

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Increase in Allowable Cost per Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) for Indian Tribes Applying for 2001 AmeriCorps Program Grant Funds

AGENCY: Corporation for National and Community Service.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Corporation for National and Community Service (Corporation) announces an increase in the allowable cost per FTE for Indian Tribes applying for 2001 AmeriCorps funds. The Corporation will consider applications with a cost per FTE of up to \$15,000, provided that the necessity for the increase is clearly documented in the proposal.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

AmeriCorps Tribal Program Officer, (202) 606-5000, ext. 417. TDD (202) 565-2799. For individuals with disabilities, information will be made available in alternative formats upon request.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended (42 U.S.C. 12501 *et seq.*), the Corporation for National and Community Service (Corporation) makes grants to support national service programs. The Corporation has sent out application packets announcing the availability of approximately \$2,000,000 for its 2001 AmeriCorps competition for new and continuing AmeriCorps program grants to Indian Tribes. According to the application instructions, no grant may exceed the total number of FTE AmeriCorps members multiplied by \$12,100. This notice is to inform potential applicants that the Corporation will consider applications with a cost per FTE of up to \$15,000, provided that the necessity for the increase is clearly documented in the proposal.

For example, if an applicant wishes to apply for a program supporting 20 full-time AmeriCorps members, the maximum grant award the applicant may receive is 20 x \$15,000, or \$300,000. If the applicant applies for 15 full-time members and 10 part-time members, the maximum grant award would also be 20 x \$15,000, or \$300,000.

Applicants should keep in mind that proposals requesting a lower cost per member might be deemed more competitive, as this is a factor in our evaluation criteria. Further, whether the Corporation will approve a budget of

\$15,000 per member may depend upon the aggregate amount requested by all applicants under this announcement.

Dated: March 7, 2001.

Peter Heinaru,

*Director, AmeriCorps*State/National.*

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Fort Bliss, TX and New Mexico, Mission and Master Plan Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS)

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: This announces the availability of the Fort Bliss Mission and Master Plan Final PEIS. The Final PEIS describes potential environmental impacts and mitigation actions associated with land use and management proposals regarding installation assets, capabilities, and infrastructure to support current and future missions. These proposed decisions are reflected in the Real Property Master Plan, the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan, the Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, and land use designations and activities designated in the Training Area Development Concept and other installation initiatives.

DATES: The review period for the Final PEIS will end 30 days after publication of the NOA in the **Federal Register** by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency.

ADDRESSES: To obtain copies of the Final PEIS, contact Dr. Brian Locke, U. S. Army Air Defense Artillery Center and Fort Bliss, Directorate of the Environment, ATTN: ATZC-DOC-C (PEIS), Building 624 North, Pleasonton Road, Fort Bliss, TX 79916-6812, or e-mail: PEIS@emh10.bliss.army.mil.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Brian Locke at (915) 568-3016.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Final PEIS includes analyses of the environmental consequences that each of four alternatives may have on land use, infrastructure, airspace, earth resources, air quality, water resources, biological resources, cultural resources, noise, safety, hazardous materials, socioeconomic, and environmental justice. The findings indicate that potential environmental impacts from each alternative may include changes to

land use, increased soil erosion, and impacts to biological and cultural resources. Cumulative impacts may occur to land use, biological resources, soils, and water resources. The level of military training use may increase under Alternatives 2 and 3. Improved cultural and natural resource management practices are proposed within their respective management plans and are expected to reduce the impacts of military training.

Public comment regarding environmental impacts centered on two principal issues: (1) Continuing availability of public access to the training complex for a variety of recreational and non-military purposes; and (2) impacts to vegetation and other natural resources arising from military training activities.

The alternatives to No Action (no implementation of Army short- and long-range plans or resource management plans, the current Fort Bliss missions, certain planned developments, and on-going maintenance activity) considered in this Final PEIS are as follows:

Alternative 1 incorporates the current missions assigned to Fort Bliss as described in the No Action Alternative. Beyond this, Alternative 1 would adopt recent updates to components of the Fort Bliss Real Property Master Plan, which includes the Long-range Component, Short-range Component, the Power Projection Platform Capital Investment Strategy, and informal modifications to the Mobilization Component. Also to be adopted under Alternative 1 are the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan, the Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan and a supplement to the Long-range Component. This includes adoption of a definitive training area land use plan for the Fort Bliss Training Complex as designated in Chapter 3.0—Current Conditions, of the Fort Bliss Training Area Development Concept. Adoption of these plans would authorize the steps leading to program and appropriate project implementation as described in the Final PEIS.

Alternative 2 includes all actions in Alternative 1 and additionally would increase, by approximately 13.5 square miles, the availability of controlled access Field Training Exercise sites on the McGregor Range portion of the Fort Bliss Training Complex. If Alternative 2 is adopted programmatically, environmental impacts of these additional proposed Field Training Exercise sites will be specifically evaluated in a separate environmental

document(s) that may be tiered from this Final PEIS.

Alternative 3 is the Army's preferred alternative and includes all actions in Alternatives 1 and 2 and additionally would adopt the training uses of the Fort Bliss Training Complex as presented in Chapter 4.0—Future Development Concept, of the Fort Bliss Training Area Development Concept. If approved programmatically, evaluation of specific projects proposed in the future will be evaluated in a separate environmental document(s).

The revised Long-range Component of the Fort Bliss Real Property Master Plan, the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan, the Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan, and the Training Area Development Concept are available for review in the following libraries: El Paso Public Library Main Library, 501 North, Oregon Street, El Paso, TX; Irving Schwartz Branch, El Paso Public Library, 1865 Dean Martin Drive, El Paso, TX; Westside Branch, El Paso Public Library, 125 Belvidere Street, El Paso, TX; Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E Picacho Avenue, Las Cruces, NM; Library, Dell City, TX; Library, 920 Oregon, Alamogordo, NM; New Mexico State University Branson Library, Frenger at Williams, Las Cruces, NM; New Mexico State University, Roswell, Library, 52 University Boulevard, Roswell, NM; University of Texas at El Paso Library, 500 West University Avenue, El Paso, TX; and Library, 20 Curfew Place, Cloudcroft, NM.

Dated: March 7, 2001.

Raymond J. Fatz,

*Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army,
(Environment, Safety and Occupational
Health) OASA(I&E).*

[FR Doc. 01-6186 Filed 3-12-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Future Development and Operations at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: This announces the availability of the DEIS that assesses the effects of future development and operations at Fort Meade on the natural and human environment.

The Proposed Action is the preferred alternative of the DEIS, and includes future development and operations of

Fort Meade's Real Property Master Plan expected to occur on the installation between 2000 and 2005 as part of plans to further Fort Meade's new mission as a Federal administrative center. The Proposed Action identifies 11 projects as being representative of the expected build out during this time. These consist of construction of new facilities that would consolidate tenants from dilapidated World War II structures and off-post leased facilities into more cost efficient and effective facilities; demolition and construction of barracks and mess halls; and providing on-post development opportunities for tenants on installations that are currently subject to Base Realignment and Closure. Other alternatives considered by the DEIS include the No Action Alternative and Alternative A. The No Action Alternative is defined as the normal daily operations at Fort Meade and adjacent areas as of 1999. Alternative A consists of constructing 9 of the 11 projects purposed by the Proposed Action, and excludes the two projects least likely to occur. Alternative A would reduce the number of additional personnel envisioned by the full build out of the Proposed Action to the installation by 272, or 30 percent of the 912 additional personnel included in the Proposed Action.

DATES: Written comments received within 45 days of the publication of this Notice of Availability by the Environmental Protection Agency in the **Federal Register** for this action will be considered by the Army during final decision making and the preparation of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS).

ADDRESSES: Send requests for a copy of the DEIS or provide written comments to Commander, Fort George G. Meade, ATTN: ANME-DPW (Mr. Jim Gebhardt), Bldg. 239, 2½ Street and Ross Road, Fort Meade, Maryland 20755-5115.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Jim Gebhardt, Environmental Engineer, Fort Meade Directorate of Public Works, Environmental Management Office at (301) 677-9365.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DEIS concluded that the cumulative impacts of all past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions would have a significant impact on traffic and air quality in the study area. Whereas the population in the area immediately surrounding Fort Meade is not expected to noticeably increase, growth in population and activity in the Region of Influence (Anne Arundel and Howard Counties) are expected to exceed the average annual rate in Maryland. Detailed studies concluded, however,

that the contribution of Fort Meade is small relative to the regional air quality and traffic problems, and that it is reasonable to proceed with the Proposed Action while intensifying efforts to work in partnership with the State and others to address the larger traffic and air quality issues.

Fort Meade is currently undertaking four initiatives that will help mitigate the adverse air quality impacts in the region: (1) Conversion of existing oil-fired heating systems to natural gas, (2) use of vehicles powered by natural gas, (3) installation of more energy-efficient devices, and (4) fostering an extensive tree planting and reforestation program. To address traffic impacts, Fort Meade is considering encouraging the use of alternative transportation (*e.g.*, carpooling and flextime), although major rail or bus lines do not currently service the installation. In addition, the construction of the MD Route 198 bypass onto Fort Meade via the former Tipton Army Airfield by the Maryland State Highway Administration is designed to limit the through traffic at Fort Meade to those who reside, work or visit the installation for recreation or other purposes. This is expected to reduce congestion at the intersection of MD Routes 198 and 32.

Other resources that would be measurably affected by the Proposed Action or Alternative A are water quality (by stormwater runoff), utility systems infrastructure, and noise. Considering the best management practices planned by Fort Meade to address these effects, no significant impacts to these resources from the Proposed Action, Alternative A or cumulative effects of other actions are expected to occur. The completion of the 11 projects under the Proposed Action would increase Fort Meade's annual economic contribution to the Region of Influence.

A public meeting will be held after publication of this Notice of Availability of the DEIS during the 45-day public comment period at a date to be announced in the local news media. All interested individuals, private organizations, and government agencies are encouraged to provide input into the EIS review process. All comments received will be addressed and included in the FEIS.

Resource agency coordination was undertaken with the following agencies: U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service; National Park Service; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; State of Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Department of the Environment, Department of Agriculture, Highway Administration,