

**FORMER ROSLYN  
AIR FORCE STATION  
COMMUNITY  
RELATIONS PLAN**

**Appendix N**



**U.S. AIR FORCE**

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

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<b>SITE DESCRIPTION .....</b>	<b>2</b>
LOCATION .....	<b>ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.</b>
HISTORY .....	<b>ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.</b>
ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS.....	3
<b>COMMUNITY BACKGROUND .....</b>	<b>5</b>
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT OVERVIEW.....	5
KEY COMMUNITY CONCERNS .....	5
<b>RECOMMENDED COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT APPROACH .....</b>	<b>6</b>
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD .....	10
<b>ATTACHMENT 1: STAKEHOLDER DATABASE .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>ATTACHMENT 2: MEDIA LIST .....</b>	<b>12</b>

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# Site Description

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## Location

Former Roslyn Air National Guard Station is located on 52-acres along the North Shore of Long Island, NY, one mile south of the Village of East Hills.

## *Adjacent Land Use*

In 2006, Roslyn ANGS became the new site of a large community park, called the Park at East Hills, operated by the Village of East Hills, New York. The park features a 12,000 SF swimming facility, a water park, dog park, tennis courts, athletic fields, jogging trails, a community center and restaurant.

## History

During 1942, the site was leased by the United States Army from Clarence Mackay for an Air Defense Post of the First Fighter Command. The leased site was designated as "Sub post #3, Mitchel Army Airfield".

The 164th Army Air Forces Base Unit (164th AAFBU) was assigned to the station in April 1944. The unit assumed the duties of the inactivated New York Fighter Wing. The mission of the 164th AAFBU was detection, interception, identification, and if necessary, destruction of all aircraft in the greater New York Metropolitan area. Through the use of radar and ground observers, the controllers of the Fighter Control Center would identify and classify all aircraft operating in the region. Unknown aircraft would be targeted for interception, and destruction if necessary, by interceptors operating out of nearby military airfields such as Mitchel Field, or by other active defense systems, such as anti-aircraft artillery (AAA), barrage balloons, and smoke generated equipment situated around nearby defense plants and military installations. Orders to passive defensive systems such as blackouts and air raid warnings were also issued from the Fighter Control Center to the appropriate Civil Defense personnel.

Prior to April 1944, access roads, seven foot barbed wire perimeter fence, Fighter Control Center (currently Building 6), emergency power building, and power distribution system had been completed. At this time, the installation was called the Roslyn Filter Center.

The Roslyn Filter Center operated until the end of the war and was then declared surplus to the needs of the Air Defense Command. Operating personnel were withdrawn in January 1946, and the 164th AAFBU was inactivated.

## **Air Defense Command**

The United States Air Force re-leased the established facility in 1951 and assigned it to Air Defense Command (ADC). On January 1, 1951, ADC assigned the 503d Aircraft Control and Warning Group to Roslyn with the mission of developing a general radar surveillance system for the New York area. The 645th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron was assigned to the station which established a Manual Control Center (MCC) at the facility. The unit received information from the 773d AC&W Squadron at Camp Hero, New York (L-10); the 646th AC&W Squadron at Twin Lights, New Jersey (L-12), and the 770th AC&W Squadron at Palermo, New Jersey (L-13).

The 503d AC&W Group and 645th AC&W Squadron were inactivated February 1952, their mission being taken over by the 26th Air Division (AD). In 1953, the U.S. Government purchased the 50-acre facility for the sum of \$250,000, the facility being designated as Roslyn AFS. The 26th AD commanded the Manual Air-Defense Control Center (ADCC) established by the predecessor ADC organizations coordinating air defense over an area that covered much of the industrial northeast, including New York City, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C. It employed off shore naval picket ships, fixed "Texas Tower" radar sites, airborne early warning units, and a civilian ground observer corps program.

The 26th AD phased down when the SAGE program was implemented at McGuire AFB, New Jersey, with the control center being re-designated as the "Combat Alert Center". It was reassigned to Syracuse AFS, New York on August 15, 1958.

## **New York Air National Guard**

With the reassignment of the ADC 26th Air Division, control of Roslyn AFS was transferred to the New York Air National Guard. The NYANG assigned a variety of non-flying units to the station, the 152nd Tactical Control Group, moving to the station in 1959. It later was moved to Syracuse, New York. The 213th Engineering Squadron moved to the station in 1959, with a mission install and maintains Radio, Central Office, and Wire communications Facilities under the Air Force Communication Service.

## **Closure**

BRAC 1995 closed Roslyn ANG, with inactivation taking place in 2000. In 2005, the former Air Force station was torn down, being replaced by the Park at East Hills.

## **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 Performance-Based Remediation (PBR) contract 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 the table at the end of this section.

*Environmental Actions 2006 BMP*

No update available. All known environmental liabilities were addressed for the former Roslyn ANGTS prior to the 2006 BMP.

*Environmental Actions 2007 BMP Update*

No update available. All known environmental liabilities were addressed for the former Roslyn ANGTS prior to the 2006 BMP.

*Environmental Actions 2010 BMP Update*

No update available. All known environmental liabilities were addressed for the former Roslyn ANGTS prior to the 2006 BMP.

*Environmental Actions 2011 BMP Update*

Baseline review of Compliance sites is underway to address new Air Force restoration goals. Options for closing these sites will be included in the 2012 BMP update. During recent review of deed for Roslyn ANGTS, it was determined site SS004 – Boiler Blowdown Area has a land use restriction associated with it. A contracting action is currently in progress (to be awarded August 2012) to re-evaluate this site and determine appropriate actions and future requirements.

<b>Completed Actions</b>			
<b>2006 BMP</b>	<b>2007 Update</b>	<b>2010 Update</b>	<b>2011 Update</b>
N/A. Installation transferred prior to 2006 BMP			
<b>In Progress Actions</b>			
<b>2006 BMP</b>	<b>2007 Update</b>	<b>2010 Update</b>	<b>2011 Update</b>
			Baseline review of Compliance sites is underway to address new Air Force restoration goals. Options for closing these sites will be included in the 2012 BMP update.

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## Community Background

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The site of Former Roslyn AFS, East Hills, New York, is the largest village in the Greater Roslyn area with a population of approximately 7,200 residents. There are 2,300 homes in this almost exclusively residential incorporated village.

Most of the Village of East Hills is in the town of North Hempstead with a population of more than 226, 000. It is located in Nassau County, New York. In addition to East Hills, the greater Roslyn area is made up of the following villages and unincorporated areas: East Hills; Flower Hill; Greenvale; Roslyn Estates; Roslyn Harbor; Roslyn Heights; and Seering town.

The Town of North Hempstead is governed by a seven-member board composed of six council members and the Supervisor. Council members are each elected by and represent a single district within the Town. The Supervisor is elected by and represents the entire Town.

The Village of East Hills governance is comprised of an elected Mayor, a Deputy Mayor, and a Board of Trustees. The Park at East Hills, the current function of the former Roslyn ANG, is governed by the Mayor and the Board of Trustees.

### Community Involvement Overview

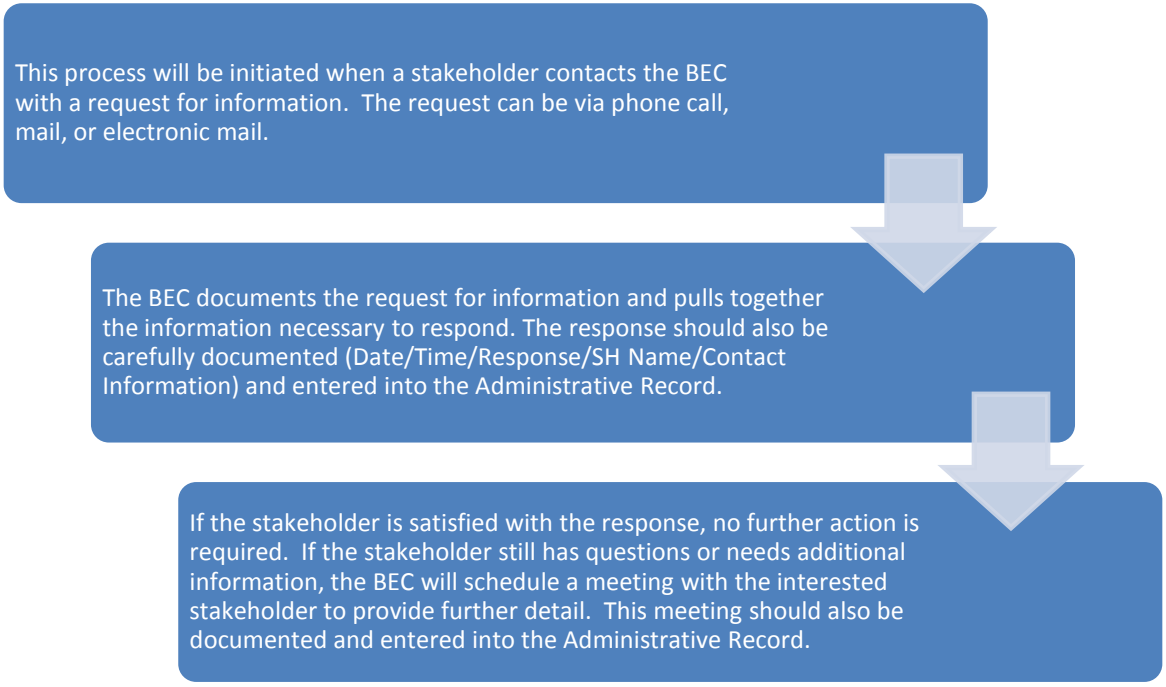
BRAC 1995 closed Roslyn Air National Guard Station, with inactivation taking place in 2000. Property Transfer to the Village of East Hills was finalized on November 30, 2000. In 2005, the former Air Force station was torn down, being replaced by the Park at East Hills.

### 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  Be forthcoming with information  Use a consistently credible process	Provides for detailed analyses for clean-up issues  Participants gain understanding of other perspectives, leading toward compromise	General public may not embrace committee's recommendations  Members may not achieve consensus  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>		Allows for relatively limited amount of information
<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.

### 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 Officials
Former Roslyn AFB	<p>Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D) 780 Third Avenue Suite 2601 New York, New York 10017 212-688-6262</p> <p>Senator Charles E. Schumer (D) 780 Third Avenue Suite 2301 New York, NY 10017 212-486-4430</p>	<p>Congressman Gary Ackerman (D-NY 5th) 218-14 Northern Boulevard Bayside, NY 11361 718-423-2154</p>	<p>Andrew M. Cuomo Governor of New York State NYS State Capitol Building Albany, NY 12224 518-474-8390</p>	<p>Mayor Michael R. Koblenz Village of East Hills Mkoblenz@villageofeasthills.org Village of East Hills 209 Harbor Hill Road East Hills, New York 11576 516-621-5600</p>	<p>Deputy Mayor Manny Zuckerman ezuckerman@villageofeasthills.org</p> <p>Trustee Gary Leventhal gleventhal@villageofeasthills.org</p> <p>Trustee Peter Zuckerman pzuckerman@villageofeasthills.org</p> <p>Trustee Clara Pomerantz cpomerantz@villageofeasthills.org</p>

## ATTACHMENT 2: Media List

### FORMER ROSLYN AFB

Radio Station	Phone	Website
WPNT	516-621-1670	N/A
WCWP 88.1 FM	516-299-2626	<a href="http://www.wcwp.org">www.wcwp.org</a>
WTHE 1520 AM	516-742-1520	<a href="http://www.wthe1520am.com">www.wthe1520am.com</a>
WCBS	516-747-7421	N/A
WVIP 93.5 FM / WVOX 1460 AM	914-636-1460	<a href="http://www.wvox.com">www.wvox.com</a>
WGBB 140 AM	516-623-1240	<a href="http://www.piliveradio.com">www.piliveradio.com</a>
WBZO 103.1 FM	631-770-4200	<a href="http://www.b103.com">www.b103.com</a>
WHLI 1100 AM	631-955-9454	<a href="http://www.whli.com">www.whli.com</a>
WICR	718-848-9427	<a href="http://www.icrradio.com">www.icrradio.com</a>
WFTU 1570 AM	631-656-2169	N/A
WDFH	914-613-9203	N/A
WBLI 106.1 FM	631-669-9254	<a href="http://www.wbli.com">www.wbli.com</a>

TV Station	Phone	Website
WPIX-TV CH 11	212-867-9560	<a href="http://www.wpix.com">www.wpix.com</a>
CUNY-TV	212-251-0826	<a href="http://www.cuny.tv">www.cuny.tv</a>
WABC-TV	516-294-7777	<a href="http://www.abclocal.go.com">www.abclocal.go.com</a>
WXTV CH 41	212-455-5400	N/A

Newspaper	Phone	Website
<i>The Roslyn News</i>	516-747-8282	<a href="http://www.antonnews.com/roslynnews">www.antonnews.com/roslynnews</a>
<i>Newsday</i>	800-639-7329	<a href="http://www.newsday.com">www.newsday.com</a>