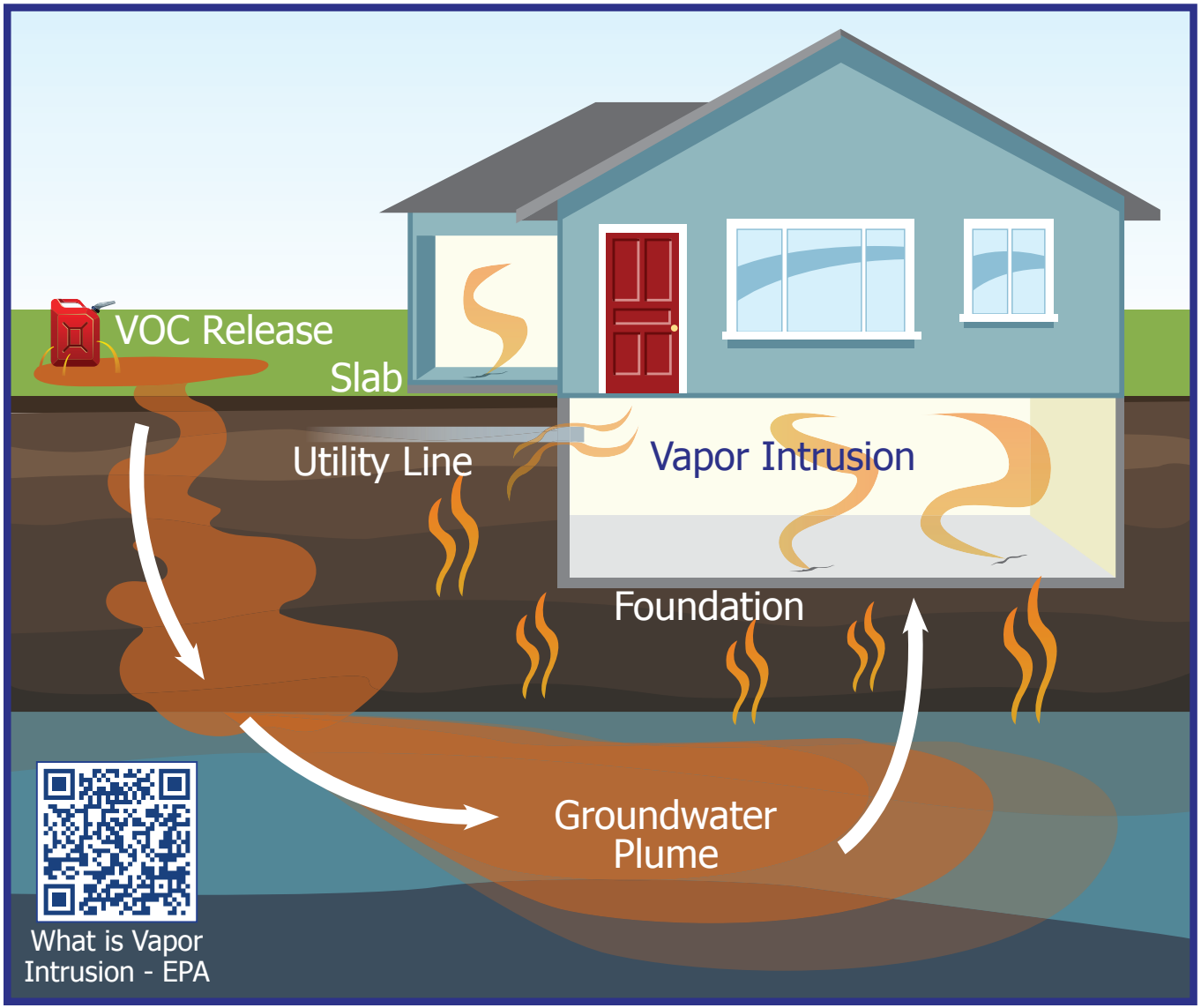
UNDERSTANDING VAPOR INTRUSION AT JBAB



Vapor Intrusion (VI) happens when certain chemicals underground turn into gases and move into buildings. These chemicals, called Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), can travel through soil or groundwater to reach the air inside buildings through cracks or openings in building foundations.

At Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, historic military and industrial operations resulted in the release of VOCs into the environment. Volatile chemicals of concern include:

- **Chlorinated Solvents:** These are chemicals containing chlorine used to dissolve compounds like grease, often associated with industrial uses and drycleaning.
- **BTEX:** This stands for Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, and Xylene, which are associated with gasoline and fuels.

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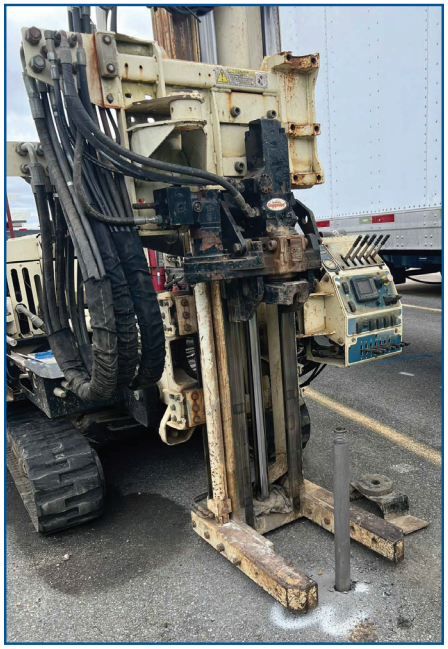
WHY INVESTIGATE NOW?

Environmental remediation and investigation efforts at JBAB have been underway since the late 1980s, focusing on the impacts of past military and industrial activities. As part of this long-term effort, JBAB samples groundwater near base housing annually to monitor changes in environmental conditions.



The Air Force's current focus on vapor intrusion stems from observed changes in concentrations within nearby groundwater wells. This, along with updates to VI screening levels, indicate that deeper investigations are needed to assess potential vapor pathways into buildings.

A PARTNERED PATH FORWARD

JBAB and our partner, Hunt, have developed a plan focused on protecting the health of the JBAB community. As part of our commitment to keeping residents informed, we are sharing updates and information through ongoing community outreach efforts.

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SAMPLING PLANS

To better understand potential vapor intrusion at JBAB, we are conducting sampling in carefully planned phases:

FIRST STEPS

Expanded Groundwater Sampling — Completed

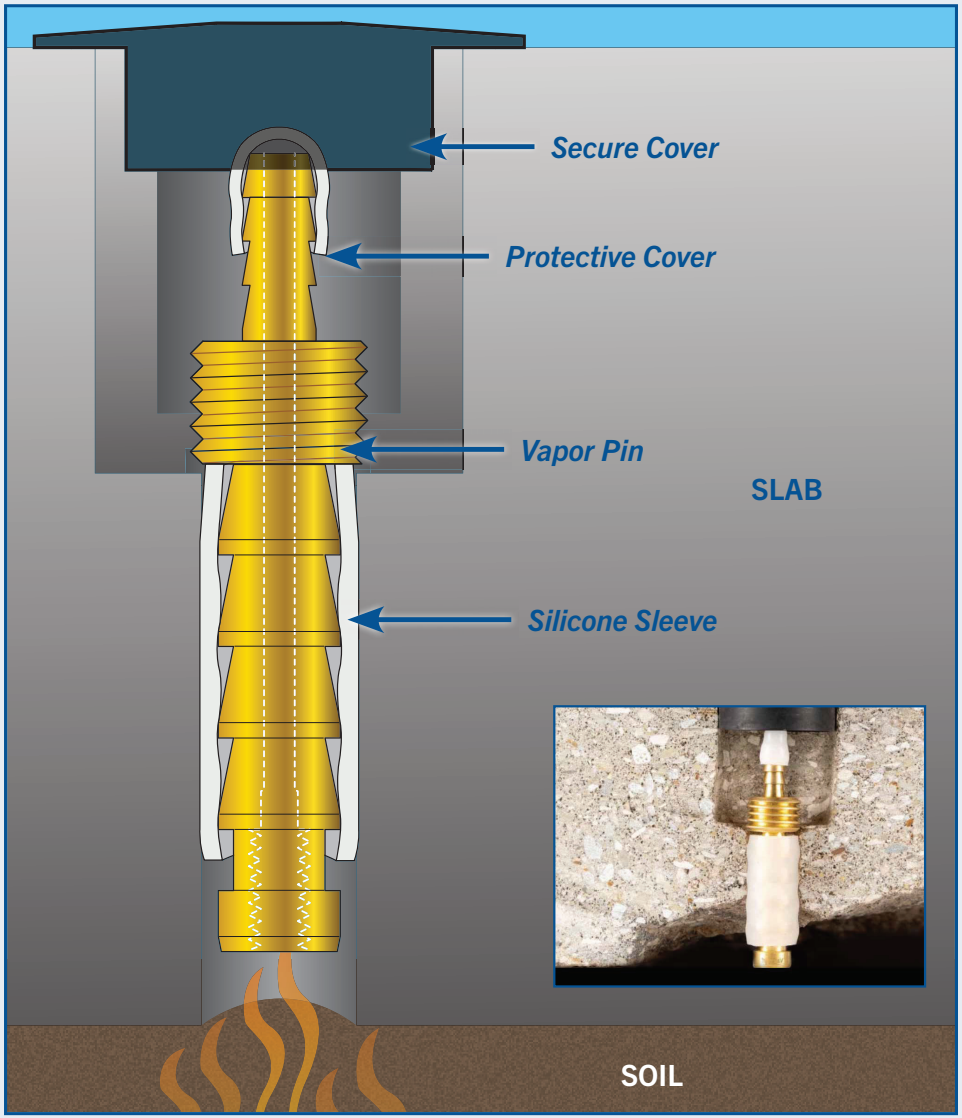
- Pinpointed where indoor sampling would be most effective
- Guided the selection of targeted buildings for interior testing
- Narrowed down methodologies for follow-up sampling

NEXT STEPS

Interior Sub-Slab Sampling - Starting Aug/Sep 2025

- Will be minimally invasive and primarily done in garages
- Will supplement surface and groundwater data
- Involves:
  - ✔ Small air canister samples
  - ✔ Drilling small holes into the concrete slab to collect sub-slab vapor
  - ✔ Ambient indoor air sampling at the same time

This small drill hole used during vapor intrusion sampling is minimally invasive and designed to avoid disruption to daily home activities.



All images courtesy VaporPin

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SAMPLING PLANS ALT

An alternative method of sampling may be employed depending on scheduling. This methodology is known as Air Sampling or Summa Canister Sampling. This method will still be done in the garage and has both benefits and disadvantages.

Benefits

- Does not require drilling in slabs
- Does not require utility locates prior to install
- No major repairs or clean up after sampling is complete
- Fewer entrances into the residence

Disadvantages

- Takes up more space than sub-slab pins (though canisters are required for sampling pins)
- Can be more sensitive than sub-slab sampling - picking up detections from stored gasoline, household solvents, and cleaners
- Set up inside of the living space
- Is set up for 24 hours

WHEN AND WHERE?

JBAB is planning a phased sub-slab sampling effort to assess potential vapor intrusion. Sampling is scheduled to begin in Aug/Sep 2025.

WHERE WILL SAMPLING OCCUR?

Based on prior groundwater data and proximity to areas of interest, indoor sampling will be conducted in up to 20 homes located in the following areas:

- **Chandler Street SW**
- **Randolph Way SW**
- **Langley Way SW**

FIRST STEPS

- **Aug/Sep 2025:** First round of sub-slab sampling or ambient air sampling in residences
- **Dec/Jan 2025/26:** Second round of sampling in the same residences

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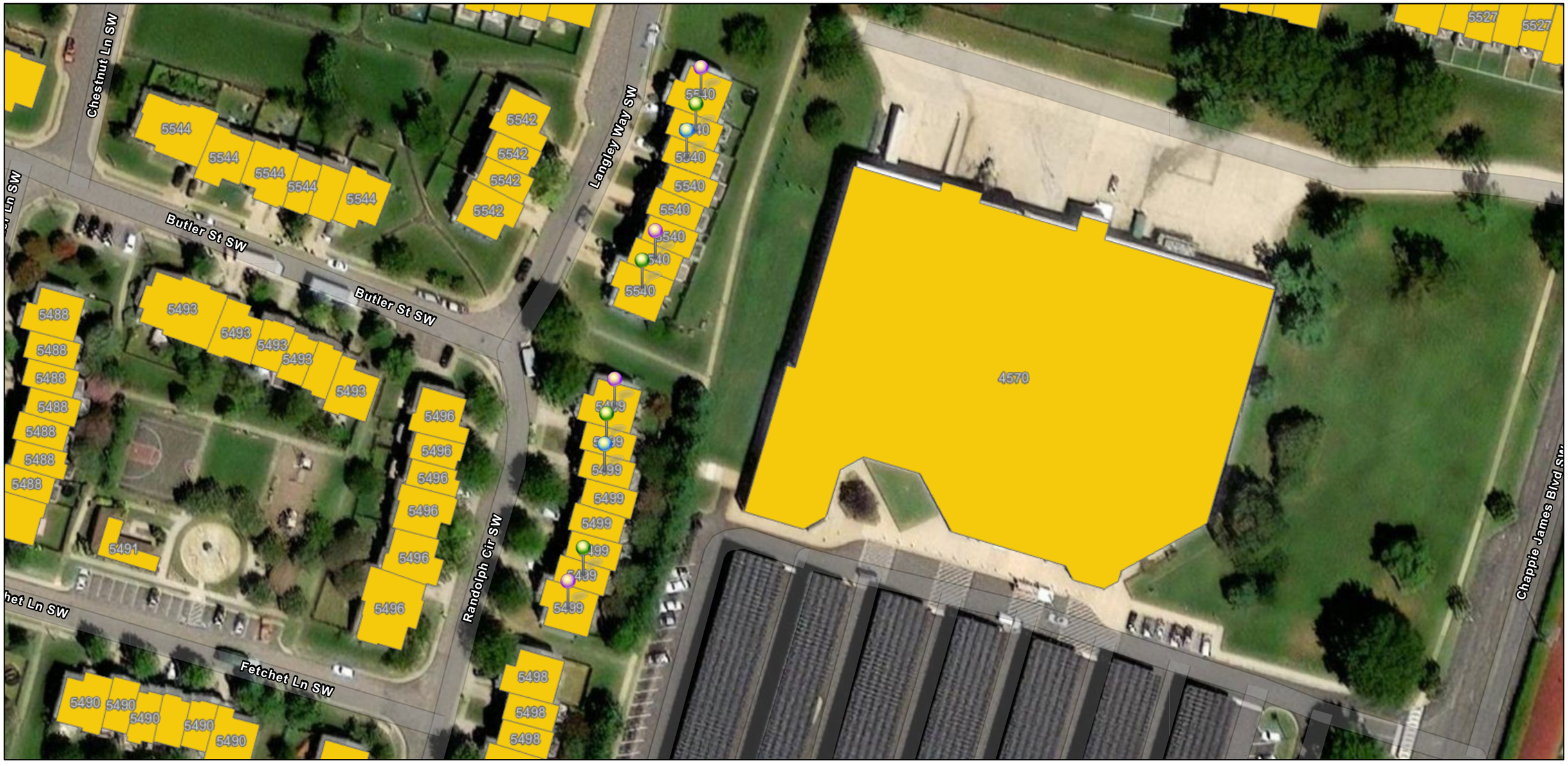
VI Homes North



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Installation_A

Building_A

= 1st Choice

= Alternative 1

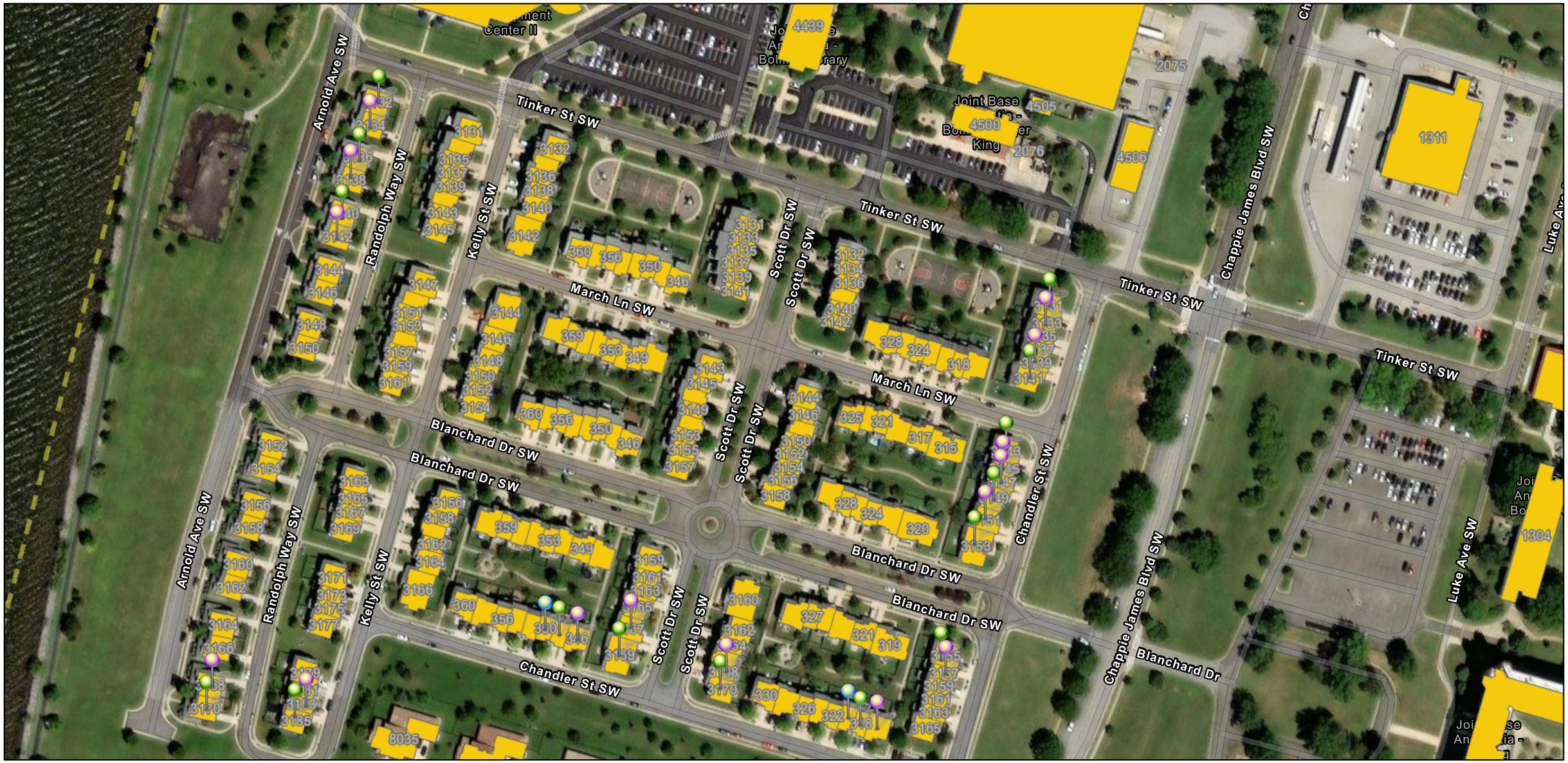
= Alternative 2

1:1,128

0 0.01 0.02 0.04 mi

0 0.01 0.03 0.06 km

VI Homes South



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Installation_A

Building_A

= 1st Choice

= Alternative 1

= Alternative 2

1:2,257

0 0.02 0.04 0.08 mi

0 0.03 0.06 0.12 km

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER SAMPLING?

AFTER VI SAMPLING IS COMPLETED, THE COLLECTED DATA WILL BE CAREFULLY ANALYZED AND SHARED WITH RESIDENTS

DATA ANALYSIS AND REPORTING

Expected completion of initial sampling: ***Late Sep/Oct 2025***

Expected completion of data analysis: ***Apr/May 2026***

Expected release of final report: ***Aug/Sep 2026***
Follow-up community outreach to relay findings.

Risk is present

AF expands sampling plan, develops cleanup plan and notifies residents.

No risk is present

NO ACTION IS REQUIRED

What If Data is Incomplete?
If more data is needed then additional housing investigation may be scheduled for 2027.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

If you would like more information:
Contact RPM and base PA
- Leroy.demarest.1@us.af.mil
  302-677-5540
- af.jbab.publicaffairs@us.af.mil
  202-284-3250

Request information handouts
Contact your district regulator

If you want more info about environmental restoration at JBAB:
- Contact RPM or JBAB PA for more information
- Stay updated via JBAB's environmental webpage
- Review historical information in the Administrative Record

JBAB's Environmental Webpage

Admin Record

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