

**F O R M E R O ' H A R E  
A I R R E S E R V E  
S T A T I O N  
C O M M U N I T Y  
R E L A T I O N S P L A N**

**Appendix L**



**U.S. AIR FORCE**

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# Site Description

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## Location

The Former O'Hare Air Reserve Station occupies approximately 274 acres in the northeast corner of O'Hare International Airport (IAP), City of Chicago, Cook County, Illinois. It is located 15.8 miles west-northwest of Chicago.

## *Adjacent Off-Base Land Use*

Current land use on and adjacent to, the former O'Hare ARS property is industrial/commercial in nature and is anticipated to remain so for the foreseeable future, due to its proximity to O'Hare IAP. The former ARS property is currently largely inactive and is in the initial stages of industrial/commercial development by the City of Chicago, the current property owner. Landfill 1 is currently part of the active O'Hare IAP airfield. Agricultural and residential usage was prohibited in the property transfer deeds to the City of Chicago.

The former O'Hare ARS is bounded on the north by Higgins Road and Fort Dearborn Army Reserve Center property, on the east by Mannheim and Old Mannheim Roads, and on the south and west by O'Hare IAP. Land east and north of Mannheim and Higgins Roads, respectively, is in the Village of Rosemont and City of Des Plaines of suburban Cook County. Land use in adjoining areas to the west and south is industrial/commercial and related to O'Hare IAP.

## *Topography*

Topography at the former O'Hare ARS is relatively flat with total topographic relief of approximately 15 feet. The ground surface slopes gently to the northeast. The watershed at the Former O'Hare ARS is separated into 13 sub drainage basins, several of which receive runoff from O'Hare IAP runways and adjacent areas. All of the surface drainage from the Former O'Hare ARS is intercepted by a storm drainage system and discharges to three open drainage ditches on the property, which in turn discharge to Willow Creek. Drainage from Willow Creek discharges to the Des Plaines River located approximately two miles east of the Former O'Hare ARS property.

Regional groundwater flow in the drift is to the east toward the Des Plaines River. The glacial drift aquifer is recharged locally by precipitation and is hydraulically connected in the Chicago area to the underlying Silurian dolomite aquifer. The Silurian dolomite aquifer is approximately 135 feet thick in the vicinity of the Former O'Hare ARS.

Groundwater elevations and flow directions in the shallow dolomite aquifer are not known in the vicinity of the former O'Hare ARS, but regional flow directions are toward Lake Michigan, rivers, and other major water bodies. The glacial drift and shallow

dolomite aquifers are separated from the underlying aquifers by 230 feet of impermeable Maquoketa shale. The underlying Ordovician-Cambrian age aquifer system is comprised of several water-bearing dolomites and sandstones and is the aquifer that is most frequently used as a water supply.

## History

The O'Hare ARS site was a small farming community called Orchard Place, which had been settled by German immigrants and New England pioneers in the 1840s and developed into a railroad stop in 1887. Initially called Orchard Place Airport, O'Hare ARS was activated in October 1942 when the government acquired a number of tracts of farm land. The War Assets Corporation erected buildings on this land and leased it in June 1943, to Douglas Aircraft Company as an assembly plant for the C-54 cargo aircraft. The plant was closed in the fall of 1945.

In 1946, the site was reactivated as a military installation when the 803rd Army Air Force Reserve Specialized Depot assumed control of the site. During this time, the 141<sup>st</sup> Air Force Base Unit (AFBU) for reserve training was activated at the renamed Douglas-Orchard Airport. In 1948, the 141st AFBU was replaced by the 2471st Air Force Reserve Combat Training Center (AFRCTC). In 1949, both the 437th and the 441st Troop Carrier Wings Reserve were activated. In 1949, the military portion was redesignated United States Air Force O'Hare Field, Chicago International Airport (named for naval aviator Lt. Commander Edward H. "Butch" O'Hare).

From October 1950 until December 1957, the 2471st AFRCTC remained the supervisory unit. In 1955, the airfields were opened to commercial traffic and in 1958 the 928th Air Lift Wing was designated as the host unit.

O'Hare ARS was added to the approved closure list as part of the 1995 round of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC). As part of the transition for closure of the base, the 928th Air Lift Wing was deactivated in 1997 and the 126th Air Refueling Wing (ARW) was designated as the host unit. The 126th ARW maintained operations at the O'Hare ARS and continued to serve as the base supervisory unit until closure of the base in July 1999. Since then the responsibility for environmental cleanup and subsequent property disposal at the installation was conveyed to AFRPA, formerly known as the Air Force Base Conversion Agency (AFBCA). The former O'Hare ARS property has since been transferred to the City of Chicago. The majority of the property was transferred in July 2003 and the Landfill 1 parcel was transferred in September 2005.

## Environmental Actions

All property had been transferred prior to when the 2006 BMP was prepared. The remaining environmental requirements were originally scheduled for inclusion in a

regional PBC to manage liabilities. Environmental actions and progress are broken down by those included in the 2006 BMP and each BMP update. These actions are summarized in Table 23-3 at the end of this section.

*Environmental Actions 2006 BMP*

No Update. The 2011 BMP is the first BMP that includes the former O’Hare ARS.

*Environmental Actions 2007 BMP Update*

No Update. The 2011 BMP is the first BMP that includes the former O’Hare ARS.

*Environmental Actions 2010 BMP Update*

No Update. The 2011 BMP is the first BMP that includes the former O’Hare ARS.

*Environmental Actions 2011 BMP Update*

O’Hare ARS is included in the Region 5 Performance-Based Remediation (PBR) contract awarded Aug 2011, and a number of sites are planned for closure under this contract.

Baseline review of Compliance sites is underway. Options for addressing these sites, if any, will be included in the 2012 BMP update.

<b>Completed Actions</b>			
<b>2006 BMP</b>	<b>2007 Update</b>	<b>2010 Update</b>	<b>2011 Update</b>
N/A. O’Hare not included in 2006 BMP or subsequent updates			
			Region 5 PBR contract awarded Aug 2011
<b>In Progress Actions</b>			
<b>2006 BMP</b>	<b>2007 Update</b>	<b>2010 Update</b>	<b>2011 Update</b>
			Complete baseline review of Compliance Sites

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## Community Background

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The former O'Hare ARS property has since been transferred to the City of Chicago. The majority of the property was transferred in July 2003 and the Landfill 1 parcel was transferred in September 2005.

Current land use on and adjacent to the former O'Hare ARS property is industrial/commercial in nature and is anticipated to remain so for the foreseeable future, due to its proximity to O'Hare IAP. The former ARS property is currently largely inactive and is in the early stages of industrial/commercial development by the City of Chicago, the current property owner. Landfill 1 is currently part of the active O'Hare IAP airfield. Agricultural and residential usage was prohibited in the property transfer deeds to the City of Chicago.

### Community Involvement Overview

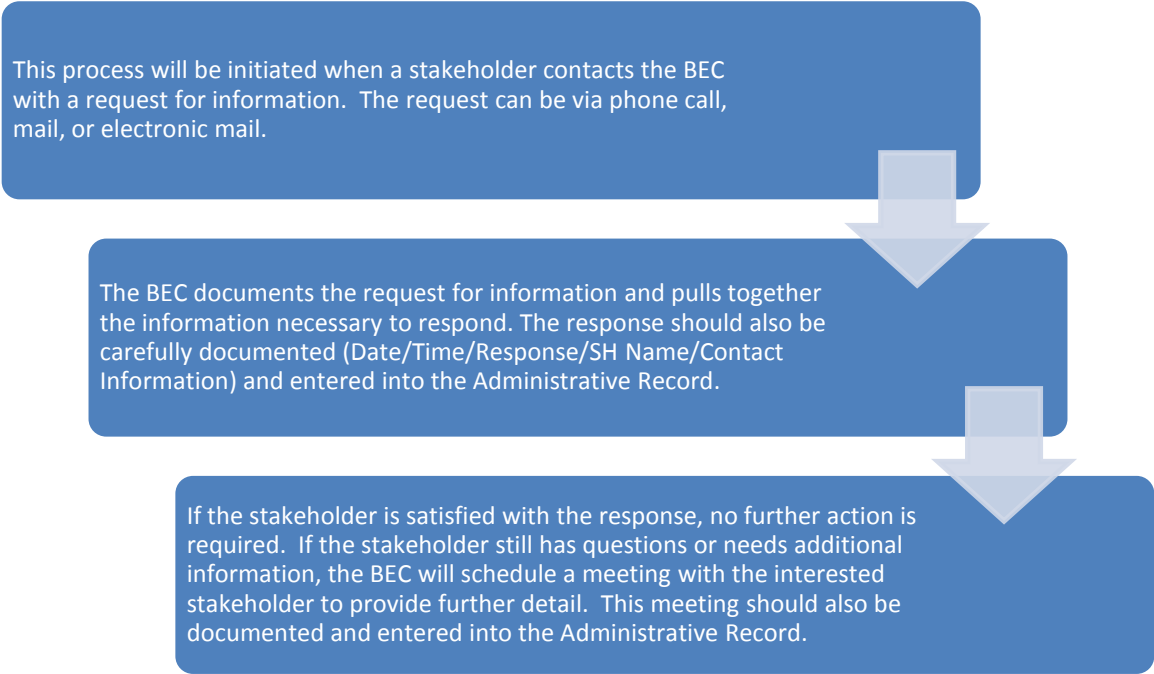
The final five-year review report conducted in 2007 was placed in the Information Repository (IR) and Administrative Record (AR) for the former O'Hare ARS and made available for public review. Additional community involvement activities are not planned due to lack of community interest. Public meetings and comment periods were held during development of the Base wide and Landfill 1 RODs. No comments were received on either document.

### Key Community Concerns

Not applicable

# Recommended Community Involvement Approach

Given the limited activity and substantial completion of clean-up efforts at this base, community involvement should be handled on a case-by-case basis. A majority of the public interest is expected to be isolated phone calls asking about a specific issue. Generally, these types of inquiries should be handled and documented by the BEC utilizing the following process.



In some instances, a concern raised by a single individual may actually raise a point or issue that affects a larger population. In those instances, the BEC may choose to elevate the issue and implement other outreach techniques. The following table outlines various recommended techniques, tips for success, and pros/cons that can be used to determine which technique is most appropriate for a given situation.

Techniques	Tips for Success	Pros	Cons
<b>Restoration Advisory Board</b>	Define roles and responsibilities up front	Provides for detailed analyses for clean-up issues	General public may not embrace committee's recommendations
	Be forthcoming with information	Participants gain understanding of other perspectives, leading toward compromise	Members may not achieve consensus
	Use a consistently credible process		Time and labor intensive

Techniques	Tips for Success	Pros	Cons
	<p>Interview potential committee members in person before selection</p> <p>Use third-party facilitation</p>		
<b>Information Repository</b>	<p>Make sure personnel at location know where materials are kept</p> <p>Keep a list of repository items</p> <p>Track usage through a sign-in sheet</p>	<p>Relevant information is accessible to the public without incurring the costs or complications of tracking multiple copies sent to different people</p> <p>Can set up visible distribution centers for project information</p>	<p>Information repositories are often not well used by the public</p>
<b>Fact Sheets/Newsletters/ Neighborhood Notices and Flyers</b>	<p>KISS! Keep It Short and Simple</p> <p>Make it visually interesting but avoid a slick sales look</p> <p>Be sure to explain public role and how public comments have affected decisions</p> <p>Q&amp;A format works well</p>	<p>Can reach large target audience</p> <p>Allows for technical and legal reviews</p> <p>Facilitates documentation of public involvement process</p>	<p>Only as good as the mailing list/ distribution network</p> <p>Limited capability to communicate complicated concepts</p> <p>No guarantee materials will be read</p>
<b>Open Houses, Poster Board Sessions and Site Tours</b>	<p>Someone should explain format at the door</p> <p>Have each participant fill out a comment card to document their participation</p> <p>Be prepared for a crowd all at once – develop a contingency plan</p> <p>Set up several stations so multiple people can view at once</p>	<p>Foster small group or one-on-one communications</p> <p>Ability to draw on other team members to answer difficult questions</p> <p>Builds credibility</p>	<p>Difficult to document public input</p> <p>Agitators may stage themselves at each display</p> <p>Usually more staff intensive than a meeting</p>
<b>Public Notices</b>	<p>Figure out the best days and best sections of the</p>	<p>Potentially reaches broad public</p>	<p>Expensive, especially in urban areas</p>



Techniques	Tips for Success	Pros	Cons
	<p>paper to reach intended audience</p> <p>Avoid rarely read notice sections</p>		<p>Allows for relatively limited amount of information</p>
<b>Media Relations</b>	<p>Fax or e-mail press releases or media kits</p> <p>Foster a relationship with editorial board and reporters</p>	<p>Informs the media of project milestones</p> <p>Press release language is often used directly in articles</p> <p>Opportunity for technical and legal reviews</p>	<p>Low media response rate</p> <p>Frequent poor placement of press release within newspapers</p>
<b>Public Meeting</b>	<p>Set up the meeting to be as welcoming and receptive as possible to ideas and opinions and to increase interaction between technical staff and the public</p> <p>Review all materials and presentation ahead of time</p>	<p>Participants here relevant information and have an open opportunity to ask questions and comment</p> <p>People learn more by hearing other's questions and comments</p> <p>Legal requirements are met</p>	<p>There is a potential for the meeting to escalate out of control because emotions are high</p> <p>It is challenging for facilitators to establish an open and neutral environment for all views to be shared</p>
<b>Responsiveness Summaries</b>	<p>May be used to comply with legal requirements for comment documentation</p> <p>Use publicly and openly to announce and show how all comments were addressed</p>	<p>Responsiveness summaries can be an effective way to demonstrate how public comments are addressed in the decision process</p>	<p>With a large public, the process of response documentation can get unwieldy</p>
<b>Website</b>	<p>A good home page is critical</p> <p>Each Web page must be independent</p>	<p>Reaches across distances</p> <p>Makes information accessible anywhere at any time</p>	<p>Users may not have easy access to the Internet or knowledge of how to use computers</p> <p>Large files or graphics can</p>

Techniques	Tips for Success	Pros	Cons
	Put critical information at the top of the page	Saves printing and mailing costs	take a long time to download
	Use headings, bulleted and numbered lists to steer user		
<b>Speaking Engagements/ Outreach Meetings</b>	Understand who the likely audience will be	Opportunity to get on the agenda	May be too selective and can leave important groups out
	Make opportunities for one-on-one meetings	Provides opportunity for in-depth information exchange in non-threatening environment	

Source: International Association of Public Participation. "Public Participation Toolbox," 2006.

### *Recommended Community Relations for Various Phases of Clean-Up Activities*

The EPA provides guidance on how and when to involve the community in the environmental clean-up process. While very few activities are specifically prescribed by the letter of the law, the EPA has repeatedly made it clear that the intent of the law was to "provide every opportunity for residents of affected communities to become active participants in the process and to have a say in the decisions that affect their community."

The Air Force adopts the intent of the law and is committed to go above and beyond the letter of the law at each of the former eastern BRAC bases. The following table outlines the activities recommended by the EPA at various steps in the process. ***If an issue needs to be elevated***, the BEC can use this table as a tool to determine the most appropriate course of action given the issue raised. Additionally, AFRPA strategic communications staff can help ensure that the information is presented in easy to understand terms and that technical terminology is clearly and concisely communicated.

	Restoration Advisory Board	Information Repository	Administrative Record	Fact Sheets	Newsletters	Open Houses, Poster Board Sessions, and Site Tours	Public Notices	News Releases/Media Relations	Neighborhood Notices/Flyers	Public Meetings	Public Comment Period	Responsiveness Summary	Website	Speaking Engagement/Outreach Mtgs
Preliminary Assessment/ Site Investigation			●	●		●	●	●	●					
Listing on the National Priorities List			●				●	●			●	●		
The Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS)	●		●	●	●	●							●	●
Proposed Plan (PP)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Record of Decision (ROD)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Remedial Design (RD)/ Remedial Action	●	●	●	●	●	●		●					●	●
Operation & Maintenance (O&M)	●	●	●		●		●	●			●	●	●	●
Deletion from the National Priorities List	●	●	●				●	●			●	●	●	●

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Superfund Community Involvement Handbook," 2005.

If a site is reopened as a result of the Air Force Accelerated Site Completion Program, community relations will need to be conducted for the appropriate phase as shown in the table above. For a more detailed description of each of the community relations strategy, please see the main document.

### If Administrative Record

The Administrative Record for this base can be found at <https://afarpaar.lackland.af.mil/ar/docsearch.aspx>. It includes historical documents and findings related to environmental clean-up activities.

# ATTACHMENT 1: Stakeholder Database

BRAC'ed Base	Senator	Congressman	Governor	Mayor	City Council Members
Former O'Hare AFB	<p>Senator Richard Durbin (D) 230 S Dearborn St. Suite 3892 Chicago, IL 60604 312-353-4952</p> <p>Senator Mark Kirk (R) 230 South Dearborn Suite 3900 Chicago, IL 60604 312-886-3506</p>	<p>Congressman Peter Roskam (R-IL 6th) 150 S. Bloomingdale Road Suite 200 Bloomington, IL 60108 630-893-9670</p>	<p>Governor Pat Quinn Office of the Governor James R. Thompson Center 100 W. Randolph, 16-100 Chicago, IL 60601 312-814-2121</p>	<p>Rahm Emanuel Office of the Mayor 121 N LaSalle Street Chicago City Hall 4th Floor Chicago, IL 60602</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ward 1 - Joe Moreno</li> <li>• Ward 2 - Robert Fioretti</li> <li>• Ward 3 - Pat Dowell</li> <li>• Ward 4 - William Burns</li> <li>• Ward 5 - Leslie Hairston</li> <li>• Ward 6 - Roderick Sawyer</li> <li>• Ward 7 - Sandi Jackson</li> <li>• Ward 8 - Michelle Harris</li> <li>• Ward 9 - Anthony Beale</li> <li>• Ward 10 - John Pope</li> <li>• Ward 11 - James Balcer</li> <li>• Ward 12 - George A. Cardenas</li> <li>• Ward 13 - Marty Quinn</li> <li>• Ward 14 - Ed Burke</li> <li>• Ward 15 - Toni Foulkes</li> <li>• Ward 16 - JoAnn Thompson</li> <li>• Ward 17 - Latasha Thomas</li> <li>• Ward 18 - Lona Lane</li> <li>• Ward 19 - Matthew O'Shea</li> <li>• Ward 20 - Willie Cochran</li> <li>• Ward 21 - Howard Brookins Jr.</li> <li>• Ward 22 - Ricardo Munoz</li> <li>• Ward 23 - Michael Zalewski</li> <li>• Ward 24 - Michael Chandler</li> <li>• Ward 25 - Daniel Solis</li> <li>• Ward 26 - Roberto Maldonado</li> <li>• Ward 27 - Walter Burnett, Jr.</li> <li>• Ward 28 - Jason Ervin</li> <li>• Ward 29 - Deborah Graham</li> <li>• Ward 30 - Ariel E. Reboyras</li> </ul>

BRAC'ed Base	Senator	Congressman	Governor	Mayor	City Council Members
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ward 31 - Ray Suarez</li> <li>• Ward 32 - Scott Waguespack</li> <li>• Ward 33 - Richard F. Mell</li> <li>• Ward 34 - Carrie Austin</li> <li>• Ward 35 - Rey Colon</li> <li>• Ward 36 - Nicholas Sposato</li> <li>• Ward 37 - Emma Mitts</li> <li>• Ward 38 - Timothy M. Cullerton</li> <li>• Ward 39 - Margaret Laurino</li> <li>• Ward 40 - Patrick J. O'Connor</li> <li>• Ward 41 - Mary O'Connor</li> <li>• Ward 42 - Brendan Reilly</li> <li>• Ward 43 - Michele Smith</li> <li>• Ward 44 - Thomas M. Tunney</li> <li>• Ward 45 - John Arena</li> <li>• Ward 46 - James Cappleman</li> <li>• Ward 47 - Ameya Pawar</li> <li>• Ward 48 - Harry Osterman</li> <li>• Ward 49 - Joseph A. Moore</li> <li>• Ward 50 - Debra Silverstein</li> </ul> <p><a href="http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/about/wards.html">http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/about/wards.html</a></p>

## ATTACHMENT 2: Media List

### Former O'Hare AFB

Radio Station	Phone	Website
WBBM NEWS RADIO 780 AM – 105.9 FM	312-297-7800	www.cbsradio.com
La Buena 105.1	312-642-1051	www.quebuenachicago.univision.com
La Tremenda 1200 AM	312-642-1212	www.latremendachicago.univision.com
Maxima 93.5 – 103.1 FM	312-266-0935	www.maximamusica.univision.com
Pasion 106.7 FM	312-440-1067	www.pasionchicago.univision.com
WGN 720 AM	312-222-4700	www.wgnradio.com
WLS 890 AM	312-591-8900	www.wlsam.com

TV Station	Phone	Website
WBBM-TV CBS 2	312-899-2222	www.chicago.cbslocal.com
WFLD-TV FOX 32	312-565-5532	www.myfoxchicago.com
WGBO-TV UNI 66	N/A	www.univisionchicago.univision.com
WGN-TV CW 9	773-528-2311	www.wgntv.com
WLS-TV ABC 7	312-750-7777	www.abclocal.go.com/wls
WMAQ-TV NBC 5	312-836-5555	www.nbcchicago.com
WSNS-TV TM 44	312-836-3110	www.telemundochicago.com

Newspaper	Phone	Website
<i>Chi Town Daily News</i>	N/A	www.chitowndailynews.org
<i>Chicago</i>	312-222-8999	www.chicagomag.com
<i>Chicago Chinese News</i>	630-717-4567	www.chicagonews.com
<i>Chicago Defender</i>	312-225-2400	www.chicagodefender.com
<i>Chicago Flame</i>	312-421-0480	www.chicagoflame.com
<i>Chicago Free Press</i>	N/A	www.chicagofreepress.com
<i>Chicago Globe</i>	N/A	www.chicagoglobe.com
<i>Chicago Jewish News</i>	847-966-0606	www.chicagojewishnews.com
<i>Chicago Maroon</i>	773-702-1403	www.chicagomaroon.com
<i>Chicago News Daily</i>	N/A	www.chicago-news-daily.com
<i>Chicago Reader</i>	312-828-0350	www.chicagoreader.com
<i>Chicago Reporter</i>	312-427-4830	www.chicagoreporter.com
<i>Chicago Sun Times</i>	312-321-3000	www.suntimes.com
<i>Chicago Tribune</i>	800-874-2863	www.chicagotribune.com
<i>Chicago Business</i>	312-649-5200	www.chicagobusiness.com
<i>Nuevo Sigo</i>	773-890-1656	www.nuevosiglonews.com