



**US Army Corps
of Engineers
Fort Worth District**

News Release

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The Corps' First Stimulus Package Contract Goes to Construct Warriors in Transition Complex at Fort Bliss, Texas

FORT WORTH, Texas - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded phase 1 of the \$57 million Warriors in Transition Complex contract for Fort Bliss, Texas to assist injured Soldiers in their recovery and re-integration back into the Army. This is the first of nine Military Construction Army projects funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, also called the Stimulus Package.

The Corps' Fort Worth District awarded the initial phase of the Design-Build contract to Sundt Construction Inc., of Tempe, Ariz. for approximately \$30 million. Corps officials anticipate beginning designs for phase 1 in June and completing both phases of construction by the end of 2010.

"We are very excited about getting this project underway," said Col. Christopher W. Martin, Commander of the Fort Worth District. "This project features a state-of-the-art building complex that will assist Soldiers and family members in their recovery efforts."

Totaling more than 185,000 square feet, the WT complex will house three separate buildings consisting of a barracks, a headquarters and administrative building and a Soldier and Family Assistance Center.

The project's first phase consists of constructing the barracks facility and site infrastructure, while phase 2 will feature the administrative building and the SFAC.

"While the phase 1 contract went to Sundt, a large firm; we are currently soliciting phase 2 under HUBZone, a small business set-aside Multiple Award Task Order Contract," stated Corps contracting officer, Lisa C. Billman. "This provides a great opportunity for small business to compete for a portion of this work."

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“The complex will be arranged in a campus community-style layout where the buildings encircle a large courtyard with a walking trail, labyrinth, seating areas and covered canopies,” said Jason Foltyn, Senior Project Manager for the Fort Bliss WT project. “This allows for a quiet, relaxing atmosphere, which will facilitate the recovery effort.”

A three-story barracks totaling approximately 140,000 square feet of living quarters will accommodate 232 injured Soldiers. Two apartment-style floor plans are part of the design feature. The first is a 675-square foot, two-bedroom, two-bath apartment with a shared kitchen, living room and laundry room. The second floor plan offers a 530-square foot, two-bedroom, one-bath apartment with a shared kitchen.

The second building, a 30,000-square foot, two-story structure, will house a battalion headquarters and two company operations facilities. Here, staff will manage the daily operations and activities of the recovering Soldiers.

The single-story SFAC has approximately 15,000-square feet and will house a variety of support services. Services include counseling and social services, legal and financial support, and military benefits. The facility will also house a child activity center and Family Readiness Group meeting rooms.

Under the Centers of Standardization program, eight USACE offices were established with the responsibility to design and acquire designated facility types. The Fort Worth District COS office has the mission to develop WT facilities at 34 military installations.

The Fort Bliss WT complex is one of two being funded under the Recovery Act. The second WT complex will be a \$43 million facility to be constructed at Fort Campbell, Ky.

About the Fort Worth District : The Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was established in 1950. The District is responsible for water resources development in two-thirds of Texas, and military design and construction in Texas and parts of Louisiana and New Mexico. Visit the Fort Worth District web site at: www.swf.usace.army.mil .