

Community Profile

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Army Reserve Personnel Center (ARPC), Missouri

Community Contact:

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Installation Contact:

Not Applicable

State Contact:

Not Applicable

Closure at a Glance

Economic Adjustment Organization:

St. Louis County Economic Council (SLCEC)

Geographic area affected by closing:

St. Louis, Missouri region, including St. Louis County and the City of St. Louis

Population of affected area (before closure): 1,347,691

Total Acres to be Disposed:

0 – General Services Administration (GSA) retains property

Estimated Job Loss Impact:

Jobs Lost	
Military Personnel	2,609
Civilian Personnel	2,699
Contractors	5,178

Economic Adjustment Challenges

- Impacted facilities include approximately 30-acre GSA-owned installation located in economically-challenged area
- Economic impact of closures estimated at \$105 million
- Regional unemployment above national average

Organization

SLCEC is the economic development agency for St. Louis County and serves as the adjustment organization for County installations. SLCEC was selected to organize and lead an initial regional planning effort to develop the St. Louis area Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) response to four discrete BRAC actions within the region. Supported by a Department of Labor (DOL) grant, this early effort brought together representatives from the installations, public service agencies, workforce and economic development specialists, and the affected communities to form the St. Louis Regional BRAC Task Force. The Task Force findings and recommendations included the concept of leveraging commercial “opportunity” corridors in the impacted communities as a strategy for creating jobs for dislocated workers and offsetting the negative impacts of revenue and job loss due to the BRAC closures. With Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) support, SLCEC is leading the next phase of planning in St. Louis County that focuses first on the opportunities in the commercial corridor surrounding Jefferson Barracks. The SLCEC proposes a second planning effort targeting the Army’s Human Resources Command (Army Reserve Personnel Center), which is slated for closure in 2011.

Studies

SLCEC targeted the historic Jefferson Barracks installation and the surrounding Lemay community in south St. Louis County for the first commercial corridor study. Planning for this area emerged as a priority in order to ensure that various educational, economic, and recreational projects initiated prior to BRAC could be capitalized upon as a means for offsetting the impact of realignment and closure in the region. These initiatives include an historic museum district, expansion of the Veterans’ Administration (VA) Hospital, and an entertainment and gaming complex. The study, which will be completed in the fall of 2009, reviews opportunities to leverage local investments and community planning for the Lemay/Jefferson Barracks area to maximize collaboration and community input related to the transition and the use of public space and historic military properties. The study tasks also include an examination and evaluation of the infrastructure, community resources and business needs, and opportunities associated with employers, including the military installation, along with a review of other private and public plans associated with Jefferson Barracks and the Lemay community.

Development of the study and recommendations has involved significant public/stakeholder participation, including public meetings, engagement with the Jefferson Barracks Community Council, and one-on-one interviews with significant stakeholders, e.g., the installation command, the VA Hospital, and the National Cemetery, among others.

Implementation and Partnering Strategies

SLCEC has played a role in both leading and supporting the private and public initiatives undertaken in the community and is represented on the Jefferson Barracks Community Council. The will continue to work with these partners in order to implement the recommendations of the Jefferson Barracks study.

Successes/Lessons Learned

The most significant aspect of the Jefferson Barracks planning process has been engaging the affected community in the development of the plan. We believe that their participation in identifying community priorities has expanded the sense of cooperation among these disparate groups and will increase their willingness to support and participate in implementation.