

Entering the Future

New entrance officially open

The new landscaped entrance from Airways Boulevard is now open, replacing Gate 2 as the main entrance to the former Memphis Depot.

The Memphis Depot Parkway, a \$5.3-million road construction project, will serve as the main traffic route for new industrial and commercial development at the Memphis Depot Business Park. The new road will improve traffic circulation and site access for almost 900 people employed by 18 private companies and public agencies that are now leasing facilities from the Depot Redevelopment Corporation of Memphis and Shelby County.

To mark the completion of the project, the Tennessee Historical Commission has installed an historic plaque at the new entrance, to commemorate the military and community history of the former Defense Distribution Depot.



Members of the community attending RAB meetings or visiting the Depot's Community Outreach Room are asked to use the new entrance. To reach the "J" Street Cafe, where RAB meetings are usually held, enter at the new traffic light on Airways Boulevard through the new entrance, turn left on Truitt Street and right on "J" Street. To reach the Community Outreach Room in Building 144, enter through the new entrance, turn right on Lloyd Street, and right again on "F" Street at the first stop sign. "F" Street ends at a parking lot behind Building 144. □

Environmental program continues on Dunn Field

With the scheduled completion of the chemical warfare materiel (CWM) removal project in May, the Memphis Depot environmental team will focus on the groundwater and soil cleanup program for the rest of Dunn Field.

The groundwater pumping system has been upgraded and four new wells added. This system was originally installed on Dunn Field in 1998 as an interim cleanup action to control the flow of groundwater from the site. The newly expanded system will continue to operate until alternate cleanup actions are approved.

The Depot's environmental investigation contractors will continue to monitor data from the groundwater monitoring wells installed on Dunn Field and within the

neighboring community. This data is being used to monitor the quality and movement of groundwater in the Depot area.

Along with soil sampling results, groundwater data will be included in the Remedial Investigation (RI) for Dunn Field. This is an in-depth scientific analysis of the environmental conditions of the area that will identify any potential risks to human health and the environment.

Once the RI is completed and approved by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT), scheduled for the fall of 2001, a Feasibility Study to evaluate different cleanup alternatives will be completed. The Proposed Plan for Dunn Field, recommending the preferred cleanup alternatives, is scheduled to be presented to the public for comment early in 2002. □



RAB Member Profile:



Peggy Brooks brings neighborhood's issues to RAB

As a resident of the Mason-Hays neighborhood, Peggy Brooks' home faces Dunn Field. She has been watching the Depot's environmental cleanup activities at Dunn Field with a great deal of interest and attention.

Each phase of the Dunn Field cleanup, she says, is vital to restoring Dunn Field, and other affected areas within her community, to "reasonable and acceptable levels of livability" to ensure the continued health and well-being of residents living near Dunn Field.

"As a Christian, I believe that it is the duty of mankind to protect the earth, which God has so richly given us to enjoy. However, with that gift comes an awesome responsibility of stewardship," said Brooks, who joined the RAB in 1998 in an effort to ensure her community's questions and issues are addressed during the Depot's cleanup program. "Of most importance to me is the fact that many of my neighbors are elderly and may not be in a financial state that would allow them to relocate. These worthy seniors deserve our best efforts."

Brooks would like all members of the community to attend the weekly chemical warfare materiel update meetings and the monthly RAB meetings in order to voice their issues and receive answers to their questions. □