

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

Task Force Memorandum 2007-12

Subject: Task Force Update

Date: 5 June 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 constituency with the most current information available on this important action. Please call Kent Menser at 410-313-6521 if you have any questions.

Key Points:

1. What is One of Kent Menser’s Biggest Concerns in Reference to Howard County and Fort Meade Growth?

- a. One of my biggest concerns is “missed opportunities!” I know that the Task Force is strongly focused on identifying and responding to impacts of Fort Meade Growth on Howard County. But as a youngster, I always felt the worst when I walked over to friend’s house to find out he and his family had just left for the swimming pool 5 minutes earlier. Along with the challenges, Fort Meade Growth will bring major opportunities to Howard County. We need to be there on time in our appropriate bathing gear!

2. Task Force Growth:

- a. In support of the Phase II objectives, the Task Force has grown from 27 members on three committees to over 120 members on ten committees! Note we have added a Public Safety Committee this past month. (We are currently recruiting members for this new committee!) Our expanded organization includes 7 functional committees, a Lessons Learned Committee, Executive Committee and a Plans and Analysis Team. The committees and their leadership are:

Committees	Co-Chair from TF	Staff Co-Chair
<i>Work Force Housing</i>	Tom Ballentine	Stacey Spann
<i>Public Safety</i>	To Be Determined	To Be Determined
<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/Dwight Hollenbach
Plans and Analysis Team	Anwer Hassan	Jean Friedberg
Executive Committee	Sam Seymour	

- b. With one exception, all of our committees had their first meetings in May. The Plans and Analysis Team has been meeting once a week and is steadily

building the information base which will support the work of the remainder of the Task Force. Great work P&A! You have raised our expectations to new highs!

- c. I believe that the committee assignments for our 120 Task Force volunteers are now stabilized, with possibly one or two exceptions. If you are on the Task Force and need help with a committee assignment, get with your co-chair or myself. There are three key words related to committee. They are; commitment, experience and balance, and the last two are less important than the first. My definition of “balance” is; the combination of different experiences, backgrounds and perspectives working together to achieve a common objective. For example, if today, you are the only blimp pilot on your committee, do not feel left out, feel energized, because you are representing all of the blimp pilots in the world and we expect you to impart their vision of quality of life to the committee and defend them when necessary.

2. Task Force Presentation to Mr. Ken Ulman, the Howard County Executive

- a. On 30 May 2007, the Task Force Co-Chairs gave a presentation to the County Executive and several members of his staff. The purpose of the presentation was as follows:
 - To update the County Executive on Task Force actions
 - To present the Task Force’s Phase II organization and objectives
 - To receive the County Executive’s endorsement of Phase II organization and objectives
- b. Jean Friedberg and Sam Seymour gave outstanding presentations on Task Force operations and Strategic planning, respectively. Additionally, a key part of the presentation was one slide from each committee that focused on key objectives/issues. Because of time constraints the Committee Chairs did not individually brief their slide, but they each slide was reviewed by the County Executive. We will have other opportunities to discuss our functional areas in more detail with the County Executive and his staff.
- c. Presentation Outcomes:
 - The County Executive endorsed the Task Force movement to Phase II
 - He was very laudatory of the work of Task Force members in the areas of organization, planning and process development and he is enthusiastically looking forward to the results of our initial work.

3. 13 June Task Force Meeting (3:30 to 5:00 PM):

- a. This will be a very special Task Force Meeting. Both Ken Ulman and Colonel McCreedy, the Fort Meade Commander, will speak to the Task Force. The meeting will be held in the Fort Meade Golf Course Club House and we have over 125 people sign up for this event. If you want to come to this event and do not have the appropriate Government ID Card, you must be on our list. Our list will close on the evening of 6 June. More information on location and security requirements will follow.

b. The meeting objectives are:

- Update on Task Force Actions and Direction
- Update on Fort Meade, “the Town” and its Future
- Re-affirm Howard County’s BRAC Vision and Guidance

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. 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

5. **Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) Grant:**

a. Howard County, Anne Arundel County and the City of Laurel did receive the grant that they 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. We are currently working on the documentation necessary to start applying the funds against our mission.

Administration:

1. **Joining the Task Force:** Any person living or working in Howard County is eligible to join one or 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:** 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 are already making a difference!
- 2. Thanks to our Task Force Co-Chairs. Your leadership 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.