



October 29, 2019

The Honorable Barbara Canales
Nueces County Judge
901 Leopard Street, Suite 303
Corpus Christi, TX 78401

RE: 2019 Semi-annual South Texas Military Facilities Task Force Report

Dear Judge Canales,

On behalf of the Task Force and the United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce, thank you and the County Commissioners for your continued financial support of the South Texas Military Facilities Task Force (Task Force).

MISSION:

- To preserve, protect, communicate and expand the value of the military facilities in the Coastal Bend Region of Texas.
- Increase awareness of the military and economic value and impact of these facilities within the regional community
- Act as a liaison and provide legislative advocacy for these facilities at local, state and federal levels
- Communicate community support of these facilities to their respective military command structures
- Coordinate efforts among public and private sectors to maintain a significant presence of US Departments of Defense and Homeland Security in South Texas

REPORT:

Although we don't foresee a traditional round of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC), the Department of Defense still seeks to reduce excess infrastructure and the ability to redirect resources to force readiness needs according to the Secretaries of the Navy and Army for Installations. Encroachment issues continue to be the number one concern of the Army and Navy installations.

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OCT 30 2019

JCM

Nueces County
Commissioners Court
Administration

FY 18/19 Report
\$40,000 - Allocation
General Admin

Some of the activities the Task Force has been working on in 2019:

- Provide support to City of Corpus Christi and Texas Military Preparedness Commission for two state funded Defense Economic Assistance Adjustment Grant (DEAAG) projects for a duplicate water line to support NASCC and CCAD industrial water needs and a security perimeter fence around CCAD. The projects were finished on time within budget. The ribbon cutting was held on October 30.
- Regularly meet with State Representative Todd Hunter regarding wind energy project encroachment issues.
- Regular visits with CCAD, NASCC and CNATRA leadership to discuss any emerging issues or concerns.
- Supported several Texas State Legislature efforts including: Senator Donna Campbell's SB 1200 relating to occupational licensing for military spouses stationed in Texas. The measure was passed into law and TLDR is currently working to make licensure more accessible to military spouses. We also supported HB 2535 which makes the DEAAG process more accessible to all military communities in Texas- it was passed into law and the Governor's office is currently updating the DEAAG process. The legislature appropriated \$50M for DEAAG projects for the biennium
- Attended the Association of Defense Communities Conference. Presentations included infrastructure issues and possible decrease of military construction funding (MILCON). Currently CCAD's MILCON money is not on the reduction list.
- Sponsored the Quad A Luther Jones Army Aviation Depot Forum community reception over 100 in attendance.
- Facilitated dialog between City of Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi Independent School District and NASCC regarding the safety concerns and location of the proposed Mary Carroll High School.
- Sponsored the Wings Over South Texas air show- chalet for 50 community members.
- Regular phone meetings with Meyers and Associates on congressional business pertaining to our military facilities.
- A member of the Chamber Team is at every "indoc" for the incoming class of aviators to welcome and educate about our community.
- Purchase and present Wings of Gold for Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard aviators graduating from NASCC. We bring community leaders to the winging ceremony to congratulate the aviators and welcome visitors. The Chamber has had the honor of providing the Wings since the base inception in 1941.

Emerging Issues:

- Encroachment issues regarding a wind energy project in LaSalle and Zapata counties (126 turbines, 500 ft tall) which impacts NAS Kingsville training mission.




- NASCC and the City will update the 2013 Joint Land Use Study, this is an opportunity to address encroachment issues.

Again, we appreciate the ongoing support of Nueces County both financially and the willingness to advocate for our South Texas Military Facilities. We continue to strive to be the best community with the best value for DoD missions, and to be the best community for military families to thrive in.

South Texas Builds Defense.

Sincerely,



John LaRue
President & CEO
United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce

STMFTF FY18/19 EXPENSES

October 2018 \$150-----Texas Military Preparedness Commission in Austin, Texas, meals & auto expenses

January 2019 \$800----Texas Military Preparedness Commissioners meeting in Austin, Texas, meals, hotel, auto expenses

February 2019 \$ 3200----Coastal Bend to Austin Trip, hotel, auto expenses, meals, reception expenses

March 2019 \$4,000-----Association Of Defense Communities conference in Miami Fl---Airline, hotel, registration fee & meals

June 2019 \$200-----County's share for meet and greet reception for Admiral Mayes, NAS Region commander

July 2019 \$400----County's share for meet and greet reception for new CNATRA Commander and new NAS commander

September 2019 \$5000---Meetings in Pentagon and congress-----airline, hotel, taxis & meals

\$20,000----County's share of lobbying fees paid to Meyers & Associates
in Washington DC. Total fees are \$132,000

\$8000-----County's share of STMFTF Director's salary

Prepared by:

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\$41,750 Grand
total
JCM 10/3/19

Jose J. Guzman

Director, South Texas Military Facilities Task Force