

HOWARD COUNTY BRAC TASK FORCE

BRAC BIT: #34

DATE: 22 April 2009

SUBJECT(S): Organizational Reminder, The Future of Fort Meade?

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DISCUSSION:

1. **BRAC Organizations:** It is time for our annual reminder on which BRAC organization does what and how to choose which meeting to attend! Of course, all meetings are open to the public!

- a. **Local Government Subcommittee (LGS) of the BRAC Subcabinet:** This is made up of counties and municipalities from across the state which are being directly affected by BRAC growth. It usually meets quarterly and consists mainly of information exchange between members.
 - b. **Fort Meade Regional Growth Management Committee (RGMC):** This consists of the governments of the 8 counties and 2 cities around Fort Meade. Its focus is on working together to address the impacts and opportunities that Fort Meade growth, not just BRAC, will bring to the region. Currently it is focusing on Transportation, Work Force Development and Emergency Services. Its Regional Transportation Committee (RTC) is very active. The schedule calls for monthly RGMC meetings, but when there are no critical issues, meetings are canceled. Probably is best available source of Fort Meade growth information! The next meeting will be in May 09, specific date to be determined.
 - c. **Howard County BRAC Task Force:** Because of the size (135) of this organization, it rarely meets at the TF level. Today, all work is accomplished at the committee level. The Housing, Health and Human Services, Family, Lessons Learned and Education committees are currently in the active/working mode under the organizational umbrella of the Family Support Module.
 - d. **Howard County BRAC Business Initiative (BBI):** If you have read previous BRAC BITS, you know that this is a new organization is focusing on assisting small and minority businesses through the contracting process with Defense Agencies and Defense Contractors. Much more to come on this. No meetings currently scheduled.
2. **Cybersecurity Command:** The article extract below came out of the 22 April Washington Post and was written by Spencer Hsu. This article is one of about 15 over the past year focusing on Cybersecurity and Information Assurance (IA). If you are in the IA business, you know the business. If you are not in the IA business, but doing business in the Fort Meade Region, you may want to track and assess future stories on this subject!

“The Obama administration is finalizing plans for a new Pentagon command to coordinate the security of military computer networks and to develop new offensive cyber-weapons, sources said last night. Planning for the reorganization of Defense Department and intelligence agencies is underway, and a decision is imminent, according to a person familiar with the White House plans. The new command would affect U.S. Strategic Command, whose mission includes ensuring U.S. "freedom of action" in space and cyberspace, and the National Security Agency, which shares Pentagon cybersecurity responsibilities with the Defense Information Systems Agency.“