

April 6, 2010
Presentation to the LRA
New Haven Department of Police Service
Re: NOI for George D. Libby Army Reserve Facility

Executive Summary

Assistant Chief Stephanie Redding and Grants Manager, Carolyn Bove represented the police department. The New Haven Police Department has been empowered by the state since 1861 to serve as the primary municipal law enforcement agency and as such qualifies under BRAC and U S Department of Justice guidelines as an appropriate purpose for use of the facility as well as to receive a public benefit conveyance. The NHPD plans to transfer its police academy recruit and in-service functions to the reserve facility as well as make use of the location for storage of first responder specialized equipment and vehicles, and New Haven police tactical narcotics unit office space. In addition, the facility will be the primary location for police explorer and cadet activities and the training location for the New Haven Citizen's Police Academy. The police department proposes to acquire the entire property and all associated buildings, as well as any available items of personal property left by the U. S. Department of Defense.

The NHPD believes that the facility is already in a condition that will require limited rehabilitation to accommodate these uses. Primarily the space will need to have bathrooms updated and computer and phone drop lines installed. The facility is already designed to house classrooms and offices that meet military training needs. The current academy at 710 Sherman Avenue would relocate its physical fitness equipment, lockers, library, records, contents of two classrooms and office equipment now occupying 8,000 square feet to this new 28,000 square ft. of usable space. The entire academy staff, the department's armorer and narcotics unit personnel would relocate and occupy office space on the main floor. All classroom, office equipment, desks, tables, chairs, file cabinets, clocks, coat racks, air conditioners, flag poles, carts, stands, computers and kitchen appliances remaining on the premises as indicated on the list of personal property provided by the DOD would be kept and used by the academy or other police functions being relocated at this site.

The police department cited its ability to maintain the property for twenty five years based on its history of providing continuous police academy training since the early 1940s and its continuous financial and in-kind support by the City of New Haven as well as federal and state funding sources. Facilities improvements and maintenance are provided for in the police general fund and capital projects budget and can make use of resources from the city engineers and facilities maintenance office.

The main benefit to the community will be in its ability to maintain required certification of its police officers and to fill vacancies through attrition in a timely manner, thus improving an important public safety service.