

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

Task Force Memorandum 2007-11

Subject: Minutes of 12 April HC BRAC TF Meeting and Other Notes

Date: 9 May 2007

Originator: Kent Menser, Task Force Chairman

Purpose: The purpose of this memorandum is to provide our Task Force Members and our Fort Meade Growth/BRAC constituency with the most current information available on this important growth action. Please call Kent Menser at 410-313-5721 if you have any questions.

Key Points:

1. Task Force Growth:

- a. In support of the Phase II objectives, the Task Force has grown from 27 members on three committees to over 100 members on nine committees! Our new organization includes 6 functional committees, a Lessons Learned Committee, Executive Committee and a Plans and Analysis Team.

Committees	Co-Chair from TF	Staff Co-Chair
<i>Work Force Housing</i>	Tom Ballentine	Stacey Spann
<i>Education</i>	Bob Price	Roger Plunkett
<i>Transportation</i>	Ron Meliker	Carl Balsler
<i>Infrastructure</i>	Wayne Wilhelm	Bob Beringer
<i>Health and Human Services</i>	Vidia Dhanraj	Lois Mikkila
<i>Workforce Development</i>	Francine Trout	Patty Keeton
Lessons Learned Committee	Mark Cissell	Don Darnell
Plans and Analysis Team	Anwer Hassan	Jean Friedberg
Executive Committee	Sam Seymour	

- b. One of the keys to the expansion of our capabilities is the over 60 new volunteers who have joined our Task Force. They have joined with the seasoned veterans of Phase I to help us achieve our Phase II objectives! Not surprisingly, this rapid expansion has been a challenge to our Task Force Administration, so be patient and correct us if we get a name or assignment wrong. Jill Joubert (410-313-6522) is assisting me in this effort. Please call her to update information or schedule conference rooms for committees.
- c. The other change that will be an important component of our success is the addition of key members of the Howard County Staff, Howard Community College Staff and the Howard School System Staff to our Task Force. They all bring great knowledge and expertise to our Task Force. Additionally, their early involvement in the Task Force provides the County Executive assurance that when the Task Force "reports," that it will be well coordinated with the staffs of key organizations within the county.

2. Phase II Implementation and Supporting Management Structure: The Planning and Analysis (P&A) Team, under the leadership of Jean Friedberg, has now met several times and has begun the process of turning phase I findings into planning guidance. Jean has been meeting with all of our Committee Chairs during the past two weeks to discuss strategies and outcomes. Additionally, this P&A committee has been reviewing disparate modeling processes and data bases to determine which one or ones will best meet our Task Force needs.

3. 12 April 2007 Task Force Meeting Notes:

a. Meeting objectives: The primary objective of this meeting was to kick-off phase II of our BRAC Task Force work. During Phase I we identified key areas in Howard County that we believe will be most impacted by Fort Meade Growth. During Phase II we will take the raw data associated with Fort Meade Growth and turn that into relevant, actionable information for our customers; the government, businesses and citizens of Howard County.

Additional meeting actions included:

- Introduction of new members of the Task Force and new Committee Co-chairpersons
- Presentation of the Howard County Requirements Committee Report
- Introduction of the concept of the operations for Phase II.

b. Howard County Requirements Committee Report: After months of study and review, the Requirements Committee presented their findings and recommendations. I will send this report out all of you who on our email list this week. All should remember that these findings, the 6 most impacted areas, will provide the basis for our work in Phase II. They are not Task Force recommendations; those will come at the end of Phase II. That said, after reviewing the report and listening to recommendations from both TF and non-TF personnel, we have decided to add an environmental representative from the Howard County Environment Commission to our Plans and Analysis Team and then focus our Phase II work on the following functional areas:

- **Education (Preschool through 12)**
- **Health and Human Services (Includes Public Safety)**
- **Infrastructure (Includes Commercial Development)**
- **Transportation**
- **Work Force Development (Includes Higher Education)**
- **Work Force Housing**

4. What are those numbers again? During Phase II, we are going to take the mass of data on Fort Meade Growth that is out there and do our best to convert that data into actionable information for our customers. We/I have taken a little “flack” over the 22,000 job positions figure, but we stand by it. That said, let us review again the information we are currently using for growth assumptions:

Planning Projections of Fort Meade Growth during the next 5-7 years

- BRAC: 5,695 (MD BRAC Report)
- NSA: 4,000 + (Best estimate)
- Enhanced Use Leasing: 10,000 (FGGM BRAC/EUL EIS)
- Other growth on Fort Meade: 2,000 + (Best estimate)
- Total jobs new to Fort Meade: 22,000

Again, our planning assumption of 22,000 only includes new jobs on Fort Meade. As the Task Force studies comprehensive Fort Meade Growth, among the critical questions will be; how many indirect and induced jobs will the 22,000 generate in Howard County; how many new families will the 22,000 jobs generate in Howard County?

5. Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) Grant:

- a. As you may have read in our press release, Howard County, Anne Arundel County and the City of Laurel did receive the grant that we had submitted several months ago. From the Howard County perspective this grant will fund; a Transportation Study, a study on the effect of BRAC on Community Services and fund my position and that of an assistant. More to follow on this topic.
- b. Thanks to my Anne Arundel County counterpart (Bob Leib) and our Howard County grants professional (Tim Betts) for their outstanding work in support of this action. And, thanks to our Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) Program Manager (Cyrena Eitler) for her assistance in making this a successful venture.

6. Fort Meade BRAC/EUL Environmental Impact Statement (EIS):

- a. The 45 day comment period on the subject EIS just ended this week. As you may recall, I sent the information out on this EIS in my last memo. If you still want to review it, just go to the Fort George G. Meade website. We have completed our initial review and I delivered this message on behalf of HC and AA Counties at a public hearing two weeks ago.
 - “The Fort Meade Growth Management Committee, to include HC and AA counties fully support Fort Meade’s BRAC and EUL initiatives and the actions of the Commander and his staff on this subject.
 - Our primary concern is that the current draft EIS does not adequately address the Region of Influence (ROI), which includes Anne Arundel, Howard, Prince Georges and Montgomery Counties. Among our specific concerns is the effect of 16,000 new job positions on the roads and traffic in the subject ROI. The current EIS only addresses traffic and roads in the interior of the installation and approximately 2 miles out from the boundary of the installation.
 - These and other concerns will be addressed in our formal, written comments in our regional submission.”

- b. I have completed my written comments on this draft EIS and you will be able to find them on our BRAC website later in the week. Call me if you have any questions.

Administration:

1. **Joining the Task Force:** Any person living or working in Howard County is eligible to join one of our committees. Call me or send me an email and we will work to match your capability with our need. Initially, we may put you on standby status before we assign you to a specific committee.
2. **Supporting the Task Force:** If you cannot join one of our committees, we welcome you to be a Task Force Resource Partner. Let us know your area of expertise and we may call you periodically to ask for your advice/ideas in that area. Call or email me if you would like to be a "Resource Partner."
3. **Task Force Meetings:**
 - a. The next Howard County BRAC Task Force Meeting will be on Wednesday, 13 June 2007 from 3:30 to 5:00 PM. This meeting will be held in the Golf Clubhouse on Fort Meade and both the Howard County Executive and the Fort Meade Commander will participate in the proceedings. More to follow on the details, to include directions and security requirements, of this event.
 - b. Remember all Task Force meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend. Transparency and commitment are two of our core values. Join us at our Task Force meetings.
4. **Committee Meetings:**
 - a. These are THE most important meetings. Set your meeting schedules out as many days as makes sense, so that you can maximize attendance.
 - b. If you have questions on committee actions aligning with Task Force Strategies, call or email Jean Friedberg.
 - c. The Task Force Chairman will give access to a phone conferencing system for those Committee Chairs who want to use it.

Task Force Director Observations/recommendations:

1. Thanks again to all of our new volunteers. You will be making a great contribution to our County and our Region.
2. Thanks to all of our new members who have joined us from the different staff across the county. Your expertise is critical to our success.

Next Steps:

1. TF Members please attend all your committee meetings
2. Call me if you have any questions or need assistance.
3. See you on 13 June 2007 or sooner.