



# West Point Army Family Action Plan

## ISSUE UPDATE BOOK

**ACTIVE ISSUES** 

November 2017

This publication provides information about active West Point AFAP issues prioritized at previous West Point AFAP Symposiums. It includes updates on issues being worked locally and those being worked at the HQDA level.

This book was updated following the FY 2018 (FY18) AFAP Steering Committee meeting, which was held on 16 October 2017.

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) is a grassroots-level process that identifies issues of concern to the global Army Family. It gives everyone in the Army the opportunity to influence his/her own quality of life and standard of living. The AFAP process is designed to ensure maximum participation of America's Army Family at all levels of the chain of command. This includes all ranks, sponsored and un-sponsored, male and female, civilian and military, adults and youth.

Forums are held annually at Army installations and communities throughout the world. Each Army installation conducts an annual AFAP conference. Members of the community represent America's Army Family to identify, develop, and prioritize unit/community/installation quality of life issues. Lead agencies are assigned to research and, if applicable, implement solutions to the issues raised at the AFAP Symposium. The Commander's AFAP Steering Committee monitors progress of these issues.

At West Point, the AFAP Steering Committee meets quarterly to monitor progress in resolving West Point's Quality of Life concerns. The results of this meeting are forwarded to the Superintendent for final approval. Issues beyond the scope of the Superintendent, requiring a higher level authority, are forwarded to HQDA to be reviewed at the annual HQDA AFAP Symposium. The community is provided feedback on the status of AFAP issues using a variety of mechanisms, including the community newspaper, websites, briefings, and the publication of this Issue Update book.

AFAP issues requiring DA, Department of Defense (DOD) or congressional action are forwarded to DA and are presented at the HQDA AFAP Symposium, typically held each January. Delegates who attend the DA AFAP conference include representation from all components of America's Army Family: active duty (including single Soldiers), Reserves, National Guard, retirees, DA civilians and Family members (including youth). West Point typically sends at least one delegate from the community to participate.

Similar to installation AFAP delegates, HQDA AFAP delegates are assigned to work groups to discuss and prioritize issues. They examine issues that have been forwarded from the field and determine which issues they consider to be most important to the welfare of the Total Army Family. Each work group must prioritize its issues for recommendation in the AFAP. All issues recommended for the plan are briefed to the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army (VCSA) on the final day of the conference and are submitted to the Chief of Staff of the Army for approval. Once adopted, the issues are assigned to the appropriate Army staff office to be worked toward resolution. The number of issues entering the plan each year is limited in order to allow the lead agency offices sufficient time to work the issues toward resolution.

An AFAP General Officer's Steering Committee (GOSC), chaired by the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army, is the final approving authority for all AFAP issues. The GOSC is composed of general officer level representation from the Department of Defense and Army secretariats, Army staff agencies, and the MACOMs. Typically, the Garrison Commander and the USMA Command Sergeant Major attend this meeting. The GOSC meets semiannually, in the spring and fall, to receive briefings on the progress of approximately 25 AFAP active issues. The VCSA, in the role of GOSC Chairperson, provides direction on the active issues and identifies the final issue status as active, completed or unattainable.

### West Point Army Family Action Plan ACTIVE ISSUE INDEX

(3 issues are currently active)

ISSUE #	ISSUE TITLE	LEAD AGENCY (Assist Agency)	SUBJECT AREA	LAST UPDATE	NOTES	DA ISSUE # (Status)
18-01	Outdoor swimming area on West Point usage of Delafield	FMWR-REC	Consumer Services	Oct 2017	New issue entered into AFAP	(Local)
17-01	Dog Park in Stony Lonesome II	FMWR	Consumer Services	Oct 2017	Active/Open, Brief March meeting	(Local)
14-02	Living Conditions in Single Soldier Barracks	DPW (RCI)	Housing	Dec 2013	Revisit next meeting.	(Local)

#### 2018 West Point Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) Issues

**ISSUE 18-01:** Outdoor swimming area on West Point-usage of Delafield

**SCOPE:** An outdoor swimming area is no longer available on West Point. Recently, Delafield Pond was closed due to issues with the dam holding water in the pond. The funding is not available to cover the repair costs for the dam. Arvin pool hours are limited and the pool is not feasible for swimming for small children as there is no shallow end. Community members and families are requesting a swimming recreation area to replace Delafield for usage during the summer. Other installations offer outdoor swimming areas for recreational use and at the present time no options are available for outdoor swimming on the installation.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Request an outdoor swimming recreation area to be built on West Point.

#### 2017 West Point Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) Issues

**ISSUE 17-01:** Dog Park for residents at Stony Lonesome II

**SCOPE:** A dog park is not available for animals of residents in Stony Lonesome II housing area on West Point. The Dragon Park does not authorize pets on the playground or on the track. The nearest dog park is located on lower post next to K-Lot. For families which reside at the top of the hill, it is difficult and inconvenient to drive the children and pet to that facility to allow dogs' free time to exercise.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Request a dog park located in Stony Lonesome II at the underutilized hockey rink. .

#### **PROGRESS:**

- 1) At the October 2017 meeting, Mr. Remillard with FMWR-Recreation stated that FMWR will receive the hockey rink and land from the West Point Family Housing. Once the land is received, FMWR can add this project to the long term planning. COL Hanson suggested to research the costs for adding a new dog part (i.e. fencing, lighting, maintenance). At this point there is not adequate funding available to support an additional dog park on post. FMWR is planning concerts in the future and it was suggested if enough revenue were generated from the concerts, funds could help pay for the dog park.
- 2) At the March 2017 meeting, a \$13,000 grant was received to upgrade the existing dog parks on West Point. FMWR will work on a plan to utilize the funds to improve the existing parks off Washington Road. Sufficient funds are not available at this time to build a new dog park at Stony Lonesome II.

3) At the September 2016 meeting, the issued was approved to enter AFAP process. Two dog parks are located off Washington Road on lower post- one for small and one for large dogs.

**LEAD AGENCY:** Chris Remillard, FMWR Recreation

LAST UPDATE: March 2017

#### 2014 West Point Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) Issues

**ISSUE 14-02: Living conditions in Single Soldier Barracks** 

ORIGINATED: October 2013
SUBJECT AREA: Housing

**SCOPE:** The single soldier barracks at West Point are in a state of disrepair. Living conditions there are frequently unhealthy and unsafe due to various problems such as water damage and mold. Repair work orders take several months to be addressed. Currently, an entire wing is uninhabitable. Unmarried E-6s and below without dependents have no choice but to reside there. Living conditions are having a detrimental effect on morale and quality of life.

**RECOMMENDATION(S):** Improve standards of living in barracks to ensure that Single Soldiers are provided the same quality living conditions as their counterparts residing in family housing.

#### **PROGRESS:**

- 1. At the October 2017 Steering Committee meeting, James Vaeth from DPW stated that DPW is pushing to complete Bldg. 624 HVAC work by early September. The project was delayed for additional MOD and issues with system control schemes. Once the project is completed the DPW O&M will sweep the building following the contract work to address maintenance items prior to Soldiers re-occupying the barracks. CSM Taylor will attend the final walk through with DPW to determine if the barracks are ready for the Soldiers to move in. The target date for the Soldiers to move out Bldg. 620 into Bldg. 624 is early December 2017.
- 2. At the March 2017 Steering Committee meeting, James Vaeth from DPW, stated Bldg. 624 is currently in contract. The construction estimate is about \$5.8 million for the Bldg. 624 HVAC and associated work. The current estimated completion is spring 2017. After the HVAC renovations are complete, all Single Soldiers will be consolidated and moved to 624. Bldg. 620 is current in design.

- 3. At the March 2016 Steering Committee meeting, Larry Higgins from RCI, stated Bldg. 624 is undergoing complete HVAC replacement, with an estimated completion of project in December 2016. When Bldg. 624 is completed, the next project is Bldg. 620. The estimated cost for Bldg. 624 is \$5.8 million construction.
- 4. At the Dec 2014 AFAP Steering Committee meeting, Barbara Manzari from RCI, stated the Garrison has committed \$3.5 million for HVAC repair. Contracting has completed a 100% design. The initial bids were received for the design and they were \$10.5 which is significantly higher than the estimated cost. Renovations will be subject to availability of funds.

**LEAD AGENCY: DPW/RCI** 

**LAST UPDATE:** October 2017