



# FORT ORD REUSE AUTHORITY

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Public Workshops to Help Shape Future Fort Ord Regional Urban Design Guidelines**

In the first part of next month, Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) will host a series of public workshops focused on developing Regional Urban Design Guidelines (RUDG) for the former Fort Ord. The RUDG are a Reuse Plan requirement focused on creation of design guidelines for village and town centers, gateways, regional circulation corridors and trails. Design guidelines will inform standards for road design, setbacks, building height, landscaping, signage, and other matters of visual importance. FORA has retained a nationally renowned town planning firm, Dover, Kohl & Partners, to guide the public involvement process and produce draft guidelines. Public input will help assure the guidelines reflect community preferences.

Public participation will kick-off on **Monday, February 2**, with two consecutive events at the Carpenters Union Hall at 910 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Marina (across from the Dunes shopping center off Imjin Parkway). The first event, from **1-4 p.m.**, will be an educational forum with town planning and walkability experts Victor Dover, Peter Katz, and Jeff Speck providing detailed discussion about issues facing Fort Ord and how Regional Urban Design Guidelines can help shape the future of redevelopment. That evening, from **6-9 p.m.** at the same location, a public design workshop will provide opportunity for hands-on public input into the draft design guidelines.

Several additional evening workshops have been scheduled at alternate locations to encourage broad community participation and feedback during the RUDG process, including:

- **Wednesday, February 4, 6:30-8:30 p.m.** and **Saturday, February 7, 9:30-11:30 a.m.** at Soper Field Community Center, 220 Coe Avenue in Seaside
- **Thursday, February 5, 3:00-5:00 p.m.** at the California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB) Student Center, Building 12 (Intergarrison Rd, Seaside).
- **Saturday, February 7, 3:30-5:30 p.m.** at the Marina Public Library, 190 Seaside Circle in Marina (behind the Walmart shopping center)

Interested members of the public are encouraged to attend one or more of these events. Workshop attendees can expect hands-on interaction with urban planners, economists, transportation engineers, and environmental experts working on the RUDG. Each event will include presentation of draft guideline elements generated during previous sessions.

“The design charrette (workshop) process offers multiple stakeholder touch-points to ensure a consensus product,” says Bill Lennertz, executive director of the National Charrette Institute and a design team member.

“Completion of the Regional Urban Design Guidelines will further enable the quality development originally envisioned in the Base Reuse Plan to become reality,” says FORA executive officer Michael Houlemard. “Thanks to the hard work of the RUDG Task Force and FORA staff, we were able to recruit

one of the leading urban design firms in the country to participate in our competitive proposal process. Dover, Kohl & Partners stood out for their fresh ideas and proven innovative approaches to community planning. We look forward to a robust and inclusive process that brings our community together and advances the process of economic recovery here on former Fort Ord.”

More information and details about the RUDG process can be found on the FORA website ([www.fora.org](http://www.fora.org)) or by contacting the FORA office at 883-3672.

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Information about Dover, Kohl & Partners:

*Dover, Kohl & Partners is a nationally recognized town planning firm based in Coral Gables, Florida. Applying the principles of traditional town planning, the firm’s work encompasses restoring existing urban centers and towns, reconfiguring sprawling suburbs into communities of real neighborhoods, conserving natural environments, and preserving our society’s built legacy. Dover, Kohl & Partners is best known for its collaborative, public design processes, known as charrettes, as well as for illustrative master plans and form-based codes that emphasize complete neighborhoods as the basis for sound communities. Victor Dover and Joseph Kohl are charter members of the Congress for the New Urbanism, and have worked for many public agencies, developers, and citizen groups to create appropriate methods of land development and regulation.*