NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the Proposed Army Lodging Facility at Fort Benning, Georgia

Fort Benning, Georgia, proposes to replace and improve the short term and extended stay lodging facilities on-Post for Soldiers and Their Families, and other personnel. The Proposed Action includes the construction of a new 860-room Army lodging facility in the Main Post Cantonment Area. The location of the Army Lodge would be in close proximity to classroom training, food establishments, Chapels, and other support facilities.

The Final EA and Draft FNSI have been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA; 42 USC 4321 *et seq.*), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) 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). The Final EA includes an evaluation of the effects for implementing the Proposed Action or any of the alternative courses of action.

Publication of this notice begins a 30-day public review period. The public is invited to review and provide written comments regarding the Final EA and Draft FNSI. The Final EA and Draft FNSI are posted at <u>www.benning.army.mil/garrison/DPW/EMD/legal.htm</u>.

Copies of the Final EA and Draft FNSI may also be viewed at:

- 1. Columbus Public Library
- 2. South Columbus Branch Library
- 3. Sayers Memorial Library (Fort Benning Main Post Library)
- 4. Cusseta-Chattahoochee Public Library
- 5. Phenix City Russell County Public Library
- 6. North Columbus Branch Library

Comments must be received by **November 25, 2011** to ensure consideration prior to Fort Benning finalizing the FNSI, and deciding which alternative and which mitigation measures to implement. To request further information, a copy of the document or provide written comments, please contact:

• Mr. John E. Brown: Environmental Management Division, Environmental Programs Management Branch, NEPA Program Manager; IMSE-BEN-PWE-P; 6650 Meloy Drive, Building 6, Room 309, Fort Benning, Georgia 31905-5122 or call (706) 545-7549 or via e-mail at john.elmer.brown@us.army.mil; and/or, • Mr. John Brent: Environmental Management Division Chief; IMSE-BEN-PWE-P; 6650 Meloy Drive, Building 6, Room 307, Fort Benning, Georgia 31905 or via e-mail at john.brent@us.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Craig Taylor Director of Public Works Fort Benning, Georgia