



**Military Transformation Task Force  
Meeting Minutes  
Office of Military and Veterans Affairs**

A Regular Meeting of the Military Transformation Task Force was held in the B Room of the Municipal Plaza Building located at 114 W. Commerce, San Antonio, Texas 78205 on Tuesday, May 22, 2018 at 1:00 pm.

**TRI-CHAIR MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Commissioner Kevin Wolff <i>Bexar County</i>	Councilmember Clayton Perry <i>San Antonio City Council</i>	Richard Perez <i>SA Chamber of Commerce</i>
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**ORGANIZATIONAL REPRESENTATION PRESENT:**

Brig. Gen. Heather Pringle <i>JBSA, 502<sup>nd</sup> Air Base Wing</i>	Robert Naething <i>U.S. Army North</i>	Bill Mock <i>Port San Antonio</i>
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**STAFF PRESENT:**

Maj. Gen. Juan G. Ayala <i>Military &amp; Veterans Affairs</i>	Jeff Coyle <i>Government &amp; Public Affairs</i>	Michael Shannon <i>TCI</i>	Roderick Sanchez <i>Deputy City Manager</i>
Lt. Col. Karen Rolirad <i>Military &amp; Veterans Affairs</i>	Edward Brown <i>Military &amp; Veterans Affairs</i>	Melissa Ramirez <i>TCI</i>	Cecily Hope Pretty <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Celina Barron <i>AACOG</i>	Brian Martinez <i>AACOG</i>	Tim Treviño <i>AACOG</i>	Steve Lamb <i>AACOG</i>
Chris Merlo <i>502 ISG</i>	Steve Anderson <i>25 AF</i>	Col. Win Burkett <i>TXARNG</i>	Jordy Keith <i>TXARNG</i>
Michael Waldrup <i>502 ABW</i>	Jim Cannizzo <i>U.S. Army</i>	Bob Brach <i>Bexar County</i>	Bill Mosely <i>GSVOTC</i>
Steve Bonner <i>SONRI</i>	Mayor John Williams <i>Universal City</i>	Tom Long <i>SAEDF</i>	Mike Kelly <i>USAA</i>

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Wolff called the meeting to order.

**1. Citizens to be Heard**

No citizens were present to speak.

**2. Review and Approval of Minutes from March 27, 2018**

Tri-Chair Perez moved to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2018 meeting of the Military Transformation Task Force. Commissioner Wolff seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

**3. Information Items:**

**a. MTTF Update**

Major General Juan Ayala stated that he contacted five firms to discuss a proposal to review the MTTF. He provided an overview of the history of the MTTF and noted that it had no formalized

structure, authority, or performance measures. He stated that the goal was to determine specific, focused, synergistic roles for the City, County, Business Community, and other stakeholders. He noted that a consultant could be hired to examine the support provided by the MTTF to the Military Community and how to add military value to local installations. He stated that they would be required to provide a Mission, Vision Statement, and Organizational Structure to a consultant. He noted that the existing Subcommittees were no longer necessary or effective. He stated that the MTTF would need to be codified through an Ordinance or Charter Amendment. He asked for input to develop the Scope of Services for a Request for Proposals. He stated that military experience was helpful but not required to select a consultant. He requested a formal decision to move forward and a definitive plan for funding.

Commissioner Wolff noted the importance of examining other organizations and stakeholders that impacted the work of the MTTF. Gen. Ayala stated that he would ask the consultant to recommend the scope of responsibilities for each Tri-Chair and their respective entities.

Tri-Chair Perez cautioned against implementing too many structural components that would compete with existing services.

Commissioner Wolff stated that he required a cost estimate in order to pursue funding. Gen. Ayala stated that he had drafted an RFP in the past for a Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) study that totaled up to \$300,000 and he would not be able to give an accurate estimate for the current proposal until consultants were engaged.

Councilmember Perry entered at this time.

Tri-Chair Perez suggested that the scope of the RFP was smaller than the BRAC study and would cost less.

Commissioner Wolff moved to pursue funding for a consultant with each Tri-Chair to request no more than \$70,000 from their respective organizations. Councilmember Perry seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **b. Martindale Army Airfield Update**

Colonel Win Burkett stated that rezoning was proposed along Martindale Army Airfield. He noted a strong community relationship with the surrounding area and San Antonio. He stated that the airfield housed 12 UH-60 Blackhawk Helicopters to support the Texas Army National Guard's (TXARNG) MEDEVAC assets. He noted that the aircraft were deployed frequently for international war operations as well as domestically during disasters and emergencies. He stated that training exercises at the airfield were conducted in a box pattern around the Rosillo Creek tract and included low altitude flying, extensive hovering, night flights, and high noise. He noted that the flight pattern could be modified if necessary but maintaining a good relationship with the nearby community was a priority.

Jordy Keith stated that a rezoning application was submitted to the City of San Antonio for two land tracts of 112 acres and 70 acres east of Martindale. She noted that the tracts were currently zoned Light Industrial (L) and Residential Mixed District (RM-4) and were proposed to change to Residential (R-4) single family homes. She stated that the western tract was currently under contract with Heartwood Development Company to develop 500 homes and the eastern tract was under contract with Lennar Homes. She noted that the development could pose a threat to maintaining missions at the airfield. She stated that they were not notified of the rezoning application until late in the process due to confusion

of land ownership. She noted that the cases had already been approved by the Planning and Zoning Commissions with staff recommendations to approve. She stated that they met with stakeholders to attempt a compromise but were unsuccessful. She noted that the Development Services Department (DSD) and TXARNG were drafting a Memorandum of Understanding with Martindale to ensure a notification process in the future. She stated that DSD was changing their recommendation based on a noise study conducted by the Army Public Health Center in April 2018. She noted the following findings from the noise study:

- 65 decibel day night average (DNL) noise exposure around hover areas
- Low altitude flying lasting up to two hours
- Tuesday through Friday heliport operation from 10 AM to midnight plus one weekend monthly
- 1,000 annual arrivals and departures with 32 flights per week and 72 flights during weekend operations

She stated that the study strongly recommended against noise-sensitive uses within 1,000 feet, which would cover the majority of the proposed single family housing tract. She noted that the noise would likely interfere with sleep and speech and cause other disruptions. She stated that the study recommended sound attenuation and notice to buyers if development proceeded including rattling of windows and picture frames.

Col. Burkett stated that the builder and landowner acknowledged the results and planned to do sound attenuation. He asked the MTTF to encourage enforcement of the attenuation and establishment of a Military Lighting Overlay District (MLOD). He expressed concern that attenuation and disclosure would be insufficient to prevent deterioration of the relationship between TXARNG and Martindale. He noted that new residents under the flight pattern would be at high risk of injury if a helicopter malfunctioned in flight. He asked for assistance to convince City Council to deny the rezoning request.

Ms. Keith stated that the MLOD was important for Martindale regardless of the rezoning case outcome. She noted that lighting restrictions were crucial to pilot safety during night training.

Commissioner Wolff asked if upzoning to fully industrial had been considered. Roderick Sanchez stated that staff would begin with overlays before considering rezoning.

Councilmember Perry asked of the current status of the case. Mr. Sanchez replied that it was scheduled to go before the full City Council on June 21<sup>st</sup> and staff would recommend denial. Councilmember Perry asked if all Councilmembers had been contacted regarding the consequences of approving the application. Mr. Sanchez replied that they discussed it with Councilmember Shaw as the case impacted his district. Councilmember Perry suggested contacting each Councilmember.

Tri-Chair Perez stated that approving the rezoning would make San Antonio more vulnerable for a future BRAC. He noted personal support for denying the rezoning request but needed to secure an official stance from the Chamber of Commerce. He moved to support DSD Staff recommendations to deny the rezoning and pursue overlays. Councilmember Perry seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **c. Futures Command Update**

Tri-Chair Perez stated that the Army was looking for a place to base the new Futures Command. He noted that they originally considered locations without a strong military presence; with a robust business, technology, and cybersecurity community; and with a Tier One University. He stated that San Antonio did not make the shortlist of cities under consideration for the Futures Command but Austin did. He noted that Austin asked to partner with the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce to take advantage of the military relationship and emerging cybersecurity. He stated that the Chamber agreed to assist with developing a program. He noted that a U.S. House of Representatives Committee asked for a second round of considerations to include cities with a strong veteran presence. He stated that San Antonio would pursue the Futures Command both independently and in partnership with Austin and either outcome would benefit San Antonio.

Gen. Ayala stated that Drew Sheberle of the Austin Chamber of Commerce offered a reverse partnership to strengthen San Antonio's case if it was shortlisted during the new process.

Councilmember Perry asked why San Antonio did not make the original shortlist. Tri-Chair Perez replied that the original search excluded cities with a strong population of active military and San Antonio's lack of a Tier One University also contributed. Councilmember Perry asked of the likelihood that San Antonio would be selected. Robert Naething stated that the lack of a Tier One University was likely to have a large, negative impact. He noted that in addition to the Futures Command, there were subordinate organizations with smaller offices that may be better suited for San Antonio. He noted that the Cybersecurity division was looking to move from its current location and would influence the placement of future mission. He stated that the Army was also considering creation of a ninth organization and suggested pursuing such divisions while other cities competed for the Futures Command.

Commissioner Wolff expressed support for the current partnership with Austin to strengthen the relationship for future opportunities and for pursuing division offices.

Councilmember Perry expressed support for building a package to pursue the smaller division offices.

Gen. Ayala stated that work on the divisions would begin in earnest following the release of the second shortlist for the Futures Command.

Tri-Chair Perez stated that there would be an opportunity to discuss pursuing division offices with Federal Representatives at the Defense Communities National Summit in June 2018.

No action was required for Item 3c.

### **d. Trauma Level 2/Federal Legislative Strategies**

Commissioner Wolff discussed the possibility of private Level 2 Trauma Centers opening in San Antonio and the potential impact on Brooke Army Medical Center. He suggested pursuing bracketed legislation to prohibit the operation of Level 2 Trauma Centers within a certain distance of military medical training facilities and asked for input as to how to begin that process.

Jeff Coyle stated that the Department of Government and Public Affairs could engage their federal consultants to investigate the process. He noted that the self-imposed moratorium on earmarks in Congress may present a challenge to bracketed legislation.

Commissioner Wolff expressed the importance of balancing the conversation between the military and the business community.

Councilmember Perry stated that he received a written commitment from Methodist Healthcare not to pursue a Level 2 or 3 Trauma Center in San Antonio.

Tri-Chair Perez cautioned against taking action against the private hospital industry and asked that they be given the opportunity to join the discussion.

Mr. Naething stated that the current agreement to share trauma cases was established when San Antonio's population was smaller and suggested identifying the level at which trauma training would not be negatively impacted if an additional trauma center opened.

Commissioner Wolff asked for open communication between stakeholders moving forward.

No action was required for Item 3d.

#### **e. P4 Update**

Brigadier General Heather Pringle thanked the MTTF for their role in facilitating conversation between the community and the military to form strong partnerships. She noted the regional impact of initiatives supported by the MTTF. She stated that Joint Base San Antonio was the top installation in the Air Force in terms of the number of Public-Public and Public-Private Partnerships (P4s) as well in ongoing dollar amounts to support those partnerships. She noted the success of Military Appreciation Weekend at JBSA in partnership with the Tricentennial. She provided an overview of P4 projects and successes in operations, community outreach, and construction. She noted the possibility of future support for projects regarding Growdon Gate; an off-base traffic and gate study; speed calming and risk mitigation; and drainage culvert improvements. She stated that staff conducted four business case analyses regarding intergovernmental partnerships and she would provide the results to the Federal Government.

Commissioner Wolff asked for staff to follow up on the potential projects as discussed.

Councilmember Perry asked if City Staff had contacted JBSA's engineers regarding the projects. Gen. Pringle stated that they had. Councilmember Perry suggested a future presentation with project updates to the Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee or the MTTF.

No action was required for Item 3e.

#### **4. JBSA (Opportunity to Address the MTTF)**

Item 4 was not addressed.

## **5. Committees' Input**

No input was provided from the Subcommittees.

## **6. Tri-Chairs' Final Comments**

Commissioner Wolff noted that this would be Gen. Pringle's final meeting of the MTTF as she was transferring to a new command. He thanked her for her work in the community.

Tri-Chair Perez presented Gen. Pringle with a framed copy of William Travis' Letter from the Alamo as a token of appreciation.

All in attendance applauded Gen. Pringle for her service.

No action was required for Item 6.

## **ADJOURN**

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Wolff adjourned the meeting at 2:49 pm.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Cecily Hope Pretty, Office of the City Clerk*