

Support the DOD Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA)

BACKGROUND

For nearly 60 years, DOD has maintained a single point of interaction and support with communities and states through OEA. The OEA is the only means for the department to directly support civilian activities that, in turn, provide direct value and savings to service members. This allows the DOD to reduce costs by shedding excess infrastructure, engage in a more resilient supply chain and competitive defense manufacturing sector, and enhance the effectiveness of our assets through joint land use planning. Most recently, OEA has been identified as the entity that will manage the Defense Community Infrastructure Program and the Defense Manufacturing Community Support Program.

REQUEST

Maintaining OEA's capability in its current form is the most efficient way to fulfill its unique mission. If lost, its mission — as well as its institutional expertise — will need to be recreated by each service. This is a costly and inefficient exercise that will create unnecessary duplication and uneven capacity. It is ADC's position that Congress supports the following:

- » **Maintain OEA's capability to fulfill its unique mission supporting defense communities and installations.**

OEA's unique mission includes:

- » Providing states and communities with funding and technical assistance to study and prevent potential incompatible civilian activities, as well as energy siting activities, which could hinder installation missions and training exercises.
- » Providing state and local governments with matching grants to improve off-base infrastructure that directly improves the military value and resilience of an installation.
- » Providing states and communities with funding and technical assistance to study, strengthen, and diversify the defense industrial base.
- » Providing funding and technical assistance to communities planning and carrying out civilian redevelopment of over 300,000 acres of surplus federal property through BRAC actions, allowing the DOD to reprogram savings for lethality and readiness.

190129-N-MM912-2039
Photo by Seaman Michael Singley