Texas Commanders Council: Overview and Steps Ahead

Texas Military Summit
14 December 2017

Heather L. Pringle, Brigadier General, USAF
Commander, 502d Air Base Wing
Joint Base San Antonio
Commanders and DoD Reps are not here to talk about Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC)
Overview

• TCC
• DEAAG Program
• State Legislative Issues
  – The Why and the How
• Way Ahead
Enacted in 2011 the Texas Commander’s Council is made up of the commanding officers of the military installations in Texas to:

- Foster cooperation, collaboration, and coordination among all the Texas Military Installations
- Work together and with the State of Texas to promote enhanced sustainment of military training operations, ranges & airspace
Goals and Objectives

- Promote compatible land use
- Minimize encroachment – We understand it is a two way street
- Preserve military operational air space
TCC Installations - Army

- Fort Bliss
- Red Army River Depot
- Fort Hood
- Camp Mabry (Tx ARNG)
- Camp Swift (Tx ARNG)
- Camp Stanley
- Corpus Christi Army Depot
TCC Installations – USAF

- Sheppard AFB
- Dyess AFB
- Goodfellow AFB
- Joint Base San Antonio
  - Camp Bullis
  - Randolph
- Laughlin AFB
- Lackland
- Seguin
- Ellington Field
- JRB (Texas ANG)
$30M 2016-2017
COOPERATIVE EFFORT

State of Texas  Local Governments  TCC Installations
Sheppard AFB
Perimeter Security & Transportation Project

• $1.75M in DEAAG Grant
• Acquire and demolish strip mall / motel adjacent to main gate
• Build a public bus transfer facility
• Creates safety buffer between main gate and bus transfer facilities outside of the Entry Control Point
• Improved force protection and security
Tom Green County

Goodfellow AFB
International Intelligence Training Center

- $2.04M DEAAG Grant
- 6 classrooms with 65 student capacity per
- $2.63M Renovation Project
  - $2.04M from DEAAG Grant for renovations
  - $633K from City of San Angelo for software
- Will host 11 international courses in 2018
- 1st Class - 1 Feb 2018
  - Students from S. Korea, Cameroon, Kuwait, Chad, Bulgaria, Taiwan
Joint Base San Antonio
Secure Water Future for JBSA – Camp Bullis

• $5M DEAAG Grant
• JBSA-Camp Bullis relies on groundwater for water
• More reliable water sources are needed to sustain current missions and attract new ones
• Team Effort
  – Additional contributions provided by City of San Antonio and San Antonio Water System (SAWS)
  – AACOG provided materials for water mains, JBSA provided design, labor and oversight
Bexar County

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph
Land Acquisition in Clear Zone

• Privately owned land in CZ’s encroached upon the flying training mission

• State & local efforts secured $10.8M to remove encroachments from 17 parcels
  – $4.7M DEAAG Grant
  – $3.43M Bexar County in-kind
  – $1.29M Bexar County $$
  – $1.35M Federal in-kind matching funds

• Bexar County collaborated with Green Spaces Alliance of South Texas, Inc.

• This outstanding “partner funds match” elevated JBSA’s ability to obtain greater levels Federal funding under DoD’s REPI Program
City of Del Rio

Laughlin AFB
Construction of Metal Sunshades for T-6 Aircraft

• 2016 Hail Storm
  – Caused $6.6M of damage to Aircraft
  – Resulted in 80% Loss of T-6 Pilot Training

• $3.3M DEAAG Grant
  – constructed 5 rows of metal sunshades
  – AF matched grant with 5 additional rows

• Total Project: $7.2M
  – Protects 90% of the T-6 fleet
  – Protects maintainers and pilots

• Unanticipated Benefit!
  – Lighting under sunshades allows maintenance crews to work on the aircraft at night.
Val Verde County

Laughlin AFB
Defense Control Center

• $4.58M DEAAG Grant

• Vehicle inspection station moved outside base perimeter, away from highways and train tracks

• Significantly increased safety and security and decreased delays at Entry Control Point

• Meets safety/security anti-terrorism and force protection standards
City of Houston

Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base
Air Traffic Control Tower

• $3.10M DEAAG Grant
• Public-private Air Traffic Control Tower
• Worked with FAA and Houston Airport System to build $7.1M state-of-the-art airport control tower to replace tower damaged by Hurricane Ike in 2008
• Includes utility building, utility yard and parking area & navigational and communication equipment
Fort Bliss

Infrastructure at Kay Bailey Hutchinson Desalination Plant

• $2M DEAAG to improve infrastructure at world’s largest inland desalination plant located on Fort Bliss
• Produces up to 27.5M gallons of fresh water daily
• Comprehensive water treatment – reverse osmosis removes salt and other potential pollutants from the water
• Secures sufficient water for growth and development at both Fort Bliss and El Paso for 50 years and beyond
Killeen - Fort Hood Regional Airport
Army Radar Approach Facility

- $3.8M DEAAG Grant
- Joint Use Military and Civilian Airfield on Fort Hood
- Modernized outdated / failing power supply system and renovated the facility to increase operational efficiencies
- Provides instrumented radar control to military, civil, and commercial aviation in a sixty-mile radius
- Allows for around-the-clock, all-weather heavy power projection (125,926 flight operations in CY2104)
- Will enhance growth of military UAS training mission
TCC & Texas Legislature

WHY?

• State and local laws, rules, and regulations can impact the sustainment and growth of military installations and missions across Texas

• TMPC & TCC provide a vital link to advance the collective interests of both the State of Texas and the Department of Defense.
TCC & Texas Legislature

HOW?

• TCC does NOT provide official positions on pending or proposed legislation

• TCC does provide:
  – a forum to address state-wide concerns for the military
  – analysis of how pending or proposed legislation may impact military missions state-wide
LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

2017 Regular Session

2017 Special Session

Future Legislative Efforts
85R Legislative Priorities

• Bills Passed
  – Wind Turbine Farms - Tax Incentive Restrictions
    • SB 277 / HB 445
  – Real Estate Disclosure Form - Military
    • SB775 / HB 890

• Bills Followed
  – Unmanned Aircraft - Drones
  – Municipal Annexation Reform
  – Municipal Tree Ordinance Restrictions
  – County Zoning Authority
Annexation Reform
- SB 6
- Military Exemption

Municipal Tree Ordinances
- Bills would have restricted / prohibited, but . . .
- a necessary encroachment prevention tool
- Centric to Hill Country installations
  - e.g. Camp Bullis & Golden-checked Warbler habitat
  - Less off-post habitat = more GCW’s swarming CB
  - More GCW swarming CB = more training restriction
  - More training restrictions = inability to train to standard
  - Inability to train to standard = encroachment on mission
Future Efforts?

- Compatible Development & Encroachment Prevention
  - County Zoning Authority
  - Multijurisdictional land use planning advisory bodies

- sUAS - Drones
- Military Families
- Veteran Support
WAY AHEAD
QUESTIONS?
THANK YOU