



**Military Transformation Task Force  
Meeting Minutes**

A Regular Meeting of the Military Transformation Task Force was held in the Municipal Plaza, Room B, 103 South Main, San Antonio, TX 78205 on Tuesday, April 21, 2015 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

<b>MEMBERS:</b>	Mike Novak	Carroll Schubert	Robert Murdock
Joe Krier	John McCarthy	Mark Frye	Scott Gray
Kevin Wolff	John Williams	Howard Peak	
<b>ORGANIZATIONAL REPRESENTATION:</b>	Brig. Gen. Bob LaBrutta	Robert Brach	Chuck Bunch
	<i>JBSA, 502<sup>nd</sup> Air Base Wing</i>	<i>Bexar County</i>	<i>SA Chamber of Commerce</i>
<b>STAFF:</b>	Jesus Garza	Alexander J. Pytel	Connie Laredo-Zepeda
<b>GUESTS:</b>	Darren Thompson	Gavino Ramos	Tim Treviño
Ryan Garcia	Sam Mills	Lisa Gregg	Paul Miller
Dean Bundrick	Byron Gipson	James Doughty	Danny Chavez
John Thurman	Quintin Pollok	Walter Ague	

**Call to Order**

Chairman Novak called the meeting to order.

Chairman Novak stated that effective immediately, Carroll Schubert would be taking over as a new Tri-Chair of the Military Transformation Task Force. Mr. Novak resigned his position with the Military Transformation Task Force.

**Citizens to be Heard**

Mr. John Thurman reported that U.S. Army Installations, specifically medical facilities, would be difficult to move. He added that before the Legislative Session, it was known that the Army must reduce costs and had previously conducted SWOT Analysis over all bases. He noted that San Antonio ranked fourth as least impacted by military installation relocation and that the military concluded that relocation would better benefit other communities. He explained that military recruiting was extremely important to San Antonio and that it was important to communicate the vital role the U.S. Military plays in the San Antonio Area. He highlighted civic and organizational involvement and stated that it was crucial to engage the Congressional District.

**Review and Approval of Minutes from January 21, 2015**

The Minutes of January 21, 2015 were unanimously approved.

**Administrative Business**

**MTTF/Office of Military Affairs Completed Actions**

Mr. Robert Murdock spoke of future meeting dates and stated that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday, July 22, 2015. He reported that a meeting time had yet to be determined for later in the year due to the beginning of the City of San Antonio’s Fiscal Year and related meetings. He stated that future meetings would be scheduled at the next meeting in July.

**Information Items**

**Texas Military Communities Mayor’s Forum**

Mr. Murdock reported that the Mayors of all 15 local military communities have formed a 501-c to lobby the State Legislature for additional funding to improve the military value of their installations. He noted that the lobbyist working for the Mayors is pursuing changing the language of the Revolving Growth Fund which currently has a balance of \$225 million to allow grant capability so that military installations can take advance of that funding to increase their value. He stated that although the Legislature is still in session; there is great support in the House and Senate.

### **Military / Civilian Flight Operations**

Mr. Murdock stated that there was a fair amount of residential and commercial homes at the southern end of the two runways at Randolph Air Force Base (AFB) and that Randolph AFB and Joint Base San Antonio (JBSA) had been very aggressive in trying to get Legislation passed which would help reduce future encroachment to those dwellings and accident potential zones. He reported that two measures have already been presented before the House Committee and were sent to the Floor for consideration. He explained that one measure required the establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding between the various municipalities and military installations while the other measure required the Real Estate Community to ensure that future buyers in those areas with high noise and intensity are aware of future flight operations over their residence. He noted that both measures have passed House consideration and would go before the Senate shortly.

### **Fort Sam Houston Listening Session**

Mr. Bob Nathan reported that 1,200 people attended the Fort Sam Houston Listening Session and that it went very well. He stated that the ideas presented by local community leaders were vital in setting San Antonio apart from other communities as well as illustrating the unique capacity of the local community. He added that other posts have the same desire and need for military presence but that the presence of Brooke Army Medical Center, the Medical Training Mission, and high recruitment efforts helped set San Antonio apart. He explained that four major command centers were still considered at risk for relocation including Army North, Army South, Mission and Installation Contracting Command, and U.S. Army Installation Management Command but that joint efforts undertaken by the City, County, and State Governments to retain military installations weighed heavily with decision makers.

### **State Legislative Activity**

Mr. Bob Nathan reported that lobbying efforts were best assisted through a joint resolution with multiple signatories as it carried more weight with decision makers. He mentioned proactive measures undertaken by City and County Agencies and stated that addressing potential issues was effective in retaining military value in the area.

Chairman Wolff stated that it was important to maintain lobbying efforts and reach out to different governmental entities. He added that his office would present to Bexar County and that Chairman Krier could present to the City of San Antonio while the Task Force worked to get information out to other suburban cities in the area.

Chairman Krier noted the importance of continuing conversation with decision makers in Washington, D.C. and stressed the uniqueness of the City of San Antonio as a prime location for the U.S. Military.

### **San Antonio Water Systems briefing on alternate water service to Fort Sam Houston**

Mr. Sam Mills reported that over the years, SAWS has received various requests for service from the U.S. Military. He noted that SAWS provides water service for Fort Sam and Lackland and that there is significant demand for service. He cited a recent meeting in January where it was discussed what services these facilities further require and what it would take to connect the installations. He noted that Camp Bullis is within 1,400 feet of the nearest water main and that there were a number of ways to approach connecting those services to the main system including:

- Retail Service
- Wholesale Service
- Emergency Connection

Chairman Krier noted that the cost of the equipment and cost of the water were separate fees to consider and that it was important to have a reliable source of water for military installations to maintain the quality of life of personnel stationed at the installation.

Mr. Bob La Brutta reported that the military installations draw only from the Edwards Aquifer and do not have a consistent alternate source of water to supply base needs.

### **Update from MTF Committee Chairs, Joint Base San Antonio, and Other MTF Organizational Representatives**

**Infrastructure and Transportation Committee (Chair: Carroll Schubert)**

Mr. Schubert reported that a number of interested parties were examining the New Braunfels Area as a major artery for transportation development and noted that revitalization of the area would also help development of local military installations.

**Real Property and Neighborhoods (Co-Chairs: Howard Peak)**

Mr. Howard Peak stated that updates would be available next month.

**Communication and Legislative Affairs (Co-Chairs: Mark Frye and Jesse Hereford)**

Mark Frye highlighted the SA to DC Trip and noted that it was vital to continue communication with decision makers despite high turnover at the State. He noted that the State of Texas does not have a Department of Military Affairs and explained that the Texas Military Preparedness Commission (TMPC) appointed by the Governor does not have an active role in promoting various military installations throughout the State. He reported that the TMPC had released the 2014 Military Value Task Force Report to the Governor's Office and that the report recommended bolstering the role of TMPC.

Mr. Frye reported that the Military was required to go through the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC) in order to effectively move large installations such as the Installation Management Command or Army North due to the large number of civilians working at those locations. He pointed out the advantage of having community input in the process.

Mr. Frye noted that the Randolph Joint Land Use Advisory Committee Meeting took place on April 7<sup>th</sup>. He mentioned the JBSA Community Partnership Initiative Meeting and stated that progress was being made. He noted the difficulty of getting agreements approved through the legal review process.

**Mission Readiness & Sustainability Committee (Co-Chairs: Eric Stephens and John Williams)**

Mr. John Williams provided an update for the JBSA Lackland JLUS and stated that the next steps were to complete the Light Pollution Mitigation Analysis. He explained that the Light Pollution Mitigation Analysis was approximately 75% complete and stated that the next public meeting would be held on May 11<sup>th</sup>. He reported that the Executive Committee met last week and was addressing many issues in an official capacity. He noted that the cities around Randolph have been working very diligently and would continue to aggressively increase military value of local communities.

**Adjourn**

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Alexander J. Pytel, Office of the City Clerk*

*Please visit the Military Transformation Task Force website: [www.sanantonio.gov/oma](http://www.sanantonio.gov/oma)*

*Audio recording is available at the Office of Military Affairs*

**Attachments:**

1. Military Transformation Task Force PowerPoint Presentation