A member of the Council asked that the following concept be presented:

The City is currently in the process of developing an updated General Plan for the community. A major aspect of the General Plan is to consider the development of key facilities for the City.

For many years, the National Guard Armory has been an important facility. Over time, however, the area around it has become increasingly urbanized. Also, an improved facility in this regard, coordinated with the current development of governmental based air activity at the Porterville Airport, might be beneficial to the City, the National Guard and to the public which is served during emergency situations.

If State and Federal Authorities determined that it were beneficial to develop an Armory at the Porterville Airport, then the current Armory may be available from State authorities. It is on the edge of the Fair Grounds and is at an accessible site for many community members.

The City currently lacks a University Center. The higher education initiative advanced by Porterville and now embodied in the Sequoia Regional Institute for Higher Education emphasizes the creation of University Centers in communities such as Porterville, Visalia, Tulare and potentially Dinuba. The potential availability of the Armory in the future could be a natural opportunity to develop such a Center.

If the Council determines it is appropriate, then they could request that this concept be reviewed in the course of the General Plan process.

Item No. 28