

HOWARD COUNTY BRAC TASK FORCE

BRAC BIT: #30

DATE: 19 March 2009

SUBJECT(S): RGMC Meeting, Economic Impact of DOD, BRAC Welcome and Relocation Guide

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DISCUSSION:

- 1. Fort Meade Regional Growth Management Committee (RGMC) Meeting:**
 - a. **Date/time:** 26 March 2008, 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM
 - b. **Location:** Howard County Gateway Building, 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, Classroom #4, Columbia, MD
 - c. **Meeting Purpose:** A venue for the 8 counties, 2 cities, Fort Meade, NSA, DISA, Fort Meade Alliance, BWI Partnership, Baltimore-Washington Corridor Chamber of Commerce and other non-governmental organizations to jointly address the impacts and opportunities brought on by Fort Meade Growth.
 - d. **Agenda items:** Transportation planning actions, OEA Studies Update, Family and Lessons Learned Committee updates and EMS planning obstacles
- 2. Economic Impact of DOD on Howard County-NSA**
 - a. According to installation information sources, Fort Meade will contribute over \$5 Billion a year to our regional economy with the arrival of BRAC organizations in 2011. Additionally, Fort Meade tenants constitute the largest employer of Howard County citizens with over 8,000 employees.
 - b. That said, today, a group from Howard County received a presentation from the National Security Agency's contacting arm, the Acquisition Resource Center (ARC). The following numbers reflect a major portion of the impact that NSA work has on our County:
 - o NSA work with Howard County Businesses: **1.6 Billion Dollars/Yr**
 - o Small Businesses (315) .3 Billion Dollars/Yr
 - o Large Businesses (89) 1.3 Billion Dollars/Yr
 - c. The \$1.6 Billion does not include the compensation of the over 8,000 Howard County citizens who are employed by Fort Meade tenants.
 - d. After reviewing the economic numbers generated by Fort Meade, all of us should understand why we have concerns about the transportation infrastructure on and off the installation. We do not want one of the biggest economic generators on the East Coast to become strangled by traffic congestion in the future. This is why the RGMC has a full time transportation coordinator who is working with National, State, Military and Local stakeholders to address critical issues. We know if you cannot get there, you cannot work there!
- 3. BRAC Welcome and Relocation Guide:** The Fort Meade Alliance is co-sponsoring a relocation guide called Destination Fort Meade. If you have an interest in putting information into this guide, call Jayne Booth at 410-838-3930.