing operation will include removal of all asbestos materials, lead-based paints, underground storage tanks, and contaminated soils resulting from earlier fuel oil spills as required by local, state and federal laws. Conversion of this part of Ft. Devens to a Job Corps Center would be a positive asset to the area in terms of environmental and socioeconomic improvements and long-term productivity. The Job Corps program, which will provide basic education, and vocational skills training, work experience, counseling, health care and related support services, is expected to graduate students who are ready to participate in the local economy that, with the loss of Ft. Devens as a significant employer, is expected to realize an increase in demand for employment.

The proposed project would have no significant adverse impact on any natural system or resource. The existing buildings that will be removed are not designated "historically significant" and the site includes no areas of archaeological significance. Construction of new Job Corps Center buildings will not adversely impact the existing environment including surface water, groundwater, woodlands, wetlands, threatened and endangered species in the Ft. Devens area because operational activities associated with the proposed project do not represent a significant change from the historical use of the Verbeck site as a residential area. A short-term impact from construction, such as fugitive dust emissions, will be mitigated through the use of dust suppression techniques, thereby reducing dust exposure to areas in the vicinity of the proposed construction sites. The expected base-wide remediation of contamination, currently underway by the U.S. Army, both in the Verbeck site and throughout

Ft. Devens, would minimize impacts from existing sources of contamination upon the natural systems and resources.

Based upon preliminary analysis, no significant levels of radon exist on site. Water quality of both the Ft. Devens water supply and the adjoining Town of Ayer water supply document no levels of lead present in the drinking water. An asbestos assessment of the existing building complex is currently underway and all asbestos will be removed in accordance with all applicable local, state, and federal safety and health laws, when the buildings are razed. Leadbased paint, abandoned underground storage tanks, and contaminated soils will be similarly removed when the site is demolished.

The proposed project would have no significant adverse impact upon current air quality, noise levels, and lighting. Air quality is good in the area and the proposed project would not be a source of air emissions. Operational noise levels of the project are consistent with rural/suburban areas and, with the exception of the construction period, would not be source of additional noise in the area. Finally, street lights for the proposed project can be modified in the final design to ensure levels of illumination consistent with those in the surrounding area.

The proposed project would have no significant adverse impacts upon the existing infrastructure represented by water, sewer and stormwater systems. Adequate water is available to the site through the Ft. Devens water supply system or that of the nearby Town of Ayer. Stormwater runoff is accommodated by an in-place system that can be improved with minimal repairs. The sanitary sewer collection system is in place and deemed to be adequate. Wastewater treatment can be achieved at the nearby Ft. Devens Wastewater Treatment Plant or the Town of Ayer's Treatment Plant once those facilities have met the state regulations for treatment and discharge—activities that are currently underway.

The proposed site has an abundance of electrical power and natural gas delivered to its boundaries, but would require installation of new distribution systems to bring all facilities up to codes. The proposed demands on electric power and natural gas, however, are not expected to have a significant adverse impact on the environment. Similarly, traffic behavior patterns are not expected to change as a result of the proposed project; the main intersection (Verbeck Gate) would continue to provide an adequate level of service

onto West Main Street, so no significant adverse impact is expected.

It is not anticipated that the proposed site will have a significant adverse impact upon the local medical, emergency, fire and police facilities, all of which are located in the Town of Ayer, which is within one mile of the proposed site. The existing facilities will be adequate to address normal emergencies; however, they can be supported, if necessary, by other medical facilities such as the seven hospitals located within a fifteen-mile radius of the site. There are additional emergency, fire and police facilities in the neighboring towns of Harvard and Shirley, and in Ft. Devens itself.

The proposed project would not have a significant adverse effect on the surrounding community, which is characterized by a diverse ethnicity and offers an abundance of recreational, educational and cultural opportunities. Similarly, the proposed project would not have a significant adverse impact on demographics and socioeconomic characteristics of the area. Rather, the implementation of a Job Corps Center on the proposed site will help to fill a void created by the closure of Ft. Devens by providing jobs and educational opportunities for local residents.

A public forum was held in Fort Devens on February 2, 1994. There was voiced strong support from the Towns of Ayer, Harvard, and Shirley for the proposed project. All towns were in favor of siting a Job Corps Center on Fort Devens, and concluded that the Job Corps program is a very worthwhile Program and would benefit the area as a whole.

The alternatives considered in the preparation of the EA were: (1) The "No Build" alternative, (2) the "Alternative Sites" alternative, and (3) the "Continue as Proposed" alternative. The "No Build" alternative is considered inadequate because it would require fitting the Job Corps program into an existing building complex that is ill-equipped for its intended use and, due to its age, is characterized by old, out-of-date systems and potential sources of environmental contamination (e.g. asbestos, lead-based paint, contaminated soils). Alternative locations, meanwhile, are determined to be not available because all locations were originally evaluated through a formal rating process nationwide before selecting the Ft. Devens site. The Proposed Project meets both the goals of the Job Corps and the location requirements. After construction, the new facilities would be suitable for their intended purpose in the Job Corps, and would be environmentally safe and

consistent with current building codes and safety practices.

Based on the information gathered during the preparation of the EA for the Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, the Office of Job Corps finds that the location of a Job Corps Center at the former Verbeck Housing Complex on Ft. Devens, Massachusetts, will not cause any significant impact on the environment and, therefore, recommends that the project continue as proposed. This proposed action is not considered to be highly controversial.

Dated at Washington, DC, this 23rd day of December, 1994.

**Peter E. Rell,**

*Director of Job Corps.*

[FR Doc. 95-667 Filed 1-10-95; 8:45 am]

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### **Job Corps: Preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) For the New Job Corps Center in Homestead, FL**

**AGENCY:** Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

**ACTION:** Preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the New Job Corps Center in Homestead, Florida.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR Part 1500-08) implementing procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Job Corps, in accordance with 29 CFR 11.11(d), gives notice that an Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared and the proposed plans for the establishment of a Job Corps Center at the Homestead Air Force Base, Homestead, Florida, will have no significant environment impact. Pursuant to 29 CFR 11.11(d)(1), this Preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact will be made available for public review and comment for thirty (30) days.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted by February 10, 1995.

**ADDRESSES:** Any comment(s) are to be submitted to Lynn Kotecki, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C., 20210, (202) 219-5468.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Copies of the EA and additional information are available to interested parties by contracting Mr. Melvin R. Collins, Director, Region IV (Four), Office of Job Corps, 1371 Peachtree

Street, NE., room 405, Atlanta, Georgia, (404) 347-3178.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of this action is to add a Job Corps Center with 472 residential students to the Homestead area. The current buildings are adaptable for this purpose and offer the necessary facilities for the Job Corps program to provide basic education, vocational skills training, work experience, counseling, health care, and related support services. This new center will make constructive changes to existing Homestead Air Force Base facilities for dormitories, recreational, medical/dental, and administrative services, educational and vocational training, and storage space that is consistent with Job Corps guidelines and center needs.

The proposed sites, located in the former recreational area of the Homestead Air Force Base, is comprised of approximately thirty-five (35) acres in the center of the 2,900 acre Homestead Air Force Base. The proposed site is bisected by Bougainvillea Boulevard and bordered by St. Lo Boulevard to the south and east, and St. Mazaire Boulevard to the north. Twelve (12) buildings currently occupy the site. The propose site includes paved asphalt parking lots, concrete sidewalks, and grass areas.

The United States Air Force developed and utilized the Homestead Air Force Base from 1942-1945, and 1956-1992. During the course of World War II, the Homestead Air Force Base operated as a scheduled stopping point for air routes and a large training facility for fighter pilots. Due to a major hurricane that damaged much of the Homestead Air Force Base, it was unused by the military from 1946 through 1955. In 1955 many of the sections were rebuilt and the Homestead Air Force Base continued to operate as a training and tactical air force facility until August 24, 1992, when the Homestead Air Force Base was significantly damaged by the impact of Hurricane Andrew. The reuse of the Homestead Air Force Base, with a reduced military presence, has been proposed. Approximately one-third of the Homestead Air Force Base will be used for military reserve training. The remainder of the Homestead Air Force Base will be converted for other purposes, such as public parkland and projects like the Job Corps. Currently, the majority of the Homestead Air Force Base is unoccupied as a result of Hurricane Andrew. Having been used for military purposes only, the site is not currently zoned. As a direct transfer

to another Federal entity, rezoning will not be required.

The United States Air Force historically has used the proposed site for residential, recreational, and retail purposes. The majority of the buildings proposed for reuse were utilized for the same proposed purposes by the United States Air Force with the exception of Building 656, which was utilized for residential purposes; Building 902B, which was utilized for recreational purposes; and Building 914, which was utilized as the base exchange. Those buildings which are proposed for similar uses by the Job Corps include medical and dental offices for Building 656, administrative offices for Building 902B, and storage and vocational training for Building 914.

According to the 1990 census, 162,483 people resided in the South Dade area, including 26,866 in the city of Homestead and 5,806 in Florida City. The population in South Dade in 1990 was predominantly Caucasian (70%), with Hispanics representing the largest minority group (32%). The population of the South Dade area has decreased dramatically due to the impacts of Hurricane Andrew. Post-hurricane census information is not available at this time.

Ample community services are available in the South Dade area. Recreational facilities will be available at the site and a number of large parks are located within nine (9) miles of the Homestead Air Force Base. Power to the site is provided by the Florida Power & Light (FP&L) company. Telephone service is provided by Southern Bell Company.

The water and sewer is supplied by the Metro-Dade County Water and Sewer Authority. There is no solid waste disposal at the site. All non-hazardous solid waste is removed by contractors and taken off-site for disposal in the South Dade landfill. Police and fire protection, rescue and emergency services will be provided by Metro-Dade. The nearest hospital to the site is the SMH Homestead Hospital, located approximately three (3) miles to the west of the site. Because of abundant public, community, and emergency services in the Homestead area, the implementation of the Job Corps on the proposed site will not adversely impact the use of the above-mentioned services.

Natural resources in the South Florida area are abundant. Although wetlands are not present at the proposed Job Corps site, a number of Army Corps of Engineer jurisdiction wetlands are present within one-quarter mile of the site. However, the proposed reuse of the Homestead Air Force Base for Job Corps