

property disposal process. Under Section 2905(b)(2)(E) of the DBCRA, Navy must consult with local communities before it disposes of base closure property and must consider local plans developed for reuse and redevelopment of the surplus Federal property.

The Department of Defense's goal, as set forth in Section 174.4 of the DoD Rule, is to help base closure communities achieve rapid economic recovery through expeditious reuse and redevelopment of the assets at closing bases, taking into consideration local market conditions and locally developed reuse plans. Thus, the Department has adopted a consultative approach with each community to ensure that property disposal decisions consider the LRA's reuse plan and encourage job creation. As a part of this cooperative approach, the base closure community's interests, as reflected in its zoning for the area, play a significant role in determining the range of alternatives considered in the environmental analysis for property disposal. Furthermore, Section 175.7(d)(3) of the DoD Rule provides that the LRA's plan generally will be used as the basis for the proposed disposal action.

The Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, 40 U.S.C. 484 (1994), as implemented by the FPMR, identifies several mechanisms for disposing of surplus base closure property: by public benefit conveyance (FPMR Sec. 101-47.303-2); by negotiated sale (FPMR Sec. 10-47.304-9); and by competitive sale (FPMR 101-47.304-7). Additionally, in Section 2905(b)(4), the DBCRA established economic development conveyances as a means of disposing of surplus base closure property.

The selection of any particular method of conveyance merely implements the Federal agency's decision to dispose of the property. Decisions concerning whether to undertake a public benefit conveyance or an economic development conveyance, or to sell property by negotiation or by competitive bid, are left to the Federal agency's discretion. Selecting a method of disposal implicates a broad range of factors and rests solely within the Secretary of the Navy's discretion.

Conclusion

The LRA's proposed reuse of Marine Corps Air Station Tustin, reflected in the Reuse Plan, is consistent with the requirements of the FPMR and Section 174.4 of the DoD Rule. The LRA has determined in its Reuse Plan that the

property should be used for various purposes including residential, commercial, educational, research and development, and light industrial activities and to develop parks and recreational areas. The property's location, physical characteristics, and existing infrastructure as well as the current uses of adjacent property make it appropriate for the proposed uses.

Although the "No Action" Alternative has less potential for causing adverse environmental impacts, this alternative would not take advantage of the location, physical characteristics, and infrastructure of MCAS Tustin or the current uses of adjacent property. Additionally, it would not foster local economic redevelopment of the base.

The acquiring entities, under the direction of Federal, State, and local agencies with regulatory authority over protected resources, will be responsible for adopting practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm that may result from implementing the Reuse Plan.

Accordingly, Navy plans to dispose of MCAS Tustin in a manner that is consistent with the land uses identified in the LRA's Reuse Plan for the property.

Dated: February 9, 2001.

Duncan Holaday,

Senior Civilian Official, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, (Installations and Environment).

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Meeting of the Board of Visitors to the U.S. Naval Academy

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DOD.

ACTION: Notice of partially closed meeting.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Naval Academy Board of Visitors will meet to make such inquiry as the Board shall deem necessary into the state of morale and discipline, the curriculum, instruction, physical equipment, fiscal affairs, and academic methods of the Naval Academy. During this meeting inquiries will relate to the internal personnel rules and practices of the Academy, may involve ongoing criminal investigations, and include discussions of personal information the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The Executive Session of this meeting will be closed to the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Monday, March 5, 2001, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. The closed Executive Session will be from 10:50 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the Bo Coppedge Dining Room of Alumni Hall at the U.S. Naval Academy.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lieutenant Commander Thomas E. Osborn, Executive Secretary to the Board of Visitors, Office of the Superintendent, U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD 21402-5000, telephone number (410) 293-1503.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice of partially closed meeting is provided per the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. app. 2). The Executive Session of the meeting will consist of discussions of information which pertain to the conduct of various midshipmen at the Naval Academy and internal Board of Visitors matters. Discussion of such information cannot be adequately segregated from other topics, which precludes opening the Executive Session of this meeting to the public. In accordance with 5 U.S.C. app. 2, section 10(d), the Secretary of the Navy has determined in writing that the special committee meeting shall be partially closed to the public because they will be concerned with matters as outlined in sections 552(b)(2), (5), (6), and (7) of title 5, U.S.C. Due to unavoidable delay in administrative processing, the normal 15 days notice could not be provided.

Dated: February 28, 2001.

James L. Roth,

Lieutenant Commander, Judge Advocate General's Corps, U.S. Navy, Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Oak Ridge Reservation

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Oak Ridge. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meeting be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Wednesday, March 14, 2001, 6 p.m.-9:30 p.m.