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Planners look at historic Main Post

Fort Leavenworth conducted a charrette as the third part of the real property master planning process.



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Prudence Siebert, Fort Leavenworth Lamp

Dan Bairley, architect with Louis Berger in Washington, D.C.; Ben Zitelli, senior planner with Louis Berger and project head/planning workshop facilitator; Maureen Goodrich, Headquarters, Installation Management Command community planner; and Susana Arisso, planner with Louis Berger, discuss future planning options for existing buildings and enhancements that could be made to community enrichment on Fort Leavenworth during the area development plan workshop Jan. 28 at the Frontier Conference Center. Photo by Prudence Siebert/Fort Leavenworth Lamp



Jennifer Walleman | Staff Writer

A roundabout at the five-way intersection where the Grant statue now stands, a trail going parallel to the railroad tracks and an amphitheater with internet access and seating by the lake were just a few ideas discussed during the master planning workshop Jan. 27-29 at the Frontier Conference Center.

As part of the master planning requirement in unified facility criteria 2-100-01 mandated by the undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics in 2012, Fort Leavenworth conducted a charrette as the third part of the real property master planning process.

This charrette, sponsored by Installation Management Command and facilitated by IMCOM contractors from the Louis Berger Group, brought together planning staff, tenants and stakeholders from north of the lakes on Main Post for a brainstorming session that reviewed strengths and weaknesses of post and provided input on future improvements in the next 20 years. A second charrette covering the southern part of post will be conducted in a few months.

In 2015, IMCOM and Fort Leavenworth Directorate of Public Works staff completed step 1 and 2 of the real property master plan. Step 1 was developing the vision plan, which included the installation's planning objectives and goals, and a framework plan of the planning districts. They also developed installation planning standards for buildings, streets and landscapes, which are a clear set of guidelines ensuring the vision and planning objectives are achieved.

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The purpose of the charrette was to identify projects that are a possibility on post in the next 20 years, prioritize them and then create a plan summary that can be assessed and edited as mission and other future changes occur.

"The intention for these plans is we are creating a vision for what we want it to be in 20 years," said Ben Zitelli, senior planner at Louis Berger. "That's the starting point for developing projects.

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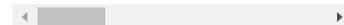
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What we can get out of that or the Garrison gets out of that is we can start to identify projects that will make this happen so they can take that next step to prioritize those projects and get them in the funding stream.”

Representatives from different agencies on post gave their input and presented issues and concerns about their facilities and how the post is working overall. Participants also created a spot analysis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of what is and is not working in the district regarding streets, landscape and facilities.

Recurring themes centered around preserving the historic character of post, improving walking neighborhood connections between neighborhoods and other areas of post, efficiencies in transportation networks, parking efficiency, road networks and reducing the cost of maintenance. Participants also went out and walked the whole district to see what was doable and to validate some of the issues.

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