

**Howard County- Fort Meade Growth/BRAC Task Force (HC-BRAC-TF)
Task Force Memorandum 2007-17**

To: Task Force Members

Subject: Task Force Update

Date: 12 October 2007

Originator: Kent Menser, Task Force Chairman

Purpose: The purpose of this memorandum is to provide our BRAC TF members and our BRAC constituency with information on the key actions that will be taking place between now and the end of 2007. This memo is going out to the over 750 addresses on our Howard County BRAC Task Force distribution list. If you have questions about Fort Meade growth that we have not addressed, please do not hesitate to give me a call at 410-313-6521 or kmenser@howardcountymd.gov.

Committees	Co-Chair	Co-Chair
<i>Housing</i>	Tom Ballentine	Stacey Spann
<i>Public Safety</i>	Joseph Herr	William McMahon
<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	Don Darnell	Dwight Hollenbach
Plans and Analysis Team	Anwer Hassan	Jean Friedberg
Executive Committee	Sam Seymour	

1. Key Points:

- a. HC BRAC Task Force Meetings:
 - **11/14 @ 3:30 PM (Room # 5 , Howard County Gateway Building)**
 - **12/12 @ 3:30 PM (Room # 5, Howard County Gateway Building)**
- b. County Executive's Progress Review (PR):
 - During early December of 2007, the Howard County BRAC Task Force will give two progress updates on two separate dates to the County Executive. These PRs mark the first of a series that will take place regularly over the next 4 years as BRAC unfolds at Fort Meade.
 - The objectives of these actions are threefold; (1) Provide status of Task Force work; (2) Brief findings and/or observations; (3) Receive approval of next steps.

2. Additional Fort Meade Growth/BRAC Activities and Information:

- a. The Lt. Governor's Maryland BRAC Sub-Cabinet has established a Local Government Subcommittee (LGS) to prepare recommendations on the impact and opportunities of BRAC on the State. The LGS is made up of representatives from each of the 9 counties that will be most affected by BRAC and the City of Baltimore. The LGS is further subdivided into 4 committees; Transportation, Education and Workforce Development, Infrastructure, and Public Safety. These committees are developing a report for the Lt. Governor which will provide the basis for a second report to the Governor in early December 2007. Kent Menser is the co-chair of the Transportation Committee. Jean Friedberg, Raj Kudchadkar and the HC BRAC TF Transportation Committee have been assisting in this action.
- b. The Fort George G. Meade Regional Growth Management Committee is the regional BRAC organization. It is composed of the cities of Baltimore and Laurel and the following counties; Anne Arundel, Howard, Prince George's, Carroll, Montgomery and Baltimore. The Committee has met three times over the past 5 months. Its primary purpose is to address regional issues and concerns, and to coordinate cross-jurisdictional Fort Meade implementation matters. Because of the activities of the LGS, this regional group is going to "throttle back" between now and January, 2008. Ultimately, we believe this will be the key BRAC organization in the region and its work will likely affect selected county level policies and programs. The Coordinator of this committee is Bob Leib of AA County and the Deputy Coordinator is Kent Menser of HC.
- c. The Final Draft of the Fort Meade BRAC/EUL Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is now out. You can review or download all 894 pages by going to the Fort Meade website!
- d. Meade Transportation Zone (MTZ): Over the past several months, we have become aware of a number of individuals, government organizations and community organizations that are stakeholders in the area in or immediately (5-10 Miles) around Fort Meade. All have good people with good intentions. But, we are not sure if their goals and objectives are aligned or if they/we are getting the best "bang for the buck" from disparate efforts. Because of this situation, the Fort George G. Meade Regional Growth Management Committee has taken the initiative to form this MTZ organization. More to follow on this subject.
- e. A coordinated regional effort is a key component of BRAC success and it is going to be a challenge!
 - The good news is that BRAC can be the catalyst for improving regional coordination. More good news is that there are a large number of competent professionals from across the states, who are working this issue. The fact is that this is a very large and complex region and integrating ongoing and future planning efforts will be very difficult.

- Instinctively, we planners would like to address Fort Meade Growth/BRAC impacts and opportunities one issue or intersection at a time. The realities of our environment do not support such a tactic. For example, when we look at the potential of increased traffic and process time through the Route 32 Fort Meade gate in Ann Arundel County, we also need to understand that the speed of that flow may effect the movement of cars through Route 32/108 intersection in Howard County. These situations are the facts of our planning life and we must respond appropriately. We all need to work together to transform visions of regionalism into effective, well coordinated planning. Let us know when we appear not to be doing just that!

Next Steps:

- a. Tell us when you have a better idea or suggested improvement of a process or a plan.
- b. Please keep us informed by providing us information relevant to county and/or regional growth.
- c. We have attached some key slides from our Power Point Presentation, please feel free to use them as you deem appropriate.