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To: FORA Legislative Committee
From: Rochelle Dornatt, Office of Rep. Sam Farr
Re: Notes for meeting

November 3, 2015

- With a two-year budget deal in place, Congress has a roadmap for spending. This should mean less chance of government shutdowns and more money distributed across budget functions, including those important to FORA. Generally, the deal calls for \$80 billion more in the next two fiscal years, plus another \$32 billion in war-related accounts. The \$80 billion will be split between domestic spending and Pentagon spending. The DOD bill that President Obama vetoed is being reworked to fit the new funding levels and appropriators are beginning to conform program line items to higher levels where possible. Funding for clean up and BRAC-related expenses will hold steady.
- There still is no new BRAC Authority but there is a working group (of which Mr. Farr is a member) that continues to discuss new ways to approach the issue of surplus capacity and/or death to bases by a thousand cuts. A working paper in the Army leaked in September showed significant civilian personnel cuts at various bases around the country. Our area was included and we are trying to get Army to confirm the reports and provide details. Any new "target date" for a BRAC would be 2019 now.
- There seems to be a glitch with installing art work at the new DOD-VA clinic. Our office is working with both Palo Alto VA and VA headquarters in DC to resolve the issue.
- Army is dragging its feet on finalizing the municipal services IGSA (intergovernmental services agreement) with Monterey. Mr. Farr has engaged Ms. Hammack's office and will get this untangled.