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**Army National Guard to bring Readiness Center to Windsor.**

**Fort Collins, CO (April 15, 2011)** – At a public meeting April 11<sup>th</sup>, RB+B Architects presented the design for the Colorado Army National Guard's New Readiness Center in Windsor. The facility will house the 157th Forward Support Company (FSC) of the Colorado Army National Guard. The Forward Support Company consists of a Maintenance Platoon, Distribution Platoon and a Mess Section with total personnel strength of 127. Five full-time personnel are assigned to the Readiness Center with the remainder occupying the facility one weekend per month. The Guard is a community based organization and is looking forward to having a new home in Windsor.

The full development of the 17-acre site will include a primary facility with assembly hall, classrooms, learning center, kitchen with serving line, administration area, separate unit equipment and individual equipment storage, vehicle maintenance training bays, physical fitness area, break room, and restrooms. Supporting facilities include, military vehicle parking, access roads, Personnel Owned Vehicle (POV) parking, loading dock, and a vehicle wash bay. Cost effective energy conserving features are incorporated into the design and enhanced HVAC/MEP systems commissioning will be included.

The existing architectural context of the new Readiness Center site is defined by the Great Western Industrial Park development. Many industrial buildings have been built in the area over the past several years such as Hexcel, Front Range Energy ethanol plant to the south and Vestas wind blades and Owens Illinois glass factory to the east. These facilities are all large industrial buildings mainly planned to respond to their function as opposed to any overall design guidelines. However, the large-scale massing, substantial materials such as concrete and steel, and forms responding to usage, all begin to develop a vocabulary for this development.

The developer envisions this area as a coordinated, master-planned development that is becoming an epicenter of twenty-first century manufacturing and distribution. It is one of the nation's fastest growing, most vibrant corridors of commerce served by rail and highway.

Sustainable features of the project include a ground source heat exchange HVAC system and planning for future photovoltaic arrays. Daylighting is incorporated throughout.

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It is exciting and an honor to learn about the Colorado Army National Guard through the design of their new facility,” says Derek Young, RB+B Architects’ Project Manager for the Readiness Center. “Through this process, our team has learned more about the COARNG, and gained a stronger appreciation of who they are and what they do for us as a Community and as a Nation.”

RB+B Architects is most notably recognized for their expertise in sustainable educational design, but this project is not their first civic/commercial development: Closer to home, the firm has completed urban projects like the Mawson Block in Old Town Fort Collins, the recently completed Midtown Arts Center, and most recently designed the Rialto Bridge, a companion project to the historic Rialto Theater in downtown Loveland.

The 31,000-square-foot facility, which will cost roughly \$9.8 million, will be completed in September 2012 and is on target to achieve LEED Silver or Gold Certification from the US Green Building Council.



*North Elevation (Rendering by RB+B Architects, Inc.)*



*South Elevation (Rendering by RB+B Architects, Inc.)*

**About RB+B Architects, Inc.** Based in Fort Collins, Colorado, RB+B Architects has designed exceptional spaces for more than 55 years. The firm’s experience in sustainable, high performance design has resulted in design awards at the regional and national levels for commercial, educational and civic buildings. For more information, visit [www.rbbarchitects.com](http://www.rbbarchitects.com).

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