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MEDIA ADVISORY

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FORA BUILDING REMOVAL KICKOFF EVENT SEPTEMBER 5, 11 A.M. - SEASIDE SURPLUS II

An event signaling continuation of building and blight removal in reuse of former Fort Ord will take place Wednesday, September 5, at 11 a.m. in the parking lot of the Seaside Maintenance and Operations (Building 4550) located at 205 Colonel Durham Road. The public is invited to attend.

When the Fort Ord military based closed in 1994, the U.S. Army left behind approximately 3,500 buildings constructed during the early 1900s to the late 1980s. The buildings contain various forms of hazardous materials, have become dilapidated over time, are sites for vandalism and illegal dumping in close proximity to various occupied buildings, and most provide minimal reuse options in the process of redevelopment of former Fort Ord.

Since 1996, Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) has served as a national model in base reuse, sharing lessons-learned and actively engaging in managing costs and complexities for removal of former military buildings. To date, FORA's work has accomplished a \$31.5 million building removal at the Dunes on Monterey Bay and the Imjim Office Park site within the City of Marina, within the County's East Garrison area, within Marina and County areas along Imjin Parkway, with the Army in construction of new military housing, and with CSUMB in recent building removal of approximately 330 former Army buildings for campus expansion. A \$19.4 million credit to future land sale revenues is allocated in phases II and III of the Dunes on Monterey Bay in Marina. The remaining FORA building removal obligation is \$9.5 million within Marina's Stockade area and the Surplus II area within Seaside.

In August 2015, FORA and the City of Seaside agreed to use a portion of existing FORA Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Surplus II building removal funds to hire an industrial hygienist company to survey hazardous materials present in 27 dilapidated Surplus II buildings and to better understand cost for removal of buildings in this area. Study results were completed in 2017 and the City is now proceeding with removal of a portion of the buildings. The September 5th event begins the demolition process for removal of ten (10) buildings within Seaside's Surplus II area for a proposed Campus Town to create new housing units, jobs and commercial activities. Hazardous materials will be removed prior to actual demolition of the buildings. During demolition, some dust may be visible in the area due to movement of equipment.

"Since its inception, FORA has been responsible for significant building removal at former Fort Ord. Eighty per cent (80%) of the buildings that many people consider "blight" have already been removed, and the further removal of buildings in the Surplus II marks another important event in community reuse of the former military base," noted FORA's executive officer Michael Houlemard.

Further information about building removal, costs and staff reports, the FORA Capital Improvement Program, and/or areas where removal has been completed or where removal action still remains is available on the FORA website at www.fora.org or by contacting the FORA office at (831) 883-3672.