

**Howard County-Fort George G. Meade Expansion Management Task Force  
(HC-BRAC-TF)**

**Task Force Memorandum 2006-05**

**Date: 1 October 2006**

**Originator: Kent Menser, Task Force Chairman**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this memorandum is to update and prepare Task Force members for the fourth meeting of the TF on 4 October 2006 from 3:30 to 5:00 PM. The subject meeting will be held in class room #6 on the first floor of the Howard County Gateway Office Building.

**Key Points:**

1. October and November of 2006 will be critical months for the HC BRAC TF. We need to complete the discovery process and begin focusing on the analysis end of our mission.
2. Our BRAC Task Force consists of 27 very exceptional business and/or community leaders. Therefore, none of us should wait to be led. Please “step up to the plate” when you perceive the need. Challenging current thinking is welcomed, group think is not.
3. The HC BRAC TF Executive Committee will update the County Executive on 5 October and the County Council on 10 October.
4. The County Executive and the BRAC TF Chairman attended a formal meeting of the Maryland Military Council on 29 September. Senior BRAC players from across the state attended. Working together as “Team Maryland” and recognition that the success of BRAC will depend upon a strong regional effort were key themes. Additionally, revisions to the assumptions contained in the DBED BRAC report are ongoing and should be completed in November. More to follow on these subjects.
5. The three HC BRAC TF Committees are beginning to focus on more specific requirements. Critical next step is for the two “requirements” committees to begin their alignment process. The resource planning committee will become more active in October as requirements are defined.
6. The TF Chairmen and the Resource Planning Chair are working with AA County lead on securing 3 initial grants from the Department of Defense’s Office of Economic Assistance (OEA). They are in the general areas of Education/Workforce Development, HC BRAC Office staffing and Effect of BRAC on Community Services. More to follow on this subject!

**Administration:**

1. I encourage all task force members to call me, email me or come to my office whenever you have a recommendations, concerns and/or questions related to BRAC. Also do not hesitate to call my cell phone number.
2. I am willing to speak to any Howard County group about BRAC. At least one week warning is best, but I am flexible.

3. Remember that Task Force Committee membership can be expanded by the committee chairman in order to meet requirements requiring specific functional expertise. There is considerable interest in BRAC in the County, so take advantage of this expertise, as appropriate.
4. The public and the press are invited to all task force meetings. They will not be able to participate in the meeting, but the Director of the BRAC Task Force will be available after the formal meeting to respond to BRAC related questions and take recommendations. Additionally, the Director of the BRAC Office will host a public meeting on the fourth Wednesday of each month to update citizens on the status of BRAC actions in Howard County. The next meeting is 25 October in the Tyson Room of the Howard Building from 7 – 9 PM.

### **Old Business:**

### **BRAC Meetings, Presentations and Activities:**

- a. The Task Force Committees have been meeting during September to identify:
  - i. Howard County needs and requirements
  - ii. BRAC Opportunities and requirements
  - iii. Howard County resource requirements
- b. 7 September 2006: BRAC Director met with Mr. Broccolino of Howard County Hospital to discuss putting representative on a TF Committee.
- c. 7 September 2006: BRAC Director did first of regular bi-weekly television spots on HC GTV.
- d. 8 September 2006: Howard County BRAC team manned an information tent at the DISA Family Day Picnic. Strong interest in Howard County schools and housing availability. Our 4<sup>th</sup> place ranking in Money Magazine was well known by DISA attendees and a strong marketing tool.
- e. 11 September 2006: BRAC Director and HC Planning Staff met with DBED planners
- f. 11 September 2006: BRAC Director updated the County Executive on BRAC matters
- g. 12 September 2006: BRAC Director met with Anne Arundel County BRAC counter-part, Pam Rau
- h. 12- 25 September 2006: BRAC Director on vacation
- i. 15 September 2006: Homebuilders Alliance BRAC Conference Preparation Meeting attended by Jim Vannoy
- j. 26 September 2006: BRAC Director attended Anne Arundel County Growth Management Committee Meeting. Focus was on the OEA grant process.
- k. 27 September 2006: BRAC Director conducted the September BRAC update meeting in the evening in the Howard Building.
- l. 28 September 2006: BRAC Director conducted second GTV BRAC spot
- m. 28 September 2006: BRAC Director gave BRAC presentation to Gene Welch, President of Total Site Contractors, Inc.
- n. 29 September 2006: BRAC Director attended Maryland Military Council Meeting

- o. 29 September 2006: BRAC Director attended Meade Alliance Transportation Committee Meeting on Route 175 upgrade
- p. 29 September 2006: BRAC Director conducted Executive Committee Meeting
- q. 4 October 2006: BRAC Director will give BRAC presentation to HCC organization
- r. 4 October 2006: BRAC Director will attend meeting with senior representative of OEA and give short HC presentation
- s. 4 October 2006: BRAC TF Meeting
- t. 5 October 2006: Fort Meade Alliance Meeting at 1130
- u. 5 October 2006: BRAC update for the County Executive at 3PM
- v. 10 October 2006: BRAC update for the County Council at 0830
- w. 11 October 2006: Draft Grant Proposals due into Pam Rau of AA County
- x. 13 October 2006: County Executive, Fort Meade Commander and BRAC Director interview on GTV Probe TV show
- y. 13 October 2006: BRAC Director will have lunch with Fort Mead Commander in Columbia. Task Force members, who would like to attend, send me a message.
- z. 16 October 2006: BRAC Director gives BRAC presentation to HC staff organization
- aa. 18 October 2006: BRAC Director gives BRAC presentation to HC Community Services organization
- bb. 19 October 2006: BRAC Director attends State Transportation meeting
- cc. 24 October 2006: BRAC Director presents to Clarksville Rotary Club
- dd. 25 October 2006: "4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday" BRAC update at 7 PM in Howard Building
- ee. 26 October 2006: BRAC Director makes presentation to Columbia Association Board
- ff. 27 October 2006: BRAC Director makes presentation to Howard Bank Board of Directors
- gg. 8 November 2006: HC BRAC Task Force Meeting

### **New Business**

1. **The Fourth Task Force Meeting will be on 4 October at 3:30 in classroom #6 in the Gateway Building.**
  - a. The primary objective of this meeting will be to review current status of Task Force and Committee work relative to the County Executives' original guidance. The BRAC TF Chairman will provide revised guidance covering the next 4 months and an updated schedule with milestones.
  - b. Additionally, we will be honored to have BGen Mike Hayes USMC (Ret.) Director, Office of Military & Federal Affairs, Maryland Department of Business & Economic Development speak to us on the mission and function of his office and the Maryland Military Council.
  - c. Finally, there will be an opportunity to discuss and vote on a recommendation involving committee expansion.

**Task Force Director Observations/recommendations:**

1. All should keep in mind that the Task Force is in the process of building a solid informational and operational base. Do not get “upset” over specific numbers at this time. We need to focus on sustainable processes. That is; we want to develop processes that keep a continuous flow of accurate and up to date information to the residents and leadership of Howard County so that they can make decisions based upon facts and/or educated assumptions.
2. Also we are in the process of identifying Howard County needs or vulnerabilities that BRAC may help or exacerbate. Nothing is in concrete in this area either. On one hand, we do not want to have a list so long that we cannot effectively address the issues. On the other hand we do not want to leave a critical area behind. We may start off with the identification of 2-3 areas to test our model, but later we can add more as appropriate.
3. Be thinking on what critical areas might lend themselves to a contracted study or, an in house study.
4. Take advantage of the great experience and knowledge of the residents of our county. They are service oriented and smart! Ask them to serve on committees when appropriate. Take every opportunity to tell them what is going on in the BRAC world.

**Next Steps:**

1. TF Members please attend all your committee meetings
2. Call me if you have any questions or need assistance.
3. Look out for specific guidance on the next meeting.
4. See you on 4 October