



January 2021 - #003 CDCA Newsletter

1. CDCA and 2021

Every organization now uses an expression such as “changing the tires while driving the bus” to convey the idea of shifting delivery systems and routines. We will not allow the lack of in-person contact, connections and communications to have a detrimental impact on effectiveness or accomplishments. Collegiality, collaboration, growth and relationships have a new standard in the Zoom era. Professional growth may have to wait for the resumption of in-person conferences and meetings, although on-line sessions help fill the void.

CDCA continues working on behalf of our California’s defense installations, military members and local communities in order to make progress on critical issues as we all adapt to the continuing challenges.

Gathering insights from members and issue discussions improve the effectiveness and accomplishments of our organization. One issue particularly important to CDCA is reciprocal licensing. CDCA will pursue actions that can help our communities and military families through reciprocal licensing for those already licensed by other state’s licensing or certifying agencies.

We encourage all members to join the effort by submitting data you may hold or be able to obtain including anecdotal experiences in order to build the arguments in favor of legislative actions. Licensing and certifying agencies need to know that lengthy procedures, arbitrary requirements and yet more duplicative testing has a negative impact on families but also state readiness and response in emergency situations.

We expect much of last year’s unsuccessfully completed legislation to be resubmitted, perhaps in modified forms, during the legislative session that just started. We will track the legislation and advocate for legislation of interest to the CDCA membership.

2. Existing Legislative Resources Affecting California Military Bases

Although attention is always focused on new legislation, existing legislation should not be overlooked as a resource and framework for yielding positive outcomes as missions develop and objectives change. Updates on earlier actions and compliance with the original legislative requirements can be reviewed to

ensure actions are remain in alignment with community and military base needs. Specific local issues require research into legislative requirements and actions taken that might need update or modification to accommodate the current planning. In general, legislation of interest will affect roles and responsibilities of Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR).

California State laws SB1462 (2014) and SB1468 (2002) are two examples which require cities and counties to notify the military of development applications and general plan updates within 1000 feet of a military installation or beneath Special Use Airspace (SUA) and Military Training Routes (MTR).

Bill SB 1468 (Knight, 2002) General Plans: Military Facilities

The Planning and Zoning Law requires that a city or county general plan consist of various elements, including, among other things, land use, circulation, housing, open space, and conservation elements, which are required to meet specified requirements.

This bill requires the land use element to consider the impact of new growth on military readiness activities carried out on military bases, installations, and operating and training areas, when proposing zoning ordinances or designating land uses covered by the general plan for land or other territory adjacent to those military facilities, or underlying designated military aviation routes and airspace. This bill, with respect to the open-space element, defines open-space land to include areas adjacent to military installations, military training routes, and restricted airspace.

Existing law requires the California Public Utilities Commission to formulate a comprehensive land use plan that provides, among other things, for the orderly growth of public airports and the area surrounding the airport that is within the jurisdiction of the commission. The plan may include the area within the jurisdiction of the commission surrounding any federal military airport.

This bill instead requires that the area within the jurisdiction of the commission surrounding any military airport be included in the plan, and requires that the plan be consistent with the safety and noise standards in the Air Installation Compatible Use Zone prepared for that military airport. This bill also requires that a county's general plan and any applicable specific plan be consistent with these safety and noise standards in each county where an airport land use commission does not exist, but where there is a military airport.

SB-1462 Local Government (2014): Omnibus Bill.

Among several actions: Office of Noise Control. The Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) must adopt and periodically revise guidelines for the preparation and content of local general plans. OPR staff notes that the Office of Noise Control, which last issued noise control guidelines in 1976, was eliminated sometime in the 1980s. This bill deletes the requirement that a general plan's noise element must recognize guidelines issued by the Office of Noise Control, thereby clarifying OPR's authority to develop guidelines for the noise element.

3. The Positive Economic Impact of Military on Our Communities

Communities with a strong military presence have the financial benefit of stable revenue while communities with a dependency on travel, tourism, conventions and related spending continue to face unprecedented revenue challenges. You can reinforce the financial contribution of military salaries, spending and investment in your communities. A state impact report and a national defense spending

report is available (see discussion below). Member organizations continue to assess their own communities.

California's per-job costs are higher than every other Western state, and most other large states. The high cost of creating additional jobs puts California at a substantial competitive disadvantage when attempting to retain or attract businesses that have a choice where to locate. (Source: centerforjobs.org.)

Further, cost of building and sustainment in California is higher than many other states as shown in the Congressional Budget Office report *The Cost of Supporting Military Bases*, November 2019. Of course details are needed for clarity. Basing decisions are based on costs, of course, but also conclusions such as those documented in the report.

The key findings of the Congressional Budget Office include the following:

- Base Operations Support (BOS) costs are strongly related to the number of a base's employees and its square footage of building space.
- With other base characteristics unchanged, BOS costs associated with an increase in population were lower at larger bases than at smaller bases. For example, in 2016 BOS costs increased by \$1,000 for each employee added to bases with 25,000 or more employees, but they increased by \$14,000 at bases with 5,000 or fewer employees. That finding implies that it would be more cost-effective to expand the population at larger bases than at smaller ones, everything else being equal.
- Other characteristics that affect BOS costs at a base are the branch of service that operates it, the mission of the units that it hosts, its location (inside or outside the United States), and its climate, although the effects of those characteristics are not as significant.

The CBO report can be found at the web site:

<https://www.cbo.gov/system/files/2019-11/55849-CBO-BOS-costs.pdf>



Roman wearing mail, and above him a cornicen, a junior officer who communicated signals with the military horn from the Ludovisi Battle sarcophagus (Wikipedia).

4. National Security Economic Impact in California

The *California Statewide & Regional National Security Economic Impacts* report on federal national security spending was released by the State of California. The California Research Bureau of the California State Library prepared the report for the Governor's Office of Planning and Research and the Governor's Military Council.

The California report is available at:

https://militarycouncil.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/81/2019/12/CRB_NatSecEconImpact-2019-Report.pdf

Department of Defense's Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation recently released a report on defense spending by state in fiscal year 2019.

California, Virginia, and Texas topped the list of recipients for overall defense spending. However, Virginia, Hawaii, and Alabama ranked highest when considering defense spending's impact on their states' GDP.

The top ten states for total Defense spending in Fiscal Year 2019 were:

RANK	STATE	DEFENSE SPENDING (billions)
1.	California	\$66.2
2.	Virginia	\$60.3
3.	Texas	\$54.8
4.	Florida	\$29.8
5.	Maryland	\$26.1
6.	Connecticut	\$19.7
7.	Pennsylvania	\$18.1
8.	Washington	\$17.8
9.	Alabama	\$16.0
10.	Massachusetts	\$15.8

The FY19 report can be found on the OLDCC website:
<https://oea.gov/defense-spending-state-fiscal-year-2019>

5. CDCA webinar

California Defense Communities Alliance hosted a Webinar "Why Defense is Important in California" on November 19, 2020. Participation exceeded expectations. A plan and schedule for 2021 Webinars is being developed.

6. CDCA Membership Progress

CDCA is pleased with the growth of membership in both organizations joining and individuals participating. Organizational members include: Beale Military Liaison Council, China Lake Alliance, Monterey Bay Defense Alliance, Regional Defense Partnership for the 21st Century, San Diego Military Council, Travis Community Consortium, Friends of NAS Lemoore, Herlong Public Utilities District, March Joint Powers Authority. We also appreciate our individual members for their support and contribution.

7. CDCA points of contact

Feel free to contact the co-chairs, Gene Fisher (grfisher@rdp21.org) and Janice Soohoo Nall (jsn@cmp.com).

The web site is www.cadefensecommunitiesalliance.org. Twitter: @CaDefenseComm. (Take a look at these for the latest CDCA news.)

Mailing address is 1017 “L” Street #398, Sacramento, CA 95814

8. Tools and Resources

For additional resources and tools to support military community interests discussed in this newsletter, see:

The Cost of Supporting Military Bases (CBO)

<https://www.cbo.gov/system/files/2019-11/55849-CBO-BOS-costs.pdf>

California Statewide & Regional National Security Economic Impacts

<https://oea.gov/defense-spending-state-fiscal-year-2019>