

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A SHOPPING CENTER, FORT BENNING, GEORGIA

To Whom It May Concern:

The United States Army Infantry Center, Directorate of Public Works, Environmental Management Division, Fort Benning, Georgia, hereby announces the completion and public availability of the Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) concerning the construction of a shopping center on Fort Benning, Georgia. These documents were prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) proposes to construct a new shopping center for use by authorized individuals at Fort Benning. The proposed action would consist of construction and operation of a shopping center containing a main store, MCSS and a food court including an Anthony's Pizza, Robin Hood Deli, Burger King, Taco Bell, Church's Chicken, Manchu Wok, Charley's Grilled Subs, A & W, and Baskin Robbins. Services would include a barber shop, beauty shop, laundry/dry cleaners, alterations shop, optometrist/eyecare office, flower shop, one-hour photo store, nutrition center, shoe store, amusement arcade, beauty supply, collectibles, roving concessions, category enhancer, and local artisan.

New construction would consist of reinforced concrete slab/foundation with masonry/metal stud exterior walls, steel structure and built-up partitions, AAFES-provided shelving, suspended ceilings and recessed energy-efficient lighting. Exterior support would include required utilities, communications, paving, walks, curbs, storm drainage, site improvements, electrical, mechanical, and fire protection for a complete and usable facility. Only AAFES-authorized patrons would use the facility. These patrons are primarily active duty and retired military personnel, their family members, and certain categories of reserve military personnel.

The EA evaluates the effects associated with the proposed action on soils, vegetation, water quality, wildlife, socioeconomics, land use, environmental justice, cultural resources, utilities, noise, air quality, hazardous materials containment/disposal, public health and safety, and the protection of children.

The EA and Draft FNSI for the proposed action have been completed and will be available to the public for a review period of 30 days starting from the first day of publication in "The Columbus Ledger-Enquirer," in accordance with part 1501.4 (e)(1) of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations and Army Regulation 200-2. These documents are available at the following locations, in addition to the following website: www.benning.army.mil/EMD/Legal&PublicNotices.htm.

- W.C. Bradley Memorial Library, located at 1120 Bradley Drive, Columbus, Georgia.
- South Lumpkin Library, located at 2034 South Lumpkin Road, Columbus, Georgia.
- Fort Benning Main Post Library, located in Building 93, Fort Benning, Georgia.

Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed action or request additional information must write to the U.S. Army Infantry Center, Directorate of Public Works, Environmental Programs Management Branch (Attention: Ms. Melissa Kendrick), Building 6 (Meloy Hall) Room 309, Fort Benning, Georgia 31905-5122, or call (706) 545-9878.

Sincerely

Craig Taylor
Acting Director of Public Works