

Contact:

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FORA Base Reuse Plan Reassessment Process Initiated

The Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) initiated a comprehensive reassessment process in review of its 1997 Base Reuse Plan (BRP) with a kick-off presentation at its regular monthly Board meeting on April 13. The BRP reassessment process will both evaluate the implementation of the adopted plan and explore whether BRP objectives and policies should be adjusted after studying current and projected regional market and other economic conditions.

At the April 13 kick-off session, EMC Planning Group provided the Board and the community with an overview of the reassessment process. EMC was selected by the Board last month to conduct the reassessment process. A wide range of community members and interest groups were present at the meeting, offering varying comments and suggestions about the reassessment scope and the process.

The FORA BRP is the "blueprint" that guides conversion of the former Fort Ord from a former military base to civilian use within the Monterey Bay regional community. The BRP is centered on the three primary principles of economic reuse, predicated/centered on education, while protecting environmental resources and removing environmental hazards. When the BRP was adopted in 1997 market trends indicated a 20-year horizon for completing most of the program elements. As a consequence of property transfer delays and the economic recession of the last decade, the anticipated reuse moved forward at a much slower pace. FORA will study these conditions and complete the reassessment process by the end of the year.

The EMC-led reassessment consulting team includes sub-consultants with expertise in economics, real estate market analysis, traffic modeling, infrastructure, public outreach, and the environment. The reassessment process will culminate in a final report integrating the consultant team members' analysis of all mandatory elements of the BRP.

FORA staff and the consulting team will conduct a series of public workshops about the reassessment process to encourage input from the region on moving ahead with base reuse in the coming decade. Workshops are expected to take place beginning in May. Members of the public are invited to attend and participate.

More information about the community workshops and other reassessment updates will be posted at <u>www.fora.org</u>. Links to the BRP document and FORA's Facebook page are also available at <u>www.fora.org</u>.