

# MARYLAND MILITARY INSTALLATION COUNCIL

Friday, December 9, 2022; 0830-1230

## Meeting Minutes

The third MMIC meeting of 2022 was conducted in-person at the state government building at 100 Community Place, Crownsville, MD. The session included remarks from guest speakers, updates from the Maryland installation and base commanders, the Maryland National Guard, the Baltimore District ACOE, and updates from the military alliance presidents. Total attendance was 63.

### Welcome Remarks

**Lisa Swoboda, Executive Director of the MMIC, and Senior Director of the Maryland Commerce Office of Military & Federal Affairs** welcomed attendees to the meeting, provided opening remarks with a review of the agenda, and recognized several individuals:

- Congressman Anthony Brown (not present for this meeting) for his consistent support of the MMIC and Maryland's military installations.
- George Lamont, as a newly appointed MMIC member representing the Central Maryland region.
- Tom Garrison, as the new president of the Southern Maryland Navy Alliance (SMNA).
- Steve Mitchell, as the new president of the Military Alliance Council (MAC).
- Mike Gill, Secretary of Commerce and Chair of the MMIC, at his final MMIC meeting.

**Mike Gill, Secretary of Commerce and MMIC Chair**, welcomed attendees and re-emphasized the importance of the military mission in Maryland. Sec. Gill provided some motivational comments and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to lead the MMIC, and specifically for his association with the installations, defense communities and the military missions within the State. In his remarks, the Secretary mentioned the return of the DefTech Center, an effort funded by the DoD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation.

### Defense Community Briefing: Federal Opportunities and Defense Priorities

**Patrick O'Brien, Director, DoD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC)**

- Emphasized the aspect of "One Community" and that groups like the MMIC provide opportunities for communities and installations to collaborate.
- Maryland is always among the Top 10 states in defense spending, at approximately \$26-27B. Some of this spending is for personnel, which goes into local and regional economies; and the balance is contractual spending, which mostly goes into the Maryland industrial base and supply chain.
- Anne Arundel County is rebuilding the Fort Meade High School for \$120M, the largest school improvement effort currently funded by OLDCC.
- Regarding the Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP):
  - DCIP is an opportunity for communities to undertake infrastructure investments locally.
  - Community sponsors of a project should consult with installation leaders about potential projects and focus only on those deemed to be competitive.
  - The primary scoring factor will be military value, to include "construction-readiness." A separate panel will review all proposals and score for military value.

- Other grading factors will include collaboration with historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), improvement of installation resilience, environmental impact, and contributions to military service member and family quality of life.
- The current NDAA drafts include new factors including: projects on land leased from the military, and projects involving critical seaports are eligible. Involvement of HBCUs and ROTCs at HBCUs is a newly added factor for consideration. The House version funds the program at \$100M for FY23, and the Senate version at \$150M. (Continuing resolutions are “killing us.”)
- Mentioned the NAS Patuxent River DCIP project, the state’s first and only DCIP award thus far, which improved access to the base as an example.
- The OLDCC cap per project is \$20M, but since the competition may include 80 or so proposals, the “sweet spot” is much lower.
- There is a matching funds requirement, which is waived for rural communities (<100k population by zip code).
- Must ensure that NEPA compliance is on-track to prevent disqualifying your proposal.
- OLDCC expects to release a Notice of Funding Opportunity after the NDAA is enacted, most probably in March or April. Stressed that potential grantees should be writing their proposals now.
- Mr. O’Brien fielded questions from the audience, including:
  - Confirmed there is no proximity requirement provided the local installation endorses the project
  - Look at proposed language in NDAA for guidance on what constitutes an HBCU; looking at placements of ROTC facilities @ HBCUs
  - Not apparent that Coast Guard facilities are included; critical seaports are.
  - Match requirements are staying the same.
- Regarding the Defense Manufacturing Community Support Program (DMCSP):
  - DoD is concerned about obsolete technology and is focused on fostering innovation, which is the goal of the DMCSP program.
  - This program funds consortia-proposed efforts to foster manufacturing innovation activities.
  - Can provide up to \$5M for DoD manufacturing priorities with a 20% match.
  - Examples of technology areas OLDCC is interested in include hypersonics, battery storage, power generation, and shipbuilding.
  - The ideal proposal team would include private sector, academia, state and local entities. Typically, university-led, but not always.
  - Maryland should focus on areas of need for supporting innovation and look for opportunities to leverage state/local development capabilities. There should be some focus on workforce development for future research needs.
  - Expect the program to be funded at \$50M.
  - Similar timeline to the DCIP with NOFOs out in March or April. Expect a webinar in February to review the program and field questions, but Mr. O’Brien suggests that potential grantees start writing their proposals now.
- Expect Diversification and Modernization to be a \$12M program. This program addresses turnover, attrition and attracting new workforce for industries like shipbuilding.

- The Pentagon is obsessed with resilience. The Installation Resiliency Program is expected to be funded at \$10M for Compatible Use projects and \$12-13M for Military Installation Resiliency Review (MIRR) projects. This program is separate from the DCIP, and funds efforts to address common threats to installation resilience. Encourage tabletop exercises between the installation and local community, to include emergency services and utility providers.

#### **Partnering with the Defense State Liaison Office**

##### **Chris Arnold, Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Regional Liaison, DoD Military Community and Family Policy, Defense State Liaison Office**

- The Defense State Liaison Office was created in 2004 and covers issues that affect military personnel and liaisons with state offices to support those efforts. The new director is Geraldine Valentino-Smith, a MD State Delegate. The liaison officers work out of home in each region. With a new realignment, Mr. Arnold will represent the mid-Atlantic region, from Virginia to New York.
- Maryland is an "8 out of 10" on DoD policy key issue list.
- Mr. Arnold explained the importance and impact of the many active interstate compacts. Forty-four states have signed at least one compact. Maryland has several in place.
- There has been much positive movement on the military spouse licensure issue. However, many states have enacted legislation that is not reflected on state agency hiring sites and is not visible to many spouses who may be seeking expedited licensure.
- Childcare for military families is a perennial issue. A state license exemption for military childcare off-post, including in-home care, can lessen the administrative burden.
- A relatively new issue is juvenile concurrent jurisdiction for military family youth offenses, which enables use of local municipal and state resources in lieu of federal prosecutions.

#### **Networking break 10:15 – 10:35**

#### **MMIC Workforce Committee Briefing**

##### **Amy O'Donnell, Navy Program Director, MD Commerce, and Co-chair of the MMIC Workforce Committee**

- Executive briefing of recent September to November workforce needs survey of Maryland installation and mission commands was presented to include four proposed action areas where Maryland can have a positive impact.
- Installation commanders and alliance presidents are asked to provide inputs by Jan 6<sup>th</sup> to include team members for the action teams, as well as their transition assistance program (TAP) POCs.
- A briefing will be emailed to all installation and alliance presidents to facilitate action completion.
- Action teams will form in early 2023, assuming volunteers are identified in a timely manner.

#### **Maryland Compatible Land Use Program Briefing**

##### **Jennifer Chiasson, Senior Grant Program Manager, MD Dept. of Commerce**

##### **Sarah Diehl, Compatible Use Community Planning Liaison, MD Dept. of Planning**

- The attached PowerPoint presentation provides full details
- The current grant program is the second phase of a three-phase plan for the state to support compatible use activities between installations in Maryland and the surrounding communities.

- Current activities include the creation of a Compatible Use website and a Compatible Energy Siting project:
  - The former provides resources to local communities and the public on the military presence in Maryland, best practices for compatible use, resources, and other guidance for the community. The website has been developed in conjunction with military, state, and local community stakeholder groups.
  - The latter includes an enhancement to the Maryland Smart DG+ siting tool for renewable energy developers to identify areas recommended for coordination with the military, and a report that outlines the review process for compatible siting of renewable energy projects in Maryland, with recommendations on how to improve those processes to maintain compatible use. These activities were created in conjunction with military, state and local government, and the renewable energy industry.
- A demonstration on the enhanced Smart DG+ siting tool, including military and compatibility layers and the coordination report was provided.
- A demonstration on the soon to be launched Compatible Use website was provided. The website will be launched next week.

### **Installation Commander Updates**

#### **Maryland National Guard – BG Adam Flasch, Joint Staff Director, MD National Guard**

- MDNG has installation partners at every active duty base in Maryland save the Coast Guard Yard.
- The MDNG is upgrading the Free State Challenge Program. The 22-week program, located at Aberdeen Proving Ground, provides a challenging and motivational experience for high school dropouts, with most attaining a GED during the course, as well as job and life skills. A new facility is in the works to host the program. <https://freestate.mil.maryland.gov>
- Expansion of the Martin State Airport (MSA) runway is a priority program for MDNG. With the A-10 air frame nearing the end of service life, an improved longer runway will be a key factor in retaining a flying mission in Maryland at MSA. A potential \$16M grant from the FAA would extend the runway.
- MDNG recently broke ground on a new maintenance facility.
- MDNG is building a new facility at White Oak to support the MDNG cyber mission. MDNG has a premiere cyber group that is currently working with the NSA.
- MDNG is supporting the inauguration ceremony for Governor Elect Wes Moore.
- MDNG has a new program that supports pathway to citizenship for new Americans, leveraging service, helping with language proficiency and other assimilation aspects. Working with federal and state partners on this project.

#### **Naval Air Station Patuxent River– CAPT Derrick Kingsley, Commander**

- The Naval Air Command is well funded for mission requirements, but the installation is not well funded for mission support, which presents problems in maintaining infrastructure and supporting tenant mission activities.
- A Public Safety Job Fair outside of Gate 2 at the Frank Knox building is planned for the 15<sup>th</sup> of December.

**Naval Surface Warfare Center Carderock – CAPT Todd Hutchinson, Commanding Officer, and Mr. Dave Drazen, Chief Technology Officer**

- Regarding community engagement, “STEM in a Box” kits and a video “Inside the Navy’s Indoor Ocean” are available to schools and community organizations.
- A YouTube video featuring NSWC Carderock received over 10M views. The video is titled “Inside the Navy’s Indoor Ocean.”
- Carderock will host the international human-powered submarine race event in June 2023.
- The inbound new commander for NSWC Carderock is CAPT Matthew Tardy.

**Naval Support Activity Bethesda – CAPT Scott Switzer, Commanding Officer**

- Community engagement: Participated in local Thanksgiving Day parade. Next commander is scheduled to speak at Montgomery County’s Veteran’s Day event next year.
- Construction of new hospital wings is scheduled for 2027.
- Continuing challenges in coping with degraded infrastructure, particularly the steam plant.
- Also continuing hiring and retention challenges with police/security, mechanics and childcare workers. Availability of childcare workers, in which there are currently 62 vacancies, would help alleviate a waitlist of over 300.

**Naval Surface Warfare Center Indian Head – CAPT Copeland, Commanding Officer NSA South Potomac**

- NSWC Indian Head is currently close to 4000 personnel on base.
- The installation is working with both the county and the town of Indian Head to abate traffic approaching the main gate, which presents a safety issue.
- Although there are electric vehicles on-post, the nearest charging facility is 18 miles away and it is currently illegal to charge an electric vehicle on base.

**Naval Support Activity Annapolis – Michael Coury, Deputy Installation Commander**

- The surface danger zone of the NAS Annapolis firing range, which is not fully baffled, overlaps some of Greenbury Point, including trails and access roads to three service antennas. The installation does not have sufficient security personnel to keep the roads or walking trails open when the range is hot. The danger zone notifies boaters when the range is in use and monitors the area. The surface danger zone is currently up for public comment.

**Joint Base Andrews – Col. Todd Randolph, 316<sup>th</sup> Wing and Installation Commander**

- The JBA Air & Space Expo in September was a huge success. The next airshow will be in 2024.
- JBA has begun a military installation resiliency review (MIRR) grant, focused on storm water management with Prince George’s County.
- A Veteran’s Day event with Peterson Company at a park in National Harbor dedicated the park to veterans and first responders and will host families for promotion ceremonies and other celebrations.
- JBA installation is finalizing an Intergovernmental Service Agreement (IGSA) with the Prince George’s County Department of Public Works to manage and remove tree obstructions on Suitland Parkway.
- Col. Randolph endorses all efforts to expand military spouse licensure programs.
- The installation continues to have difficulty in the hiring and retention of childcare workers, particularly with Washington, DC’s announcement of a \$10k hiring bonus offered to newly-hired childcare providers.

#### **Coast Guard Yard – CAPT David Obermeier, Commanding Officer**

- The Coast Guard Yard is developing a partnership with NSWC Carderock, enabled by the Maritime Technology Alliance.
- The Yard will engage the Baltimore District ACOE on the need for dredging of the inbound route to enable the approach of larger vessels.
- There are currently approximately 130,000 jobs in the Maryland maritime industry, creating a large demand and a strong competition for the skilled labor associated with the shipyard industry.
- Working with the City of Baltimore on a maritime technology Pathways in Technology (P-TECH) career readiness program.
- Coast Guard Cutter Eagle ships being worked on at the Yard.

#### **Fort Meade – COL Michael Sapp, Garrison Commander**

- The Kuhn Hall Education and Resiliency Center ribbon cutting was a huge success on 17 Nov. It was the result an 11-year collaboration between the garrison and the Fort Meade Alliance and its Foundation.
- The garrison is working on identifying federal priorities with the FMA.
- The Fort Meade High School (actually the Fort Meade Cluster) surprisingly is only about 30% military despite the fact that the current renovation effort is DoD funded. A hard hat tour with Col Hannon of Fort Meade High School showcases the renovations.
- The Army Field Band will perform at the Lyric Theater in Baltimore on Saturday at 3:00 pm.
- Fort Meade supported a DCIP project with BGE for dark fiber to be installed in the Bowie area to get high speed internet access for underserved communities, but it was not selected for an award.

#### **Fort Detrick – COL Ned Marsh, Garrison Commander**

- Fort Detrick hosts five cabinet agencies, and all services are represented. The direct line between the U.S and Russia federation is housed on the installation, which has been very busy of late given international politics.
- The Maryland congressional delegation has introduced legislation to retain Fort Detrick as the lead for DoD medical research.
- The garrison and tenants are experiencing difficulty in recruiting and hiring, especially skilled labor, mechanics and childcare workers.
- The garrison will begin to work more closely with the Fort Detrick Alliance, to include identifying federal priorities.

#### **Army Corps of Engineers – LTC David Myers, Deputy Commander, Baltimore District ACOE**

- The Baltimore District currently has 1600 employees spread out among many projects across the region.
- ACOE leadership is concerned about loss of workforce continuity due to a recent surge in retirements.
- The Fort Meade East Campus build-out continues on track.
- COL Pinchasin, District Commander, intends to get out to meet installation commanders and other ACOE customers.

#### **Aberdeen Proving Ground – Not represented**

## **Military Alliance President Remarks**

### **Army Alliance (AA) – Tony Lisuzzo, President**

- The Army Alliance hosted its annual breakfast meeting on 1 December with retired Command Sergeant Major of the Army Daniel Dailey as the keynote speaker.
- The Army Alliance is coordinating legislative staff visits in the next few weeks.
- The new Harford County Executive has expressed intent to partner closely with the Army Alliance.

### **Fort Meade Alliance (FMA) – Joe Pacileo, President**

- The eleven year FMA Foundation initiative and \$5.1M gift proffer to the Army to refurbish and outfit Kuhn Hall as an Education and Resiliency Center was celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony on 17 Nov. The Kuhn Hall services will be available to active duty, retired military and military family members.
- The FMA annual president's holiday reception for members is scheduled for 15 Dec at the BWI Hilton.
- The FMA speakers program will resume with events scheduled for January and March.

### **Maritime Technology Alliance (MTA) – Bob Keane, President**

- The MTA has been busy in advocating much needed Coast Guard Yard improvements.
- The Center for Innovation in Ship Design recently celebrated its 20-year anniversary at Carderock.

### **Military Alliance Council (MAC) – Steve Mitchell, President**

- NSWC Indian Head is returning to pre-COVID routines. Restarting early 2023 will be the State of the Installation forums with the local community. MAC is facilitating now.

### **Southern Maryland Naval Alliance (SMNA) – Tom Garrison, President**

- NAS Pax and the surrounding community are united as one.

### **Fort Detrick Alliance (FDA) – Not represented**

### **Andrews Business & Community Alliance (ABCA) – Not represented**

## **Conclusion**

Ms. Swoboda thanked those in attendance for participation and for staying beyond the scheduled finish. Expect the next MMIC to be scheduled in early April. Ms. Swoboda adjourned the session at 12:20 pm.

### **Enclosures:**

MMIC Agenda 12.09.2022

MMIC Slides 12.09.2022

MMIC Attendee List 12.09.2022