

Chanute Restoration Advisory Board Meeting

Join us at the next RAB meeting!

August 16, 2007 at 12:00 p.m.

Rantoul Corporate Technology Center (Former Smith Hall)

601 S. Century Blvd

Rantoul, Illinois 61866-2945

Contact Information

General Questions

Air Force Real Property Agency
143 Billy Mitchell Blvd., Suite 1
San Antonio, Texas 78226-1816
Toll Free (866) 725-7617

Information Repository

Rantoul Public Library
106 West Flessner Avenue
Rantoul, Illinois 61866
(217) 893-3955 ext. 22
<https://afarpaar.afarpa.pentagon.af.mil/ar/docsearch.aspx>

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AUGUST 2007



Air Force Real Property Agency

The Former Chanute Air Force Base

Toll Free 1-866-725-7617 • www.afarpa.hq.af.mil

Federal Aviation Administration concurs with audit findings- Rantoul's airport improvement projects ready to take off

The Village of Rantoul will soon be the owner of the first Federal Aviation Administration-sponsored property at the former Chanute Air Force Base.

The FAA agreed with an environmental audit report July 2 supporting Air Force findings that the 500-acre property is suitable for transfer. The approval set plans in motion and released federal grant money in excess of \$2 million for the Village to continue its improvement projects at Rantoul's airport.

"The FAA considers the audit complete to our satisfaction," stated Manager of Chicago Airports District Office Jim Keefer in a letter to the Air Force.

The Air Force assessed the property at the former base in 2006 and deemed it suitable for transfer to the Village. The land is located in areas with no environmental concerns.

"We looked at what areas contained no environmental sites and initiated the transfer process in conjunction with completing the remedial investigations for nearby environmental sites surrounding the property," explained Paul Carroll, BRAC environmental coordinator for the former base.

However, the Village did not sign the initial deed last June and was unwilling to proceed with the project until FAA, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois

EPA concurred there were no environmental concerns prohibiting transfer associated with the airport property.

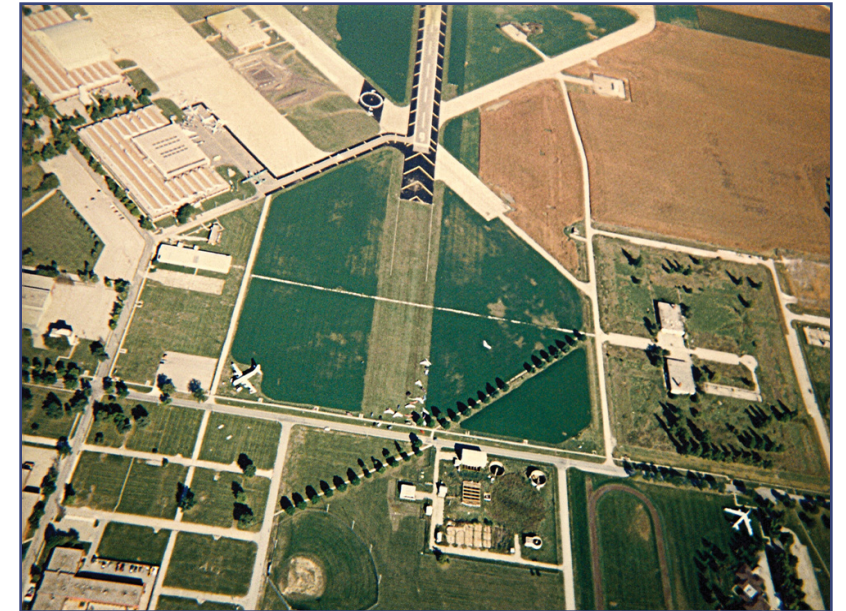
"From a redevelopment standpoint, we are excited to have this property," said Village Administrator David Johnston. "We recognize the value of the airport as an 'economic engine' for the village. Additionally, Johnston said "having ownership of the property means we have fewer hoops to jump through to proceed with redevelopment efforts."

The Village's plans for the airport include installing new lighting and electrical systems and repairing a

rise in the middle of the north-south runway.

"This is a major milestone toward achieving property transfer and re-starting FAA and Illinois Division of Aeronautics grant funding for airport improvement projects for the Rantoul National Aviation Center," said Carroll.

The Air Force expects to transfer the 500-acre parcel to the Village in August. The Air Force also plans to transfer 111 acres of property, comprised of airport aprons and taxiways, in addition to 170 acres of former base roads by the end of September.



Historical aerial view of east-west runway at Rantoul Airport, taken Sept. 1995 at 4,200 feet. Wastewater treatment plant shown near runway has been demolished. (photo courtesy of Peter Birren)

Regulators agree no further action necessary at five sites

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sent a letter to the Air Force July 9, concurring with the decision of no further action for five sites at the former Chanute Air Force Base. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency also sent a letter July 3 with minor comments, requesting the Air Force clarify the statutes and regulations used to make the decision. The sites proposed for no further action are the Suspected Demolition Area, Fire Demonstration Areas 2 and 3, Pistol Range Area 2 and Former Post Dump and Incinerator. The Air Force issued the draft record of decision for no further action in May of this year. The final ROD will be released after addressing comments from Illinois EPA.

Land Transfer Status at the Former Chanute Air Force Base

Total property
Acreage: 2,173.76

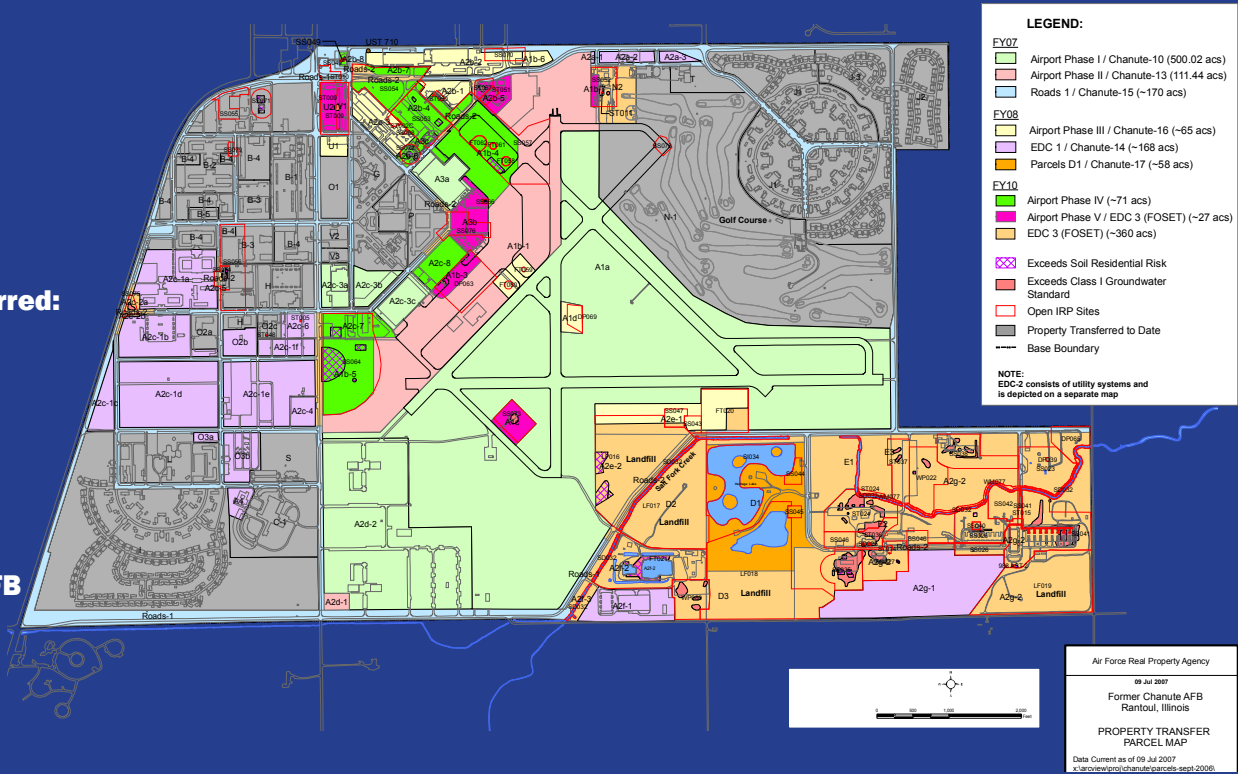
Land Previously
Transferred:
717.45 acres

Land to be Transferred:
1,456.31 acres

Redevelopment
Authority:
Village of Rantoul

Former Chanute AFB
land is used for:

- Manufacturing
- Education
- Recreation
- Residential



Feedback, Comments, and More Information

- ☐ I would like more information about the environmental cleanup of the former Chanute Air Force Base.
- ☐ I would like more information about the Restoration Advisory Board for the former Chanute Air Force Base.
- ☐ I would like more information about how to join the Chanute Restoration Advisory Board.

Please let us know how we are doing. Your comments and opinions are welcome and assist the Air Force in providing the most accurate and up-to-date information regarding the cleanup of the former Chanute Air Force Base. Fill out this form and send it to the address listed below.

Name (Mr. /Mrs./Ms./____)

Phone

Organization

Street address

City

State

Zip

Additional comments

Detach and mail this section in a stamped envelope to: AFRPA/COO-Kelly, 143 Billy Mitchell Blvd., Suite 1, San Antonio TX 78226-1816.

Have a voice in the cleanup - join the Restoration Advisory Board!

The Chanute Restoration Advisory Board consists of community representatives affected by the environmental restoration activities at the former base and want to stay informed and have a voice in the selection of cleanup remedies.

The purpose of the RAB is to provide a forum for the early discussion and continued exchange of environmental restoration information between the Air Force, federal and state regulators and the community; provide an opportunity for stakeholder involvement; and provide an opportunity for RAB members to review progress, participate in a dialogue with, and provide comments and advice to key decision-makers.

During RAB meetings, the Air Force informs members about cleanup progress.

The Air Force is nearing completion of all investigations and environmental sampling to determine the sites affected by chemicals of concern or contamination, and will soon be evaluating alternatives for cleanup.

During the past six months, the Air Force has closed multiple sites where no releases of hazardous chemicals were found.

“We are getting to the point in our program where we are selecting the remedial action for various sites across the former base,” explained Carroll.

“Therefore, it is critical we have input from the RAB and the community.”

The meetings are held quarterly on the third Thursday of the month at noon at the Rantoul Corporate Technology Center.

For answers to questions about the RAB contact the Air Force Real Property Agency toll free at 1-866-725-7617.



Contractors continue fieldwork activities at the former Chanute AFB

The Air Force continues cleanup progress at the former Chanute Air Force Base with several fieldwork activities currently planned or underway.

Air Force contractors are continuing groundwater monitoring for the treatability study to test the effectiveness of two types of treatment technologies for groundwater contamination. The data collected during the study may be used to evaluate remedies for groundwater-contaminated sites throughout the base.

Additionally, contractors are ready to excavate contaminated soil at Building 1 (Hangar 1) near a former above ground storage tank and remove oil/water separators at Building 933 and in the area of the former Building 711. The three sites are located on the



Contractor conducts fieldwork activities at the former base.

former base and the field activities are described in the applicable correction action plans.

The operations, maintenance, and monitoring program for three capped landfills is also ongoing and contractors continue to inspect the cap for erosion, collect groundwater samples from wells that surround the landfills, and test for landfill gas emissions from the vents installed within the cap. The results of the landfill cap monitoring are included in the Chanute Administrative Record at <https://afarpaar.afarpa.pentagon.af.mil/ar/docsearch.aspx>. To learn more about fieldwork activities contact the Air Force Real Property Agency toll free at 1-866-725-7617.



Contractor monitors fieldwork for the treatability study at the former base.