

BYLAWS
21ST CENTURY PARTNERSHIP
OF MIDDLE GEORGIA, INC

ARTICLE ONE: THE PARTNERSHIP

1. The name of this organization shall be ***21ST CENTURY PARTNERSHIP OF MIDDLE GEORGIA, INC.***
2. The organization may change its name by an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of the Executive Board.
3. In fulfilling the organization's purpose, the Partnership will not engage in lobbying functions or activities. The organization will operate in compliance with Georgia's Open Records and Open Meetings Acts.
 - a. In fulfilling the organization's purpose, it may:
 - (1) Conduct studies of areas that impact the community's ability to provide required quality of life amenities for assigned base personnel.
 - (2) Conduct studies of infrastructure areas (i.e., environmental, information networks, etc.) that influence the community's ability to be an attractor for additional military missions and associated supporting private industry.
 - (3) Administer awards/recognition programs for assigned base personnel.
 - (4) Travel to destinations as deemed appropriate by the Partnership.
 - (5) Hire full/part time employees/consultants as deemed necessary by the Partnership.
 - (6) To the extent practical, as determined by the Partnership, assist communities in the Middle Georgia service area with retention, recruitment, and assessment of businesses and industries essential to the economic health of the communities and the well being of Robins Air Force Base.

ARTICLE TWO: PURPOSE; GOALS; OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the Partnership is from a community partner perspective, to enhance the ***Military Value*** of Robins Air Force Base (RAFB) and the ***Military Value*** of the Middle Georgia community. This will be accomplished by achieving the following goals and objectives:

1. **MAKE MIDDLE GEORGIA AS CONDUCTIVE AS POSSIBLE TO MEET THE DOD MISSION REQUIREMENTS**
 - ***Objective 1a:*** Ensure access to operate a variety of missions at RAFB free of any operational restrictions (e.g., encroachment, environmental, transportation, etc.).

- **Objective 1b:** Ensure community resources to support current and new missions (e.g., ready workforce pool, public-private partnerships, community based partnerships, etc.).
- **Objective 1c:** Ensure quality of life for assigned personnel (e.g., education, health care, affordable/suitable housing, childcare, deployed spouse support, etc.).
- **Objective 1d:** Ensure capacity to grow (on and off base).
- **Objective 1e:** Ensure community's willingness and ability to assist in the execution of RAFB's Strategic Plan.

2. PERPETUALLY ENHANCE THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN RAFB AND THE MIDDLE GEORGIA COMMUNITY

- **Objective 2a:** Lead development of an annual Middle Georgia Support Plan mutually agreed upon by RAFB officials, the 21st Century Partnership, and the Middle Georgia Military Affairs Committee (MGMAC).
 - Assist Middle Georgia communities' support to RAFB through a Middle Georgia Support Plan.
 - Facilitate quarterly meetings to review the progress towards plan completion.
- **Objective 2b:** Serve as the primary Middle Georgia point of contact for issues of broad significance impacting the Military Value of RAFB.
 - Advocacy of Middle Georgia's commitment to RAFB
 - Ease of transition for new personnel/families/missions
 - Respond to any threat to RAFB
 - Advocacy for new mission assignments
 - Focused community web page for newcomers
- **Objective 2c:** Partner with the Middle Georgia Military Affairs Committee in providing day-to-day community support.

3. ENSURE THE PARTNERSHIP'S ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE MEETS THE NEEDS OF THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- **Objective 3a:** Establish required committees to execute the annual program
 - Standing Committees
 - Program Planning and Charter
 - Finance
 - Membership
 - Access
 - Resources
 - Quality of Life
 - Capacity to Grow

4. PROVIDE FOR THE LONG-TERM FINANCIAL SOLVENCY OF THE PARTNERSHIP TO ENSURE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE PARTNERSHIP'S MISSION

- **Objective 4a:** Establish an annual budget for the Partnership's operations.
- **Objective 4b:** Project budget requirements for two additional years.

- **Objective 4c:** Establish adequate arrangements for facilities, equipment, utilities and supplies for the annual program.
- **Objective 4d:** Establish a Finance committee to ensure required funding.

ARTICLE THREE: ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Partnership consists of the following entities:

- Ex-Officio Board Members
- Executive Board (EB)
- Officers
- Committees
- Executive Director
- General Membership

Ex-Officio Executive Board (EB) Members: The ex-officio members include the State Senators and Representatives from the following counties.

- Baldwin, Bibb, Bleckley, Crawford, Dodge, Dooly, Houston, Jones, Laurens, Macon, Monroe, Peach, Pulaski, Taylor, Twiggs, and Wilkinson

Executive Board (EB): The Executive Board (EB) is composed of incumbents in the following positions and appointed at-large members. All Executive Board members are the voting members of the Partnership. The EB is responsible for the ultimate success of the Partnership.

- Mayors of Byron, Centerville, Dublin, Ft. Valley, Hawkinsville, Macon, Montezuma, Perry, and Warner Robins
- Chairman of Bibb, Bleckley, Dodge, Laurens, Peach, Pulaski, and Houston County Commissions
- President and Chairman of Cochran/Bleckley, Dublin/Laurens, Hawkinsville, Macon/Bibb, Perry, Peach, and Warner Robins Chambers of Commerce
- Chairman of the Middle Georgia Military Affairs Committee
- Chairman of the Macon/Bibb, Peach County, Perry, Hawkinsville, Dublin/Laurens, Cochran/Bleckley, and Warner Robins Military Affairs Committees
- Chairman of the Bibb and Houston County Development Authorities
- Chairman, Region 6 Advisory Council
- Chairman, Macon Economic Development Commission
- Superintendent, Houston County Schools
- CEO, Houston Healthcare
- President, Middle Georgia Technical College
- Executive Director, Macon State College (Warner Robins Campus)
- Mercer University
- Chairman, Macon Bibb Planning and Zoning Commission
- At-Large Board members

At-large members will be nominated by the appointed EB members and will be filled by a majority vote. At-large members will serve for a period of two years. Continuance and/or removal are permitted with a majority vote of the EB. When selecting at-large members, consideration should be given to including sufficient members who have the functional expertise that coincides with that required for conduct of Partnership business.

Officers: The officers manage the business of the Partnership and are as follows:

- **Chairman Emeritus:** Serves as the senior advisor to the Partnership. Serves as senior liaison between the Partnership and the Georgia Congressional delegation, State Officials, and the Commander and senior leaders of RAFB. Advises the Partnership and the community on how to strengthen the *Military Value* and relationships between the Partnership and the DoD.
- **Chairman:** Has the powers as may be reasonably construed as belonging to a Chief Executive Officer. Serves as Chairperson of the EB, presides at all quarterly meetings, appoints committees and committee chairpersons, ensures procedures are established so that all records, reports, and certificates are properly kept as required by law, directs audits as necessary but at least every two years, and acts as one of the officers who may sign checks or drafts. Serves as liaison to Georgia Congressional delegation, State Officials, the Commander and senior leaders of RAFB, and the Middle Georgia Military Affairs Committee.
- **Vice Chairman:** Serves in the absence of the Chairman with the same powers and authority as if elected to the position. Responsible for providing the oversight to all established committees. Chairs the Program Planning and Charter Committee.
- **Secretary:** Responsible for keeping the Partnership minutes and records, filing certificates required by federal and state statutes, serving all notices to members, serving as official custodian of the Partnership records, attending to all organizational correspondence and presenting to the Partnership any correspondence presented to the Secretary, and acting as one of the EB members who may sign checks or drafts for the Partnership.
- **Assistant Secretary:** Serves in the absence of the Secretary with all responsibilities and duties incident to the office. Chairs the Membership Committee.
- **Treasurer:** Responsible for the care and custody of all Partnership monies and securities and will be one of the EB members who may sign checks or drafts for the Partnership. No special funds may be set aside that shall make it unnecessary for the Treasurer to sign the checks issued from the account. The Treasurer will present a financial report at each regularly scheduled Partnership meeting or as often as deemed appropriate by the Chairman.
- **Assistant Treasurer:** Serves in the absence of the Treasurer with all the responsibilities and duties incumbent to the position. Chairs the Finance Committee.

The officers are elected by a majority vote of the EB and will serve two-year terms. The incumbent Chairman will appoint a nominating committee for required elections. Officers may be retained and/or removed with a majority vote of the EB. Officers shall,

by virtue of their office, be members of the EB and will not be compensated for their duties. However, they may be compensated for duties performed other than as an officer.

Committees: The committee structure is the architecture for the accomplishment of the true day-to-day work of the Partnership and is, therefore, the heartbeat of the organization. The following will be permanent standing committees within the Partnership:

- **Program Planning and Charter:** Responsible for formulating the Partnership's annual Strategic and Action Plans, the execution of which will ensure accomplishment of the stated objectives.
- **Membership:** Responsible for ensuring membership reflects the Middle Georgia Community at large, inviting and/or notifying new members of the Partnership's mission, goals and objectives, and reporting to the Partnership the status of membership activities.
- **Finance:** Responsible for developing the Partnership's annual budget and for formulating and executing the actions required to ensure the Partnership's financial capability to accomplish its stated objectives.
- **Access:** Responsible for working with RAFB and appropriate community agencies to ensure RAFB remains free of any operational restrictions caused by encroachment, environmental or transportation restrictions, etc.
- **Resources:** Responsible for identifying potential partnership arrangements between the community and RAFB and serves as the point of contact for potential public-private partnerships and community based partnerships. Serves as liaison to build community support to respond to RAFB's needs in terms of ready workforce pool, adult education programs, and workforce training. This committee oversees the industry/government partnering arrangements that require community support and also executes the Partnership's Awards Program.
- **Quality of Life:** Responsible for assessing the areas that affect the community quality of life for assigned base personnel. These areas include education, health care, affordable/suitable housing, childcare, deployed spouse support, recreation, shopping availability, off duty employment, and ease of moving in or out of Middle Georgia as a member of Robins Air Force Base.
- **Capacity to Grow:** Responsible for assessing the area's capacity to support current and new missions, coordinating with RAFB and community agencies to ensure growth planning, and serves as liaison with/between RAFB and the communities to facilitate growth on and off base.

The Chairman will appoint committee chairpersons from among the EB members. All committee chairpersons will be responsible for the direction and progress of their respective committees and will recruit members from the EB/community to serve as committee members. A committee chairperson may also appoint a "committee director" from within these recruited members to ensure the day-to-day progress of the committee. These committees will be action groups and will report progress regularly to the EB as determined by the Partnership Chairman.

Additional committees may be appointed as necessary by the Chairman to accomplish the objectives of the Partnership.

Executive Director: The Executive Director is a paid position with full/part time status determined by the EB. The Executive Director ensures the day-to-day business of the Partnership is being executed. The Executive Director takes direction from, and works closely with, the Chairman to help fulfill his/her duties. Additionally, the Executive Director works closely with any paid consultants to ensure consistency of effort across the Partnership.

ARTICLE FOUR: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

General Membership: General Partnership membership shall be open to all who contribute \$25 or more annually. Members are placed on the Partnership's mailing list and will receive meeting announcements, EB meeting minutes, Partnership newsletters, and special DoD/political announcements that may affect RAFB.

ARTICLE FIVE: MEETINGS

Executive Board (EB): The Executive Board (EB) will meet quarterly as a minimum or as often as determined by the Chairman. The quarterly meetings are normally scheduled to occur in the months of March, June, September, and December. The presence of a majority of the EB members shall constitute a quorum, which will be the minimum necessary to conduct any business of the Partnership. A lesser number will be cause for adjournment of the meeting for a period of not more than two weeks.

The quarterly meeting agenda will include the following, as a minimum:

- Financial report
- Committee reports
- Director/Consultant reports
- Director's Annual Report [March meeting]
- Approval of the Annual Strategic and Action Plan [March meeting]
- Nominations for new Partnership officers [September meeting, biennially]
- Officer elections [December meeting, biennially].

The Chairman may call special meetings of the EB as required. Notices of such meetings should be provided to EB members at least three days in advance and should include the date, location and purpose of the meeting. Business conducted at these special meetings will be limited to the specified subject(s) unless an item is added by the unanimous consent of those present.

Membership Meetings: The Chairman may call special meetings of the membership if he/she deems it necessary for the best interest of the organization. The Secretary will ensure each member receives a written notice of the special membership meetings. Written notice may be provided via letter, fax, or email.

ARTICLE SIX: SALARIES

The EB shall hire and fix the compensation of any and all employees, which they deem necessary to conduct the business of the Partnership.

ARTICLE SEVEN: AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be altered, amended, repealed or added to by an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of the EB.