



FORT DRUM REGIONAL LIAISON ORGANIZATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fort Drum, True Economic Impact Totals \$1.66 Billion.
Supports an Additional 5,973 Jobs in the Region

WATERTOWN, NY, February 10, 2016 – Fort Drum spending in 2015 had a total economic impact of \$1.66 billion in the three-country region including Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence Counties. In addition to the 19,314 military and civilian personnel directly employed at Fort Drum in 2015, Fort Drum related activity last year supported an additional 5,973 jobs in the broader regional economy. “Those are jobs not on Fort Drum, but that exist off-post because of Fort Drum”, noted Carl A. McLaughlin, executive director of the Fort Drum Regional Liaison Organization (FDRLO).

Those figures are according to the estimates from an economic impact model developed for the FDRLO. “Fort Drum’s annual report accounts for direct spending only”, Mr. McLaughlin added. “In order to understand the full economic impact of that spending on the three-county region, you have to understand the additional economic activity that spending generates and the

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jobs that spending supports. We plug the numbers reported by Fort Drum into a model developed just for that purpose.”

FDRLO’s economic impact model was developed by the Economic Development Research Group from Boston, MA. The model is maintained for FDRLO by the Jefferson County Planning Department. Mr. McLaughlin stated “When Fort Drum’s direct expenditures are entered into the model, it takes into consideration that different categories of spending reported by Fort Drum have different multiplier effects in the local economy”. Those impacts include the off-post jobs and business income stimulated by Fort Drum’s spending, and the re-spending of that income on consumer purchases and additional business sales in the region. In addition to Fort Drum’s direct spending of \$1.28 billion for payroll and purchases, the model adds an estimated \$ 378 million in indirect and induced business activity to arrive at the total impact of \$1.66 billion.

Although Fort Drum’s total spending went down slightly in 2015 (from \$1.4 billion in 2014) the model continues to demonstrate the impressive scope of the indirect economic and employment benefits to the region. It also highlights what would be lost if Fort Drum experienced a significant reduction in personnel and activity.

- *See attached economic impact summary*

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