

ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING EFFECTS ON CAMP BULLIS

By

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Ft. Sam Houston and Camp Bullis are not just relics of our City's historic role in national defense. They are important elements of our local economy. The City estimates their economic impact will grow to at least \$5.6 billion by 2011.

The Army has warned that development near Camp Bullis endangers part of their training mission. Active duty, Guard and Reserve components conduct training at Camp Bullis using cutting edge night vision goggles. Artificial light sources reduce the effectiveness of these technologies. The County has passed an ordinance outlining night lighting restrictions for new development within a three-mile radius of Camp Bullis and the City is working on the same type of ordinance. But these ordinances can only cover new construction. Most of the City's land near Camp Bullis has already been developed so voluntary compliance is being requested. We have been asked to turn outside lights off, where possible, or keep them pointed away from the sky between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. This not only shows support for our troops but it is also a conservation measure in these times of escalating utility costs. Councilman Rowe is working with CPS Energy to retrofit street lights and to encourage conversion of non-conforming commercial lighting to current standards.

Lastly, Councilman Rowe's office is tabulating complaints regarding Camp Bullis. In the past, residents' complaints have typically gone directly to the Army. Going through the Councilman's office will enhance the City's ability to solve potential problems between the residents and Camp Bullis before they become more serious.

Our voluntary compliance with these options will ensure that Ft. Sam Houston and Camp Bullis remain one of our Nation's premier military bases and fuel the San Antonio economy in the years ahead.