

AFCEC releases call for installation planning team proposals

By Greg Hammer

AFCEC Planning and Integration Directorate

Does your installation face challenges that require a focused planning effort, but the local resources aren't available to cover such an undertaking? Opportunity is knocking! AFCEC's Comprehensive Planning Division provides Installation Planning Team support to assist with small-scale, short duration planning efforts. On Aug. 6, the Installation Planning Branch released a data call for submittals to request assistance from an IPT in FY22. Proposals should be focused on a planning challenge that can be addressed

Enterprise Objectives

- Mission resiliency in contested environment
- Nuclear enterprise sustainment and modernization
- Right-size mission footprint supporting mission partners
- Mitigate risk to mission essential functions
- Mission assurance and redundancy features
- Lifecycle reduction through partnerships
- Restore military readiness while building a more lethal force

within approximately one week by a planning team consisting of three to five members. Requests are initially evaluated on whether the project scope and desired outcome are feasible or resources are available to dedicate to the IPT. Proposals are also prioritized by whether the planning request upholds Enterprise Objectives. These objectives were established to align planning, and subsequently future facility and infrastructure investments, with Air Force strategic priorities.

An IPT can potentially develop alternative courses of action, jump-start a larger planning effort, or bridge the gap between in-house and contracted planning activities. An IPT can also provide specific expertise not resident at the installation or provide cross-functional insight for a particular planning challenge. Additionally, the program can help to provide an objective review of planning alternatives when multiple interests may conflict. IPTs are not intended to replace fully contracted efforts such as Area Development Plan or District Plan creation, Component Plan updates, or installation-wide facility utilization surveys.

Execution of the projects selected to receive support for FY20 was significantly impacted by the implementation of COVID-19 preventative measures in early-2020 that curtailed travel. Luckily, a handful of the selected IPTs were able to be completed before restrictions. AFCEC then reassessed the remaining IPTs to determine whether it would be possible to accomplish them virtually. Several scopes of work provided

opportunities to collect required data and ultimately fulfill the project intent without having to put boots on the ground at the installation.

One of the projects selected for completion as a virtual IPT was the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, Hangar 14/Hot Cargo Pad (HCP) #19 activation challenge. The installation requested support in identifying a solution that would mitigate the evacuation of personnel from Hangar 14 during hazardous cargo operations, which presently results in a loss of valuable mission resources and man-hours. A site-visit by the Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center, AFCEC and contract support personnel was canceled, and the team deferred to holding monthly meetings via MS Teams to engage with installation stakeholders to define and refine the project scope, gather data, conduct interviews with key personnel, and develop preliminary analysis. Following an assessment of the collected data, the team initially recommended a planning action that involved identifying and removing 21 non-flight line related vehicles and personnel from Hangar 14.

It was determined that if Hangar 14 exclusively housed flight line related missions, the quantity-distance Arc from HCP #19 could be reduced by up to 60% in relation to the Public Transportation Route Distance as per AFMAN 91-201, *Explosives Safety Standards*. This provided a feasible, no-cost, short-term solution until the present Aerial Port is relocated as part of the Runway 16/34 extension project. Additionally, an alternative planning action was developed proposing the construction of a berm between Hangar 14 and HCP #19, which could serve as a plausible mid-to-long range solution.

Typically, AFCEC receives between 20 to 30 submittals for review and approximately 10 are selected for planning assistance each year. Examples of the types of projects selected include the development of campus plans, space optimization plans, or assistance with facility/mission improvements to limit the impacts of safety restrictions on operations.

Submittals for the current FY22 IPT data call were due Sept. 3. For more information on preparing an IPT submittal package, please visit our page on the Comprehensive Planning Division Portal at: <https://portal.afcec.hedc.af.mil/CP/CP/Installation%20Planning%20Teams.aspx>, or contact IPT Program Manager, Travis Witt at travis.witt.4@us.af.mil.