

DEFENSE COMMUNITIES CAUCUS

The Defense Communities Caucus

Defined by a mission of force and family, readiness and resiliency, our installations and communities are the foundation of our military's competitive edge. The strength of our bases and communities are forever linked through a dynamic and ever evolving partnership. **The Defense Communities Caucus**, a bipartisan group of lawmakers, provides a unified voice for that evolving partnership, and works to ensure that defense communities and military installations have the support they need to serve the ones who protect us.

This Caucus works on key activities, such as:

- **Promoting policies and programs that support strong collaborative partnerships** between communities, states and the military that enhance readiness and mission success, as well as create the quality of life for our service members and their families deserve and our military readiness depends on.
- **Identifying ways to enhance our defense infrastructure** inside and outside the gate through investment and partnerships.
- **Protecting long term readiness and sustainability** of our military by combating encroachment that impacts military training, testing, and operations.
- **Ensuring local communities can adapt** to DoD program changes, expansions and cutbacks, and mitigate the incompatibilities between military operations and local development.
- **Building sustained cooperation** with communities around basing decisions to promote transparency, communication and joint planning.

The Defense Communities Caucus will give voice to these unique issues, while creating and strengthening partnerships between the communities and installations that will help ensure that our military has great and resilient places to call home. Our defense communities play a unique role supporting our military — and they deserve our steadfast commitment.

If you have any questions or are interested in joining, please contact [Daniel Ramirez](mailto:Daniel.Ramirez@mail.house.gov) in Rep. Joe Wilson's office (Daniel.Ramirez@mail.house.gov) or [Rachel Everette](mailto:Rachel.Everette@mail.house.gov) in Rep. Jason Crow's office (Rachel.Everette@mail.house.gov).



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DCC Accomplishments:

- Since its original formation in 2011, the Defense Communities Caucus have been instrumental in the success of the below items:
 - Establishment of the **Intergovernmental Support Agreement (IGSA)** authority in 2013 NDAA which allows military installations to enter sole-source contracts with state or local governments for services that promote the best interests of both parties and improve installation support services for Mission, Soldier, and Family Readiness. As of 2024 there are over 200 such agreements in place across the country.
 - Establishment of the **Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP)** in the 2019 NDAA and then securing initial funding in the 2020 defense budget. This program allows DOD to provide matching grants to state and local governments for infrastructure improvements that address deficiencies in community infrastructure in support of a local military installation to enhance military value, installation resilience, and/or military family quality of life. As of FY23, Between FY20 and FY23, DCIP has supported 65 projects representing \$300 million in federal funding, \$251.7 million in non-federal match funding, and \$552 million in total project cost. In FY24, \$100 million is available for awards.
 - Establishment of the **Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Installations, Energy & Environment**. The establishment of this office allows issues related to installations and defense communities to raise to the level of a 4-star equivalent office, helping to ensure they remain front and center for DOD.

