NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

NAVY OPERATIONAL SUPPORT CENTER RELOCATION

The Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) Columbus, Georgia and Directorate of Public Works, Fort Benning, Georgia, hereby announces the availability of the Final Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the proposed NOSC Relocation to Fort Benning, Georgia. These documents evaluate the potential environmental effects associated with the relocation of the N61919 Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) from its current location in downtown Columbus, Georgia (GA) to Army Installation Fort Benning, GA.

Site locations for the NOSC were initially proposed and analyzed in the NOSC Relocation EA of August 2015. On September 29, 2015, Fort Benning's Garrison Commander signed a FNSI selecting the Soldiers' Plaza site for relocation, operation, and maintenance of the NOSC. Since that time, Fort Benning concluded a Department of the Army mandated Area Development Planning (ADP) charrette in October of 2016 to initiate site planning and long-term direction for family housing within the Main Post Cantonment Area. Through the ADP charrette, it was determined that a parcel on the margin of the housing area, previously zoned for community, would be best utilized for general operations and support and designated for such use and development. As well, this parcel met the screening criteria for the NOSC's relocation. Therefore, the preparation of the SEA incorporates the 2015 NOSC Relocation EA and offers the addition of this parcel as the new Preferred Alternative.

The SEA and Draft FNSI have been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (NEPA; 42 USC 4321 et seq), the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508), and the Army NEPA Regulation (Environmental Analysis of Army Actions, Final Rule, 32 CFR Part 651). Publication of this notice begins a 30day public review period. The public is invited to review and comment on the SEA and Draft FNSI from December 22, 2016 to January 20, 2017. Copies of the SEA and Draft FNSI may be viewed at the following locations:

- 1. Columbus Public Library
- 2. Cusseta-Chattahoochee Public Library
- 3. Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation Library (Fort Benning Main Post, Building 2784)
- 4. Phenix City -Russell County Library

In addition, the SEA and Draft FNSI are also posted on Fort Benning's website at http://www.benning.army.mil/Garrison/DPW/EMD/Legal.html. Written comments concerning this Final SEA and Draft FNSI are invited; the comments must be received by January 20, 2017 to ensure consideration prior to reaching any FNSI.

Written public comments should be addressed to:

Fort Benning Environmental Management Division, IMBE-PWE-P, C/0 NEPA Program Manager, 6650 Meloy Drive, Building 6, Room 309, Fort Benning, GA 31905-5122.

For further information or to request a copy of the documents, please contact the U.S. Army Maneuver Center of Excellence, Directorate of Public Works, Environmental Programs Management Branch (Attention: Mr. John E. Brown, NEPA Program Manager) or call (706) 545-7549.

Sincerely,

Craig Taylor Director of Public Works Fort Benning, Georgia