

# NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF LEAVENWORTH COUNTY, KANSAS

## ON POTENTIAL FORCE REDUCTION AT FORT LEAVENWORTH

AUGUST 11, 2014

Community leaders are working together to ensure that Army officials fully explore both the unique assets Fort Leavenworth brings to Army operations and its impact on the entire Kansas City region. A few key issues are highlighted:

Army leaders are currently examining force reductions at 30 locations across the country, including Fort Leavenworth.

Due to pending budget cuts, the U.S. Army is in the process of developing plans for a reduction in force. If proposed federal sequestration cuts are not reversed

before Fiscal year 2016, the Army will need to contract from a war-time high of 570,000 military and civilian personnel to 420,000.

As a first step, the Army conducted a Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Assessment (SPEA). This report evaluates 15 areas of impact – including air quality, noise, water resources, socioeconomics and transportation – at each of the 30 base locations.

The Army will accept public comment on the SPEA through August 25, 2014.

### Considerations and possible regional impacts

#### Some of Fort Leavenworth's Unique Assets:

- Fort Leavenworth is home to the Command General Staff College and Advanced Military Studies Program, making it the intellectual center of the army.
- The Fort's central location and proximity to Kansas City International Airport provide easy access for officers from across the country.
- Fort Leavenworth has well established relationships with nearby universities that complement its educational and training missions.
- The Leavenworth area offers affordable housing, quality schools and many other amenities to military and civilian personnel and their families.
- Fort Leavenworth personnel are also responsible for the confinement and rehabilitation of military criminals at the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks, the military's only maximum-security facility for those convicted at court-martial.

To view the SPEA for the Army 2020 Force Structure Realignment, visit:  
<http://ow.ly/A2dHV>.

Submit public comments about the plan to:  
U.S. Army Environmental Command  
ATTN: SPEA Public Comments  
2450 Connell Road (Building 2264)  
Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam  
Houston, TX 78234-7664

or email:  
[usarmy.jbsa.aec.nepa@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.jbsa.aec.nepa@mail.mil)

#### Impact of Force Reduction:

- Currently, Fort Leavenworth generates almost \$5 billion per year in economic activity.
- The economic impact of Fort Leavenworth extends well beyond Leavenworth County – the only "region of influence" considered in the Army's SPEA.
- Due to its unique training mission, the economic impact of Fort Leavenworth includes 34,000 hotel room nights and 6,000 airline tickets purchased each year.
- A cutback of 2,500 military jobs would result in a total loss of 4,944 jobs across a broad range of industries in Leavenworth County due to the multiplier effect. This would mean a loss of \$335 million in earnings in the county.
- The loss of 2,500 personnel is expected to affect a total population of 6,355 including spouses and children.
- The proposed reduction in force at Fort Leavenworth would have a negative effect on the region's fragile recovery from the Great Recession.

#### If a force reduction is enacted, it could have some of the following regional implications:

- A total loss of 4,944 jobs – 2,500 initially and an additional 2,444 jobs.
- The scale of possible cutbacks would account for 6.8 percent of total jobs in Leavenworth County.
- The total Kansas City Metro loss of \$419 million in annual earnings and 2,522 in additional metro jobs.