

Northeast Florida Military Installation Readiness Review

Steering Committee Meeting

September 30, 2025

The September 30, 2025, meeting of the Northeast Florida Regional Council's Military Installation Readiness Review (MIRR) Steering Committee focused on reviewing the project's methodology, confirming mission-critical assets, and identifying key vulnerabilities across military installations in the region. The committee discussed the importance of community-based solutions to support military mission assurance, emphasizing collaboration between local governments and military stakeholders.

Key installations reviewed included Naval Station Mayport, Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island, Camp Blanding Joint Training Center, and Naval Air Station Jacksonville. Each installation's primary and secondary missions were outlined, along with the infrastructure and community assets that support them. People focused concerns included lack of affordable housing, need for increased capacity of local childcare and school transportation issues. The potential closure of educational facilities in close proximity to military installations, specifically Anchor Academy, located near NS Mayport, would significantly impact military families.

Environmental and infrastructure vulnerabilities were also discussed, including wildfire risks (e.g., at OLF Whitehouse), extreme heat, flooding, and aging or insufficient infrastructure. Notable concerns included transportation congestion at base entry points and lack of redundancy for utilities and single points of failure. The committee highlighted the need for increased capacity at fire stations, particularly at Camp Blanding and Blount Island, and noted the strategic importance of the St. Johns River and JAXPort for logistics and safe harbor operations.

The group proposed a unified study area encompassing both Duval and Clay Counties, with the understanding that airspace concerns would be addressed through policy recommendations rather than boundary changes. The meeting concluded with plans for the next Steering Committee session in January 2026 and an emergency management exercise scheduled for May 2026.

