

# Joint Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs

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# ORIGINATION OF SSMCP

2008: Significant growth (43.7%) at Army base Fort Lewis (since reorganized with McChord Air force base as Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM)) 2003-2010 = concern increased among regional communities to be affected (i.e., traffic, housing, education, health and social services etc.)

2009: Formation of group to draft **Joint Base Lewis-McChord Growth Coordination Plan (GCP)** = included local government, private business interests, association, service organizations, etc.

# ORIGINATION OF SSMCP

2010: Release of Joint Base Lewis-McChord Growth Coordination Plan (GCP)

- 10 technical resource expert panels identified critical needs related to serving a growing military community.



- With the goal that all civilian residents, military personnel, and their families have access to a high quality of life, six core recommendations were established.

# ORIGINATION OF SSMCP

## Joint Base Lewis-McChord 2010 Growth Coordination Plan (GCP) Six Core Recommendations:

- Formalize New Methods of Regional Collaboration
- Improve Access to Information
- Improve Access to Existing Services
- Promote JBLM as a Center of Regional Economic Significance
- Improve Support for Military Families
- Improve Regional Mobility

# ORIGINATION OF SSMCP

Since 2010, the JBLM Growth Coordination Plan Regional Steering Committee and Growth Coordination Committee have been reorganized into the **South Sound Military & Communities Partnership (SSMCP)**

## Elected Officials Council

- reviews and confirms the annual work plan
- coordinates legislative strategies
- supports outreach efforts to maintain high visibility for these issues

## Executive Leadership Team, Steering Committee

- develops the annual work plan
- coordinates plan implementation strategies
- guides the work of staff
- seeks input from topical working groups and other subject matter experts

## Working Groups and Subcommittees

Formed as necessary to research and implement specific strategies of the plan

## Members of the Partnership

Open to any group, agency, or organization interested in community/military issues in the Pierce and Thurston Counties region

# PARTNERSHIP VISION AND MISSION

## Current SSMCP Members:

City of Lakewood  
City of Lacey  
City of DuPont  
City of Olympia  
Town of Steilacoom  
City of Tacoma  
City of University Place  
City of Yelm  
Pierce County  
Thurston County  
Joint Base Lewis-McChord  
Washington National Guard at Camp Murray  
Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce  
Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department  
United Way of Pierce County  
Nisqually Indian Tribe  
Franklin Pierce School District  
Tacoma Pierce County Association of Realtors  
Workforce Central

# PARTNERSHIP VISION AND MISSION

## VISION

The SSMCP is an innovative and flexible partnership uniquely positioned to provide regional leadership to bridge military and civilian communities.



## MISSION

To foster effective communication, understanding, and mutual benefit by serving as the most effective point of coordination for resolution of those issues which transcend the specific interests of the military and civilian communities of the South Sound region.

## JBLM Economic impact

Military & Civilian Payroll:	\$ 5,799,394,000*
Contracts & Grants	\$ 285,929,000**
<b>Total Annual JBLM Economic Impact</b>	<b>\$ 6,085,323,000</b>

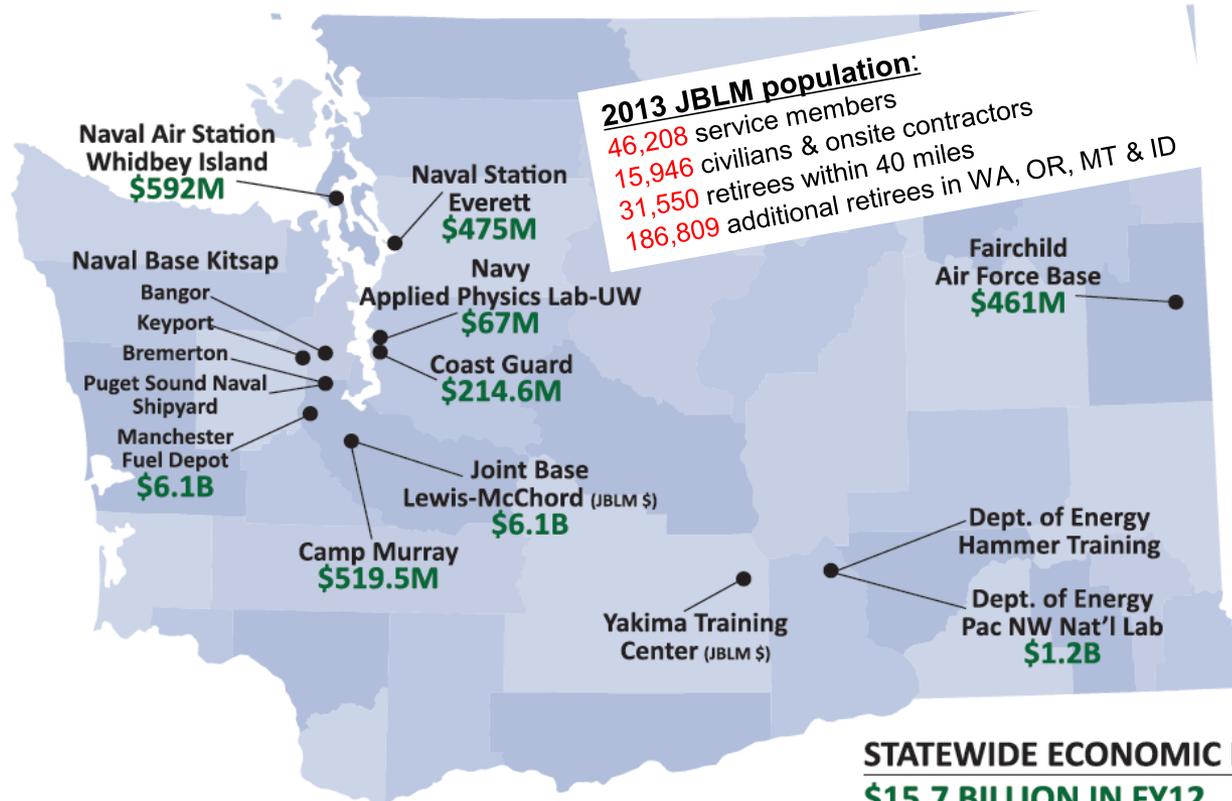


**= ~1.8% of Washington State GDP\*\*\***

\*2010 Census Consolidated Federal Funds Report

\*\*Estimated FY09 Fort Lewis & McChord AFB Department of Defense Financial data

\*\*\*Comparison of economic impact with Department of Commerce 2010 State GDP data



**STATEWIDE ECONOMIC IMPACT**  
**\$15.7 BILLION IN FY12**



Department of Commerce  
 Innovation is in our nature.

# REGIONAL FUNDING SUCCESSES (>\$175 MILLION SINCE 2009)



## **Produce and Implement 2010 JBLM Growth Coordination Plan: \$1.9 million**

Study of military growth impacts, execution of plan strategies, and ongoing communication to stakeholders.



## **Replace Clover Park School District's On-base Elementary Schools: \$140 million**

State and Federal funding to consolidate JBLM students into five new, larger capacity, state of the art facilities.



## **Workforce Development: \$>10 million**

Training services and job placement assistance for personnel affected by joint basing actions and military downsizing.



## **Regional Joint Land Use Study: \$426,000**

Coordinated land use planning to minimize urban encroachment on the base and provide for life, health, & safety of all.



## **Community-focused Survey of JBLM Personnel: \$70,000**

Survey to collect demographic and other community-related data that helps improve regional long-term planning.



## **Local Transportation Projects**

- **TIGER III: \$15 million**

Federal transportation funding to improve traffic flow on I-5 adjacent to JBLM, including enhancements to ramps, travel lanes, and intersections.

- **Interchange Justification Reports: \$6.9 million**

State funding will pay for in-depth analyses of five I-5 interchanges in Pierce & Thurston counties. The reports will detail precise needs and data that will guide improvements.

- **Madigan Access Transportation Improvements: \$5.7 million**

Improvements to the Berkeley Street overpass at I-5 (closest gate to Madigan Army Medical Center) and a series of other modifications to reduce traffic congestion.

- **I-5 Transportation Alternatives Analysis: \$500,000**

A study to propose transportation improvements along primary interchanges of I-5 between SRs 510 & 512.

# RECENT AND CURRENT KEY PROJECTS

- April 2014:** JBLM Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) kickoff, Elected Officials Council Meeting
- July-Aug 2014:** Army 2020 Force Realignment SPEA response coordination
- Sept-Nov 2014:** Support to and participation on Washington Military Alliance (WMA)
- November 2014:** SSMCP Annual Forum
- December 2014:** 2013 Needs & Preferences Survey Results provided to Elected Officials Council; adoption of 2015-16 SSMCP Work Plan
- January 2015:** Army 2020 Force Realignment Listening Session response coordination
- August 2015:** SSMCP Retreat
- September 2015:** Scheduled Publication of JBLM Joint Land Use Study

# 2015-2016 SSMCP Work Plan

Reflects that deployments have reduced substantially, over 8,500 JBLM service members are expected to transition off active duty per year in '14 and '15, and future situation is projected to hold further drawdowns and potential mission changes. Also looking to increase private sector participation in the SSMCP.

Task 1 – Complete the ongoing JBLM Joint Land Use Study

Task 2 – Monitor and Support Transportation Improvement Efforts in JBLM Corridor

Task 3 – Enhance and Expand Regional SSMCP Coordination & Participation

Task 4 – Improve Outside Knowledge of Military's Direct and Indirect Impact on Region and State and Vice Versa

Task 5 – Participate and Advocate in State Level Activities

Task 6 – Conduct Periodic JBLM Community Survey, Circulate Results

Task 7 – Support Active Duty, Veteran and Military Family Workforce Development, Health and Social Services

# SSMCP SUPPORTS:

## ***Continue Implementing Recommendations from 2013 “Retaining and Expanding Military Missions: Increasing Defense Spending and Investment”:***

**Director of Military Affairs:** Establish a Director of Military Affairs as a policy advisor and the single point of contact for State, Federal and Local officials, as well as assisting military officials and communities surrounding Washington State’s military installations in identifying and using state funding sources for planning grants, infrastructure improvements and other resources.

**Military Community Support Groups:** Formalize the Washington Military Alliance as an advisory board to assist State, Federal and Local officials with policy recommendations affecting Washington State’s military installations. Establish a competitive match grant program to help communities in addressing particular areas of need to support their local base.

**Installation Quality of Life:** Provide funding resources to enhance quality of life issues for the men and women serving in the military and their families, such as matching funds for the School Construction Assistance Program to improve the quality of on-base schools. Provide transportation funding investments to address congestion issues and provide for better access to Washington State’s military installations. Develop initiatives for public/private partnerships to facilitate infrastructure upgrades at bases such as electricity grid upgrades/security, wastewater treatment facilities, and transit programs (On-base/Off-base).

**Leadership Coordination/Communication:** Establish semi-annual state leadership visits to bases and installations’ higher headquarters and provide invitations to military leadership to visit the Governor and Legislature regarding statewide issue updates impacting bases and surrounding communities.

**Preparation for potential Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Actions:** Amend the Public Records Act to exempt sensitive military installation analysis information as it relates to base-specific recommendations. Develop comprehensive State plan for the future including updated economic impact and growth management plans, in-depth analysis of Washington State’s installations’ BRAC 2005 performance and a State strategy for securing new missions based on the Washington State’s unique attributes/capabilities.

# SSMCP SUPPORTS:

## ***Continue Funding Military Sector Lead Position - \$300k***

- This position provides for state level support & resource coordination to the federal, state and local partners.
- In the 10 months this position has been “up and running”, the sector has accomplished over 60% of its stated goals for the first year.

## ***Support Development of “Installation Support” Strategy & Solutions***

- Provide funding for a “Military Compatible Land Use Comparative Analysis” Strategy Report - \$250k
- Provide funding for “Military Compatible Land Use” Community Based Solutions via the ‘Emerging Issues Fund’ proposed by Commerce

## ***Support Seamless Transition of Military Members via VETNET – \$300k***

- This “high-tech, high-touch” technology solution will maximize efficiencies across state agencies in WA and allow for better data sharing with federal partners to ensure transitioning military members get the “warm hand-off” they deserve to civilian life in WA.

# SSMCP SUPPORTS:

## ***Implementing Recommendation(s) from National Conference of State Legislatures 2013 “Preparing for Duty: State Policy options in Sustaining Military Installations”:***

**Establish State Grant Programs to Preserve or Enhance the Value of Installations:** These programs typically support projects for infrastructure improvements, job creation and retention, land acquisition and improvements to public services. Grants or loans also may be used to conduct studies or develop plans in support of a proposed project, as well as to match federal funding. In most cases, funding comes from general appropriations or bond sales.

### Appendix D. State Grant Programs to Preserve or Enhance the Value of Installations

State	Grant Programs	Date Created	Appropriations
California	Infrastructure State Revolving Fund Program	2004	N/A
Texas	Military Value Revolving Loan Fund	2003	FY 2012: \$2,941,763 FY 2013: \$3,718,473 As of FY 2012, \$49.6 million in loans have been allocated
	Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant Program	1997	As of FY 2012, \$32.4 million in grants have been awarded
Virginia	None	None	None
North Carolina	None	None	N/A
Georgia	Job Tax Credit Program (Military Zone Designation)	2004	\$3,500 max. tax credit per job created
Washington	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>
Florida	Defense Infrastructure Grant Program	1999	FY 2007-08: \$1.5 million FY 2008-09: \$10.6 million (\$9.1 m on one project) FY 2009-10: \$500,000 FY 2011-12, 2012-13: \$1,581,245
	Defense Reinvestment Grant Program	1999	FY 2007-08: \$1 million FY 2008-09: \$750,000 FY 2009-10, 2011-12, 2012-13: \$850,000

## 2013 Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for Army 2020 Force Structure Realignment

- Based on Budget Control Act of 2011 – NOT Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) action

- Proposed Action: Reduce U.S.-based active Army end strength from 570,000 to 490,000
  - Only looked at those 21 bases with 1 or more Brigade Combat Teams (BCTs)
  - JBLM evaluated for reductions of up to 8,000 active duty service members
  - Reductions to begin in 2014 and be complete by 2017
- Public comment period response
  - South Puget Sound region submitted only one letter (from SSMCP)
  - Other communities submitted between 0 - 4,000+ comments

## 2013 Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for Army 2020 Force Structure Realignment

- Resulting action (4/13): Army published Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) since only expected adverse results were socioeconomic
  - 1 of 3 JBLM SCTs (Stryker Brigades) selected to deactivate (approximately 4,200 ADSMs)
  - Because of other stationing actions, JBLM net loss has been <3,000 ADSMs
- All reductions were accelerated (because of budget constraints) to be complete by 2015

## 2014 Supplemental PEA (SPEA)

- Proposed Action: Reduce U.S.-based active Army end strength from 490,000 to 420,000 based on 2014 Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR)'s anticipation of 2016 sequestration
  - Looked at all previous 21 bases again and 9 new installations (where a reduction of 1,000 or more ADSMs and/or Army civilians could occur)
  - JBLM evaluated for up to an additional 11,000 ADSM and civilian reductions
- Estimated impacts to JBLM Region of Influence (ROI)
  - Army's projections:
    - -\$971 million in income, or -2.1% of the region
    - Some adverse impacts to schools and housing markets
    - Reduced traffic congestion
    - Reduced demand on training areas => better environmental conditions
  - Pierce County Economic Development and Washington State OFM found socioeconomic impacts to be substantially larger than Army's estimate
  - Concerns over adequate JBLM staffing to manage and monitor impacts to environment

## 2014 Supplemental PEA (SPEA)

- June – August 2014 Public comment period response:
  - SSMCP, State Sector Lead, and Congressman Heck's office mobilized a response action team
    - ✓ JBLM region credited with submitting:
      - Town, City, County, State government officials: 10
      - Private Businesses: 42
      - Nonprofits and Special Interest Groups: 38
      - Legislators and Congress Members: 7
      - Schools (K-12 and colleges/universities): 5
      - Private citizens: 52
    - 93 individual comments, +
    - 35 form letters/online petitions; and
    - Our region raised three substantive topics which the Army must address in writing before moving forward
  - Other communities submitted between 0 – 26,000+ comments
    - ✓ Most were form letters/online petitions

## 2014 Supplemental PEA (SPEA) – FNSI Issued

November 13, 2014 Army letter to Congress:

*The Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Assessment (SPEA) assessed the “environmental” and “socioeconomic” impacts (as defined in NEPA) of potential reductions to active component Soldiers and Army civilians at 30 installations.*

***The Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) concludes that there will be no significant environmental impacts (other than socio-economic impacts) and that the preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required under NEPA.***

### **Army 2020 Force Structure Realignment Listening Session: 10:00 am - Noon January 21, 2015 at the McGavick Conference Center in Lakewood**

Separate and apart from the NEPA process, the Army will also conduct listening sessions for the communities surrounding the affected installations. These sessions will provide the opportunity to receive information related to the full spectrum of issues - not just “socioeconomic” or “environmental” as defined in NEPA - that will be used in making force structure decisions.

The listening sessions give the affected communities the opportunity to provide input to the Army’s force structure reduction decisions. **The focus of the listening sessions is to capture community input for Army leaders to consider as part of the Army’s overall force structure analysis before making any decisions on force structure reductions.**

## **Army 2020 Force Structure Realignment Listening Session: 10:00 am - Noon January 21, 2015 at the McGavick Conference Center in Lakewood**

In addition to the environmental and socioeconomic issues presented in the SPEA, **several other factors will be taken into account in the future stationing decisions.**

These factors include, but are not limited to the following: **strategic considerations; costs and efficiencies; training facilities; power projection; readiness impacts; mission command; well-being; mission expansion; and, community input.**

### ***Call to Action:***

- **Spread the word!**
- **Draft substantive comments related to the topics above**
- **Attend on January 21 – “Numbers Count!”**

## Contact:

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