



The Fort Benning Regional Growth Management Plan is funded by a grant from the Department of Defense, Office of Economic Adjustment; an agency charged with helping BRAC-affected communities adjust to the impacts of mission changes at military installations

Fort Benning

REGIONAL GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN

Economic Impact Task Force Meeting

October 8, 2008



In association with:



Regionalism is the Key

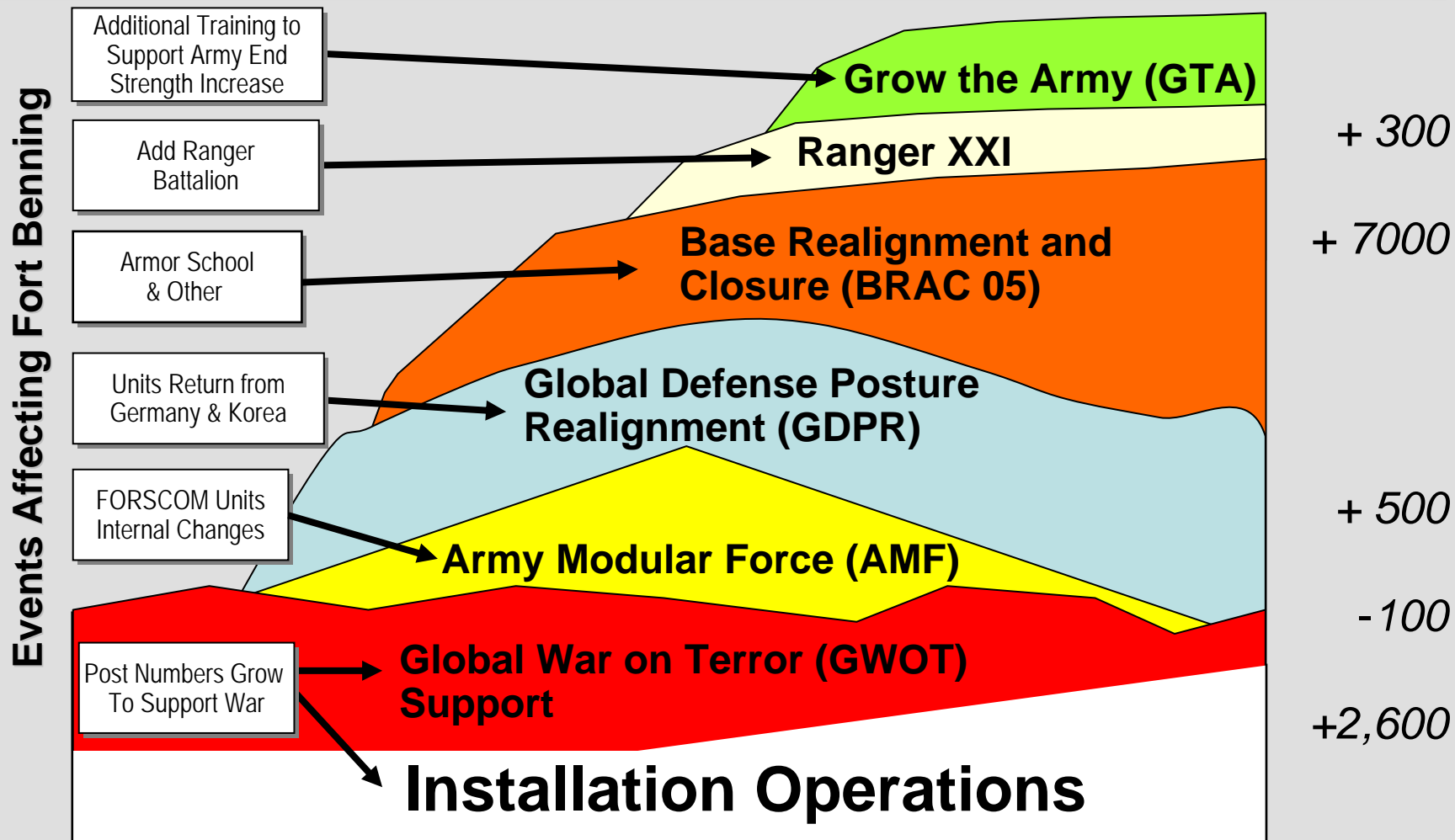
"Coordination and Synchronization Continue To Be Our Greatest Strengths"
Major General Walter Wojdakowski
Commanding General, Fort Benning, Alabama and Georgia



Agenda

- Project Overview
- Task Overview & Methodology
- Existing Conditions & Issues
- Discussion

Fort Benning Transformation



Project Purpose

RGMP Study Area:
(10 Counties – 35 Mile Radius)

Ten County Study Area:

Georgia

- Columbus - Muscogee
- Cusseta - Chattahoochee
- Harris
- Marion
- Talbot
- Taylor
- Stewart

Alabama

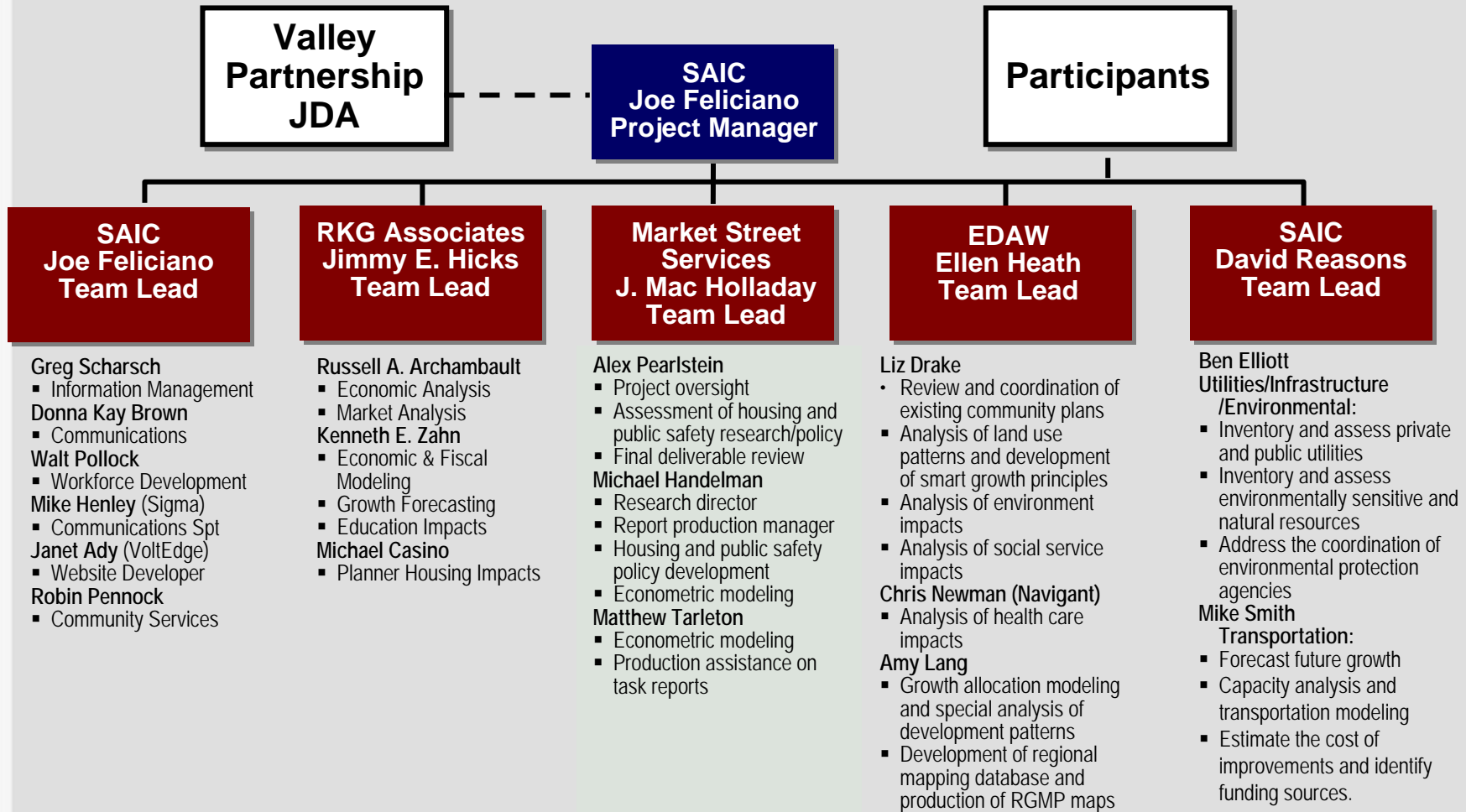
- Barbour
- Lee
- Russell



Identify:

- What growth will occur?
- Where will it occur?
- Impacts to local communities
- Action plans to prepare

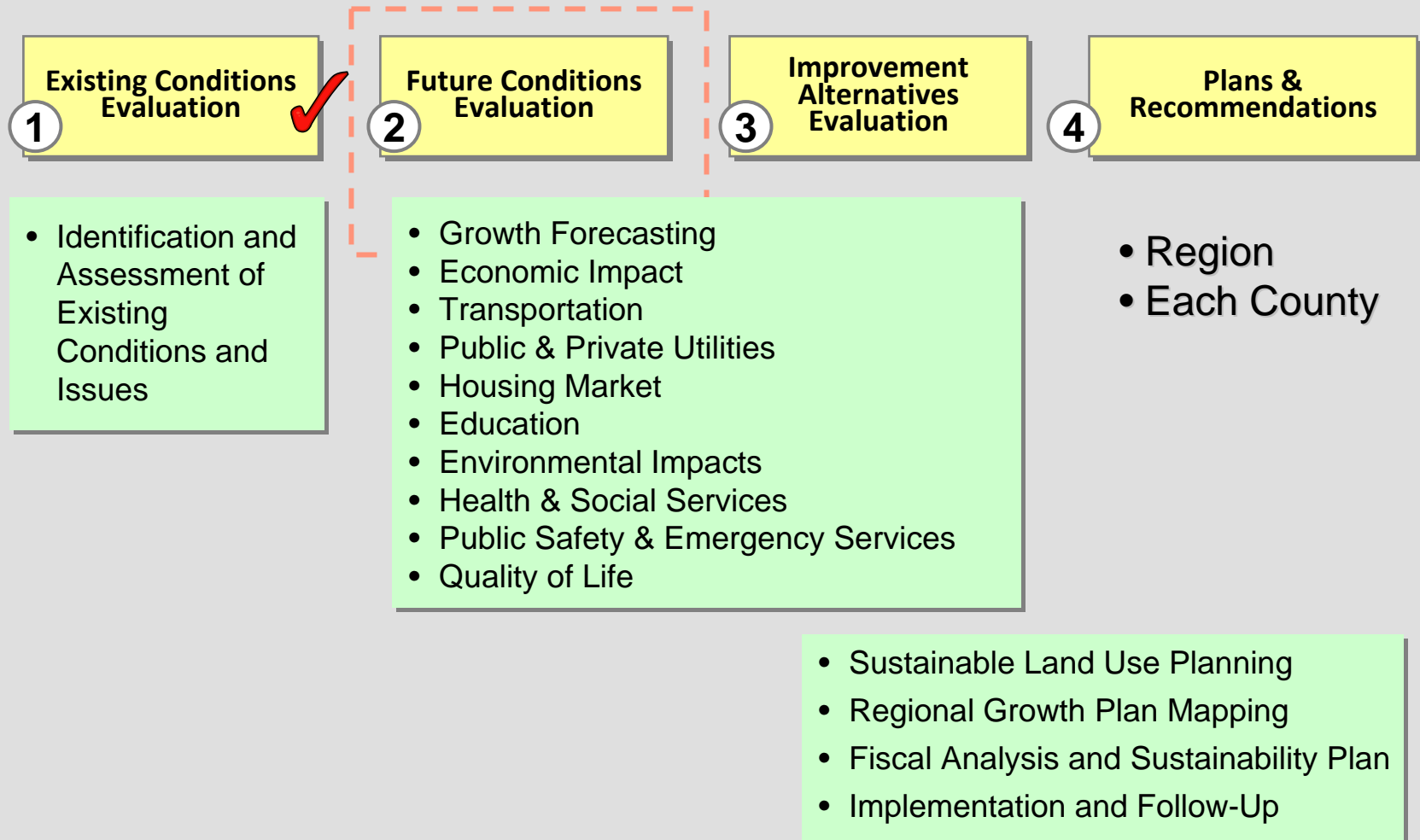
Project Team Organization



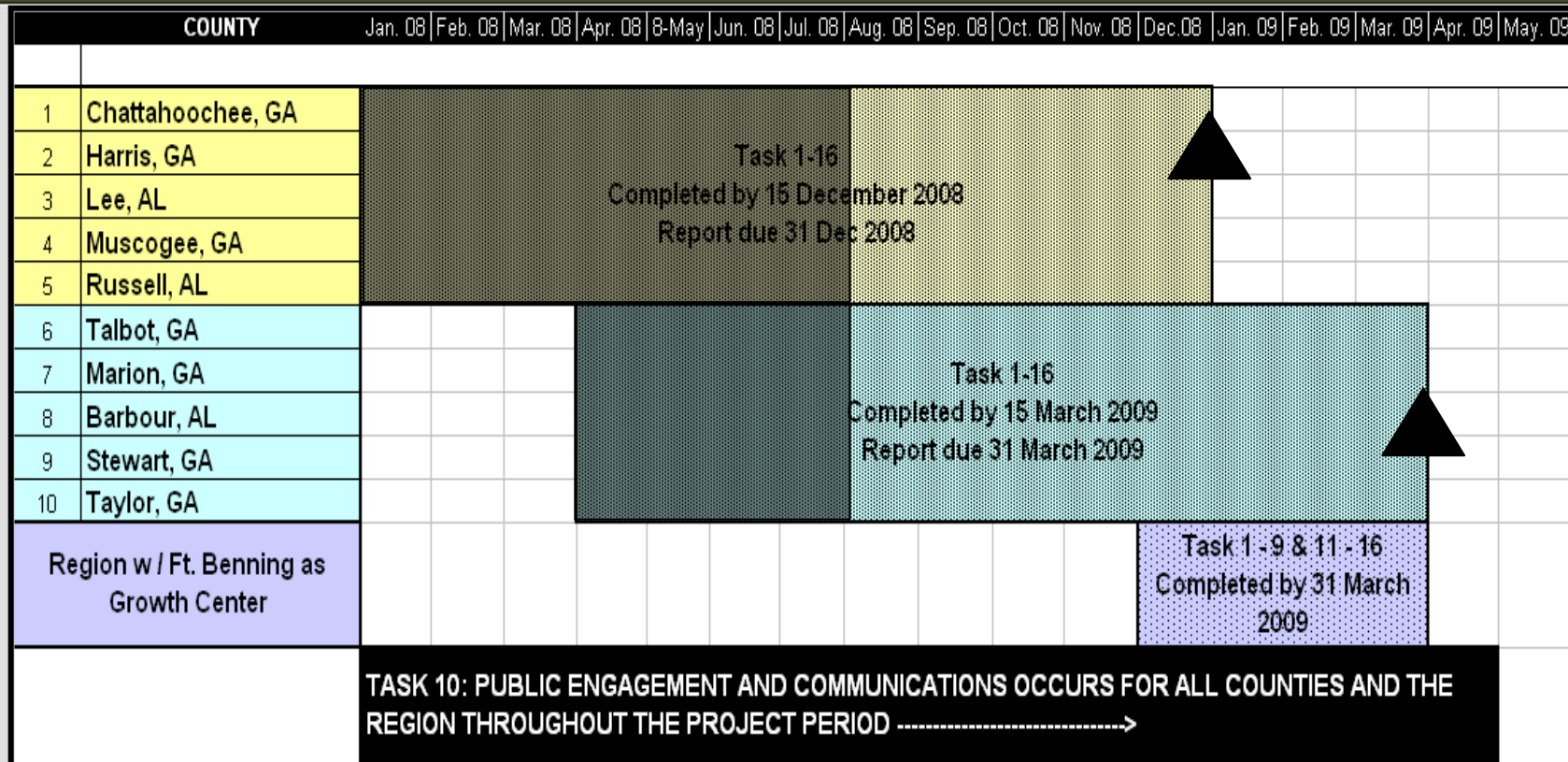
Scope (Tasks)

#	TASK	LEAD
1	Identification and Assessment of Existing Conditions and Issues	SAIC
2	Growth Forecasting and Modeling	RKG
3	Economic Impact Analysis	RKG
4	Transportation	SAIC
5	Public and Private Utilities	SAIC
6	Housing Market Analysis	MKT ST
7	Education	RKG
8	Sustainable Land Use Planning	EDAW
9	Regional Growth Plan Mapping	EDAW
10	Public Engagement and Communications	SAIC
11	Environmental Impacts	SAIC
12	Health and Social Services	EDAW
13	Public Safety and Emergency Services	MKT ST
14	Quality of Life	SAIC
15	Fiscal Analysis and Sustainability Plan	RKG
16	Implementation and Follow-Up	SAIC

Project Process



Schedule (County View)



- First five county plans (Phase 1) completed Dec 2008
- Remaining counties (Phase 2) and regional plans completed Apr 2009

Purpose of this Meeting

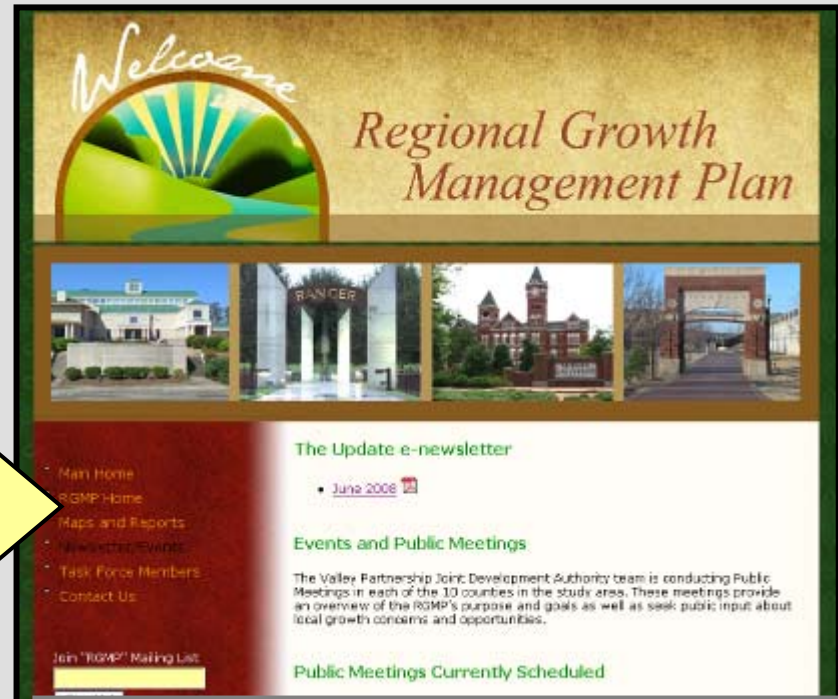
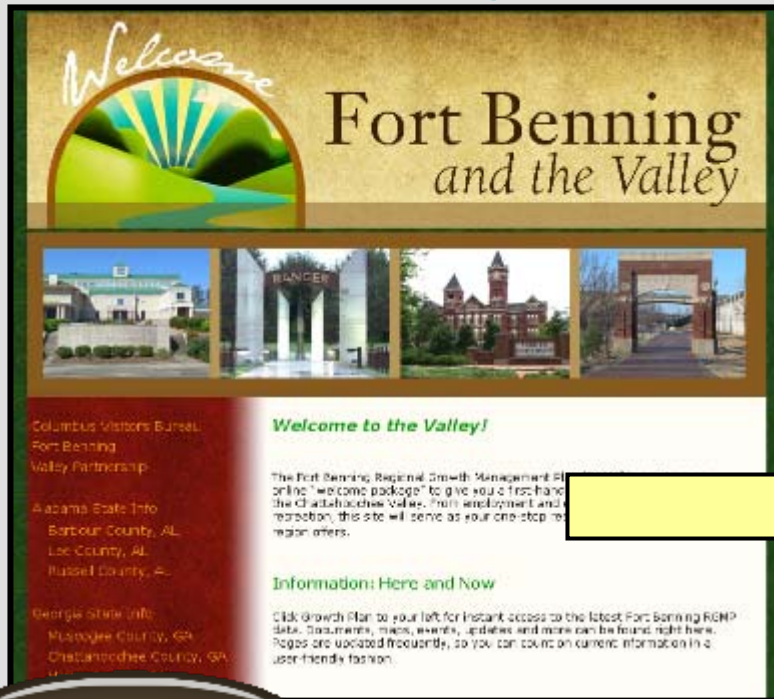
- Kick-Off Task Force Process
- Review Task Methodology
- Review Existing Conditions & Issues
- Discuss and Confirm Way Ahead

Task Force Responsibilities

- 1) Review task, scope and methodology
- 2) Confirm existing conditions and known issues
- 3) Establish points of contact for data collection
- 4) Review findings and recommendations
- 5) Communicate with community regarding actions and status of Plan
- 6) Provide guidance in Plan implementation

Project Website

- www.fortbenningandthevalley.com



Growth Plan

Click the Growth Plan Button

- *Schedule of Upcoming Events*
- *Documents & Maps*
- *Newsletters*

Agenda

- Project Overview
- **Task Overview & Methodology**
- Existing Conditions & Issues
- Discussion



Task 3 – Economic Impact Analysis

TASK OVERVIEW:

- Prepare an inventory and assessment of the current economic base and labor force for 10 counties and the region
- Review and assess economic development programs in the 10 county region
- Examine regional workforce development and training programs
- Use the REMI *PolicyInsight* model to project future employment growth trends and development impacts
- Outline job creation strategies
- Identify cooperative implementation approaches that include state and federal agencies, local governments, non-profit organizations and other stakeholders

Task 3 – Economic Impact Analysis

1 of 3

Deliverable	Status	Complete	Remarks
An analysis of the economic and fiscal impacts of the BRAC influx, and associated economic development opportunities, by county and for the region, including, but not limited to, a military business and workforce resource gap analysis.		11/1/08 (Tier 1)	The economic impact analysis will be completed first. The fiscal impact assessment will be based on the infrastructure analysis. Data collection on workforce gap analysis is completed.
Development of defense contractor incentive programs at state, county and/or community levels (e.g. policies and legislation).		1/22/09	Review of existing incentives ongoing. Incorporation will come in final regional report.



Complete



On Track






Issues



At Risk

Task 3 – Economic Impact Analysis

2 of 3

Deliverable	Status	Complete	Remarks
Assessment of the increased demand for housing, retail establishments, hospitality services, economic and recreation opportunities.		11/1/08 (Tier 1)	Assessments will be based on REMI model results and market assessments.
Identification of job opportunities, strategies to create new jobs, and training requirements and resources to help assist spouses in obtaining employment.		11/1/08 (Tier 1)	This information has been collected.
Development and implementation of strategies to work with existing partners (state, federal and non-profit agencies) to address economic opportunities and concerns.		11/1/08 (Tier 1)	This information is presently being collected. Incorporation of some recommendations may come in final (regional) report.



Complete



On Track





Issues



At Risk

Task 3 – Economic Impact Analysis

3 of 3

Deliverable	Status	Complete	Remarks
Employment data for the last 10 years and forecast for employment demand in 5 year increments, for the next 20 years.		11/1/08 (Tier 1)	Employment data has been collected for the past 10 years. Forecast will be based on REMI model outputs.
An inventory and assessment of the economic base, labor force characteristics and local and regional economic development resources.		11/1/08 (Tier 1)	Draft document has been prepared for first five counties that addresses economic base and labor force.

Task 3 – Economic Impact Analysis

EMERGING RESULTS:

- There appears to be considerable variation in the preparedness of study area communities to accommodate the population growth associated with the expansion of Fort Benning.
- Some portions of the study area may be at a comparative disadvantage for attracting economic development.
- Low population growth may necessitate attracting labor force from a larger geographic area.
- Work force development and education efforts must be focused and needs to be accelerated.

Task 3 – Economic Impact Analysis

WAY AHEAD:

- Assess impacts on housing, retail, hospitality services, economic and recreation opportunities
- Complete review and assessment of workforce development and training programs
- Identify strategies for workforce cooperation in training and education
- Prepare Fiscal Impact Assessment as part of Task 15

Agenda

- Project Overview
- Task Overview & Methodology
- Existing Conditions & Issues
- **Discussion**

Discussion

- Task Methodology
- Outstanding Data Requirements

REMI Policy Insight

- The REMI model is a multi-year **forecasting and simulation model**, enabling users to evaluate policy alternatives in terms of “what if” scenarios in order to estimate economic impacts. The model has strong dynamic properties, which means that it forecasts not only what *will* happen but also *when* it will happen.
- REMI developed a custom multi-regional economic and demographic forecast for all ten counties. This dynamic year-by-year forecast represents the baseline, or no-build scenario. The REMI forecast extends to the year 2028.
- The Industrial Sectors in Policy Insight are based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). NAICS replaced the old Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) System in 1997, and was developed jointly by the United States, Canada and Mexico to allow business statistics comparability across North America.

REMI Policy Insight

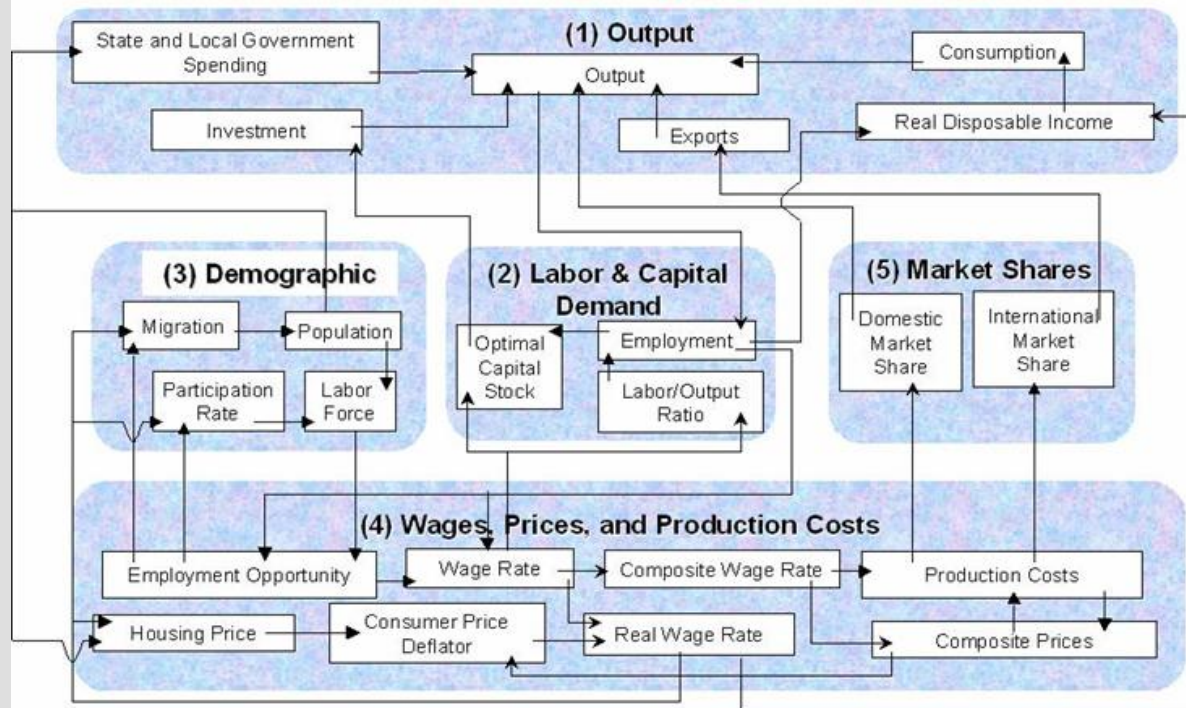
- Policy Insight's forecast was assembled at the county level using data from various U.S. government agencies, including the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the Department of Energy, Department of Defense (DoD), the Bureau of Census, other public sources and Fort Benning
- The REMI model generates estimates for both *DIRECT* and *INDIRECT* impacts. Direct impacts for this analysis are expanded military operations: military personnel, on-post jobs, and on-post infrastructure spending. Impacts related to Kia construction and AFLAC expansion were also included in the model. The indirect impacts can be split into two groups: Intermediate and Induced. Intermediate impacts are essentially business to business purchases. Induced impacts are associated with increased regional disposable income resulting in a change in consumer spending.

REMI Policy Insight

- The model structure has been developed to include “new economic geography” assumptions. Economic geography theory explains regional and urban economies in terms of competing factors of dispersion and agglomeration. Producers and consumers are assumed to benefit from access to variety, which tends to concentrate production and the location of households.
- For businesses, the demand for labor, capital, and fuel depends on their relative costs. For example, if there were an increase in the price of capital, businesses would likely have a preference shift away from capital toward labor and fuel.
- Individuals respond to price changes. Consequently, economic migrants will respond to wages, new employment opportunity, local prices, and other labor market factors.

REMI Policy Insight

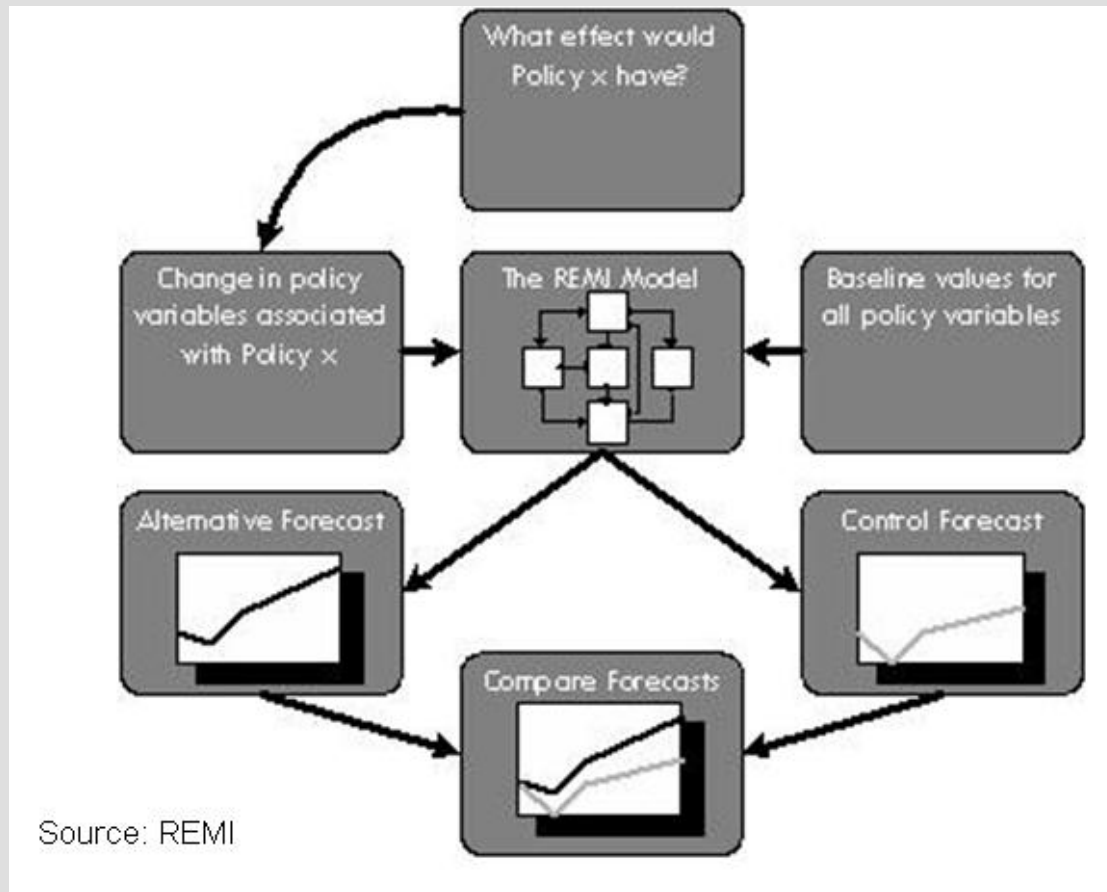
REMI Model Linkages (Excluding Economic Geography Linkages)



Source: REMI

REMI Model Structure

REMI Policy Insight



Source: REMI

REMI Model Policy Simulation Process

Closing Comments

- The results of the REMI model are projections not predictions
- REMI provides direction and context
- Changes in the economy will alter final impacts
- The impacts of growth should be monitored on a yearly basis
- The expansion of Fort Benning and other economic changes, such as Kia and Aflac, will result in some significant long term structural changes in the regional economy over the next 20 years

Closing Remarks

THIS MEETING:

- Overview
- Methodology
- Conditions & Issues
- Discussions



NEXT MEETING

- Draft Findings/Recommendations



Fort Benning

REGIONAL GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN

Economic Impact Task Force Meeting – October 8, 2008

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