

City of Lompoc & Vandenberg Space Force Base Mission Installation Sustainability Project

The City of Lompoc and Vandenberg Air Force Base, located in Santa Barbara County, have long enjoyed a symbiotic relationship. As of June 2021, Vandenberg officially became part of the newly designated Space Force. As the national Western Range Space Force launch facility, Vandenberg Space Force Base (VSFB) anticipates increased activity as the private commercial space sector expands.

This launch mission expansion brings challenges for the Base and the City as they work together in planning for their closely related futures. In response, Lompoc has initiated a planning effort funded by the federal Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC) under its Military Installation Sustainability (MIS) grant program. The City hybrid program approach combines the requirements of two closely related MIS grant categories, Installation Resilience and Compatible Use.

Lompoc's cooperative planning process with Vandenberg SFB will take into consideration the interests of surrounding communities, Santa Barbara County and State and Federal agencies, as well as the private space launch sector and other interested organizations. Its goals are to protect and preserve military readiness and defense capabilities while supporting symbiotic community economic stability and success. It is designed to:

- * Identify and respond cooperatively to mutual environmental vulnerabilities
- * Promote community development that is supportive of and not in conflict with installation training, testing, and operational missions
- * Promote and provide options for positive compatibility between Vandenberg Space Force Base, the City of Lompoc, surrounding communities, businesses and landowners
- * Increase public awareness of the military's mission and contribution to the regional economy

This City program began in February 2020 and will continue through July 2021, guided by scope and grant goals to:

- * Minimize encroachment on the mission of Vandenberg SFB
- * Assure installation resiliency considering identified environmental threats
- * Identify complementary community benefits of compatibility and resiliency

measures resulting from close collaboration with the installation

The City and Vandenberg SFB leaders worked together in mid-2020 to define the areas of mutual interest and need as the focus of this OLDCC grant hybrid study. They considered elements related to mutual environmental risks (both anticipated and unanticipated) affecting Military Installation Resilience (MIR), and they assessed the mutual land use and infrastructure issues related to compatible use (CU). The study focus areas include:

- * Climate and environmental threats
- * Energy security and the adequacy of systems for energy supply
- * Water supply and water quality
- * Wastewater treatment
- * Transportation, access and emergency response
- * Land use and housing

Because these focus areas are interrelated and not mutually exclusive, the hybrid study approach addresses OLDCC's Mission Installation Sustainability Program in a more efficient, coordinated and productive manner.

Program Goals & Objectives

The goals and measurable objectives of the OLDCC grant work scope are summarized as follows:

Goal 1. Identify environmental vulnerabilities affecting Vandenberg SFB, the City of Lompoc and the larger region, and work collaboratively to mitigate them.

- * Objective 1.1 Document the shared impacts of environmental and natural threats on installation resiliency, and on adjacent civilian jurisdictions and communities
- * Objective 1.2 Define responsibilities/capabilities of installation and surrounding communities to mitigate resiliency vulnerabilities through development, planning and infrastructure cooperation
- * Objective 1.3 Identify opportunities for cooperative risk reduction through planning and strategies that benefit the installation resiliency and support compatible uses

Goal 2. Encourage cooperative land use and resource planning between VSFB, the City and area stakeholders, ensuring the compatibility of adjacent community plans with future installation training, operational and commercial launch missions.



- * Objective 2.1 Increase public awareness of the Vandenberg SFB military mission and contribution to the regional economy
- * Objective 2.2 Create Focus Area Summaries as part of the final reporting to document Vandenberg SFB operational and infrastructure needs as a basis for collaborative land use planning and decision-making, consistent with the installation mission as well as community needs
- * Objective 2.3 Document ongoing military and civilian strategies and tools to address current and future compatibility issues

Goal 3. Promote and provide options for positive cooperation between Vandenberg SFB, the City of Lompoc, surrounding communities, businesses and landowners.

- * Objective 3.1 Provide mutually supported recommendations for strategies, courses of action, tasks, tools, activities and procedures from which local jurisdictions, agencies, and the Base can select, prepare, and adopt to implement recommendations resulting from the compatible use planning process
- * Objective 3.2 Document both operational measures to mitigate installation impacts on surrounding communities, as well as local government and agency approaches that reduce community impacts on military operations
- * Objective 3.3 Document how these tools can help military and civilian decision makers in resolving compatibility issues and prioritizing projects on an ongoing basis

Goal 4. Document findings, recommendations and strategies for Military Installation Resilience and Compatible Use between the Vandenberg SFB and all stakeholders.

- * Objective 4.1 Produce an interim findings and preliminary recommendations for stakeholder and public review and comment
- * Objective 4.2 Produce the Final Compatible Use Study in digital format (hard copy as requested)
- * Objective 4.3 Produce Final Military Installation Resiliency Review in digital format (hard copy as requested)
- * Objective 4.4 Create ESRI file of all project geospatial data collected and created in accordance with OLDCC format requirements
- * Objective 4.5 Create a Final Program Hybrid Executive Summary of MIR and CU interrelated study process, findings and recommendations

