



# Your Community & MINOT AIR FORCE BASE

## Record of Meeting

**Location:** Sammy's Pizza & Restaurant

**Client:** Souris Basin Planning Council

**Date:** January 18, 2018

**Subject:** Initial Stakeholder Meeting Minutes

### Introductions

- All attendees introduced themselves. A separate list of attendees and their contact information is available upon request.

### Project Importance

- Minot Air Force Base (MAFB) Presentation provided by MAFB personnel
  - Angie Robertson (MAFB) – Spoke about the significance of MAFB to the region and hit on the following highlights:
    - Global Strike Command video
    - When Ashton Carter came to visit, he labeled MAFB as a key to National Security
    - 1200 airmen and families, 27 B52s, 150 Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs)
    - Land was originally donated by farmers and businessmen, shows connection and partnership

### Project Background

- SRF team presentation highlighted the following:
  - Focus on areas with launch facilities and the air base itself

- Primary concern involves land use development encroachments close to MAFB facilities
- Various setbacks around launch facilities were discussed
- Discussed how many easement documents related to Hardened Intersite Cable System (HICS) cables or launch facilities are too old to show up in most property title searches

### **Project Background - Discussion**

- Attendees were asked about their current knowledge of MAFB facilities and operations
  - Roger Myers
    - Expressed interest in understanding MAFB facilities and operations in the region
  - Bill (Douglas Township)
    - Mentioned that he's never had interaction with MAFB before
    - No extraterritorial jurisdiction for the City of Douglas
  - Dean (MHA Nation/Three Affiliated Tribes)
    - Noted many facilities and oil sites on the Ft. Berthold Reservation, and mentioned military convoys
    - He asked about the acreage of the launch facility evacuation zone
      - Answer provided by SRF team: 1 mile diameter, or 640 acres
  - Lance Lang (City of Minot)
    - Question about jurisdiction of airspace around launch facilities
      - Answer provided by MAFB: there is none
  - Lyndsey Ulrickson (Souris Basin Planning Council)
    - Asked about the notice/process for evacuation
      - Answer provided by MAFB:
        - First goes on state radio (ND Department of Emergency Services), which should trickle to County and Law Enforcement
        - MAFB calls County Sheriffs directly
        - FBI may get involved
        - MAFB will cordon off area (which is only a request, citizens will not be forced to leave or stay out)

- Myron Blumhagen
  - concerns over the defensive nature of missiles – worried about the time it takes to warn the area of the threat, thinking evacuations were based around a missile launch
    - Answer provided by MAFB: Evacuations are for hazardous liquid leaks or other malfunctions and response times could be anywhere from 20 minutes to 9 hours.
- John McMartin (Chamber of Commerce)
  - Regarding the dangers of hazardous chemical potential surrounding missiles, he did not feel that the public is given enough knowledge regarding them. He felt it is very important to keep development away from sites and convoys safely away from the public as much as possible.

### **Project Objectives**

- The SRF team provided an overview of the project objectives, including the comprehensive plan training guide, training session, public outreach strategy, and property disclosures.
  - The training will be available to everyone who wishes to attend from the eight county area JLUS study area. Key staff from each jurisdiction should attend

### **Project Objectives - Discussion**

- Renetta Pearson (MAFB)
  - Asked if we will provide information about the grant process available to assist smaller jurisdictions in creating Comprehensive Plans
    - SRF team response: SWOT (Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities Threats) training sessions will be used at the training workshops to understand to what extent local jurisdictions can do comprehensive planning with their own staff. The jurisdictions will also be provided with a comprehensive plan training guide to take back for those attending the training. These will be “how to” guides for creating a comprehensive plan.
- Lyndsay Ulrickson (Souris Basin Planning Council)

- A major focus of the JLUS Implementation project will be on supporting local jurisdictions to have in place a comprehensive plan and provided the tools so local jurisdictions can create plans with their own staff. More specifically this project will help with the following:
  - Ensure that comprehensive plans are consistent with the ND Century Code.
  - Provide resources and knowledge on being a partner with MAFB
  - Provide guidance for adding a chapter or amendment for relevant sections regarding MAFB facilities and operations locally
  - Provide tools and information to use in creating or amending a comprehensive plan, or simply to stay on top of planning issues in each respective jurisdiction. These tools could include the ND GIS Hub Explorer, Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) statute, how to create and amend future land use maps, and oil & gas regulation restrictions.
- Brian Bruner (McHenry County)
  - Is there a consistent HICS cable depth?
    - MAFB response: no, it can vary widely. Many cables have moved towards the surface throughout the years
  - Do 811 calls cover cable locations?
    - MAFB response: Yes, the requests also get sent to MAFB
- Myron Blumhagen
  - Discussion about airspace above and around launch facilities, and evacuation zones
  - MAFB responses provided:
    - Airspace is still FAA controlled
    - Private Airplanes – no issues with crop dusting or at higher altitudes and will not be questioned unless there is suspicious behavior near a MAFB facility
    - Drones are not an issue yet, but measures are being considered
    - Truck trailers with missiles are not tall enough to be considered within airspace when erect

## **Next Steps**

- The SRF team discussed the next steps for the project
- Public Outreach (within communities) -- who should know:

- Local Organizations
- Property Owners
  - Flyers will be provided to local communities to provide information on MAFB facilities and operations locally and what to know to avoid conflicts.
- Property disclosure – title searches only go back 20 years in many cases
  - Searches do not always show military easements
  - Outreach should be provided to local title companies and county recorders
- Spring Training Session – 2 Days:
  - One Day focus on cities
  - One Day focus on townships and counties
- Fall – Stakeholder Meeting #2
  - Recommended packets for Planning Commissions should be sent to MAFB, following similar processes as employed by Minot and Ward County

### **Additional Discussion**

- Roger Myers
  - Is there an easement width for the cables?
    - MAFB response: It may be seven feet on each side, but needs to be verified.
  - May and August were noted as poor times for farmers to attend meetings. April, June-July, and September are all better time periods. If meetings are missed, Lyndsay Ulrickson noted that there will be an opportunity to stay in touch and review documents online or via email.