

*Welcome to SSMCP Connections!*

## Elected Officials Council Review



**1 December 2017**

**Upcoming Events:**

**DEC 4 Higher Ed WG**

**DEC 6 Service Dogs 101,  
City of Lakewood**

**DEC 8 JLUS  
Implementation Task  
Force meeting**

**DEC 11 Behavioral Health  
Communications Plan  
meeting**

**DEC 16 Wreaths Across  
America**

**10 JAN Social Services  
WG**

Nearly 120 South Puget Sound community leaders and members joined together for an Elected Officials Council meeting at Eagles Pride Golf Course on 21 November. SSMCP hosted the event for all to receive an update from Congressman Denny Heck, Senator Steve O'Ban and JBLM leaders to include Brigadier General Michel-henri. St-Louis, Deputy Commanding General—Operations. He spoke at length of the overwhelming sense of community he felt from the South Sound and JBLM.

SSMCP Program Manager, Bill Adamson, shared recent organizational progress and the way ahead in 2018. The meeting concluded with the passage of the updated SSMCP Memorandum of Agreement, Legislative Agenda and Budget.

The next Elected Officials Council is Thursday, May 17th at Eagles Pride Golf Course. RSVP to [sluna@cityoflakewood.us](mailto:sluna@cityoflakewood.us).

**\*See the Legislative Agenda on page 2\***

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## **2018 Legislative Agenda**

### **Pass a 2017-19 Capital Budget: Demonstrate progress towards resolving encroachment in the McChord North Clear Zone**

*SSMCP supports passage of a 2017-19 Capital Budget that includes **\$2 million** to support resolution of encroachment in the McChord North Clear Zone, as set forth in the negotiated Capital Budget released on July 20<sup>th</sup>. SSMCP continues to coordinate for federal funds for the project.*

*Civilian activity within NCZ property presents a **public safety issue** for military operations and civilians alike. Resolving encroachment is a **shared responsibility** between Federal, State, and local authorities.*

### **Make key investments in the I-5 Corridor from Mounts Road to Tumwater**

WSDOT's Corridor Sketch identifies solutions to improve mobility along I-5 from Mounts Road through Tumwater.

*SSMCP supports WSDOT in its efforts to implement the short-term solutions identified to improve mobility from Mounts Road through Tumwater.*

*SSMCP requests **\$5 million** for further development and implementation of the mid to long-term strategies identified in the WSDOT Corridor Sketch to include focused interchange improvements (I-5/US 101) and a strategic plan for the Nisqually River bridges. SSMCP supports the*



*Nisqually Tribe's proposal that evaluation of the strategies should assess the benefits and costs related to regional congestion relief, as well as ecosystem benefits to the Nisqually River estuary for salmon productivity and flood control.*

## **SSMCP Policy Positions**

### **Maintain Active State support for Military Affairs in Washington**

SSMCP believes in a strong commitment from the State in support of military affairs. This support should include:

Full funding of the Washington Military Alliance (WMA); recognizing and protecting the economic benefit realized in the State by government and the private sector due to our military's presence;  
Increased access to medical providers for service members, veterans, and their families – specifically behavioral health services.

### **Support Military & Civilian Compatible Land Use**

SSMCP was founded on and strongly agrees that strong and collaborative partnerships are vital in identifying and resolving existing land use conflicts and preventing potential future land use conflicts. SSMCP supports joint land use strategies that do not usurp local control. Specifically, SSMCP supports:

Designating military installations as regional centers for the purposes of regional and transportation planning  
Allocating state resources to assist with resolution of compatible use issues  
Coordination with and investment in military-community organizations such as SSMCP, Forward Fairchild, KEDA, Greater Spokane, Inc., etc.

### **Support Emerging Projects in the Region**

SSMCP is supportive of congestion relief projects that improve the flow of traffic surrounding JBLM. These projects include but are not limited to:

Widening of DuPont/ Steilacoom Road from Integrity Gate to Exit 119 on I-5  
Addressing the at grade rail crossing near the main gate entrance at Exit 120

## SSMCP Tideflats Involvement

SSMCP has provided 2 letters to the City of Tacoma regarding regulations to the Tideflats. Since then, the city council of Tacoma decided to amend Tideflats Interim Regulations that would have restricted fuel storage and delivery such as the delivery of fuel resources to Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM).



An inability to access adequate fuel supplies would adversely impact JBLM's mission readiness and have a detrimental impact on our national security. Military installations must be able to surge military capability during times of national crisis.

Contingency crises necessitate greater reliance on the civilian infrastructure to support military missions. If the crisis occurs in Northeast Asia JBLM would be the main power projection platform for deployments to Asia-Pacific. USAF operations at JBLM rely on the fuel pipeline and storage tanks at the port to sustain global airlift missions. Any limitations on fuel storage capacity and delivery capability would quickly become a national security issue.

## *SSMCP Welcomes UW Intern, Andres Perez*



Masters of Social Work (MSW) from the University of Washington student, Andres Perez, joined the SSMCP Staff in October. He will remain on staff until his expected graduation in June 2018. Andres is a 15 year Army Veteran with multiple deployments. His service dog, Dante, has been trained to assist him with many daily activities and is also a welcome member of the team. Key SSMCP initiatives Andres supports are the Regional Behavioral Health Communications Plan, JBLM Workforce Survey and the Social Services working group. Contact Andres at 253-983-7730 or [aperez@cityoflakewood.us](mailto:aperez@cityoflakewood.us).

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