

MARYLAND MILITARY INSTALLATION COUNCIL

Monday, 10 June 2024; 0830-1145
Meeting Minutes

The second MMIC meeting of 2024 was conducted in-person at the state government building at 100 Community Place, Crownsville, MD. The session included Chairman's introductory remarks, briefings on BWI Airline Service, DOD S&T program impact in Maryland, the Army Chesapeake Bay Strategy, update on the Blue Star Families annual survey, plus updates from the Maryland installation and base commanders, from the military alliance presidents, and from state agency members of the MMIC. Total attendance was 65.

Opening Comments

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 the MMIC cabinet members in attendance.

Chairman's Introductory Remarks

Secretary of Commerce Kevin Anderson

- Secretary Anderson noted that Governor Moore declared this as the year of the military family, with numerous legislative initiatives in support, including:
 - Time to Serve Act
 - Maryland Join Forces Campaign
 - Employment, Food & Housing
 - SB214 to expand the MMIC, including adding a military spouse
- Establishment of a new website to promote tourism and attract workforce, liveworkmaryland.com, to address Maryland's workforce concerns.
- He noted a recent visit to Aberdeen Proving Ground as impressive and fascinating, and expressed intent to visit more of our installations.
- Provided an update on the Key Bridge situation, noting that the full channel will be open soon and volume at the Port of Baltimore will ramp up again. Recognized that there are 9,000 workers at the Port and that the state is providing funding to support port employees unable to work.

BWI Airline Service for the Military

Jordan Kayloe, Director of Air Service Development

- Mr. Kayloe provided an overview of how BWI airport engages airlines to broaden service to locations that military and families frequent.
- Among notable statistics, BWI traffic was 26.2M passengers last year, 70% on Southwest.
- Data was presented on where fliers through BWI reside - an equal amount between the DC and metro Baltimore area.
- Air Service Development manages sales between airlines and the airport, to increase the number of routes at BWI for business and leisure travelers and grow traffic for unserved and underserved routes, which increases competition among airlines, lowering airfares.
- Important for Air Service Development to understand the regional market and the needs of local travelers to pitch that data to the airlines; asked for feedback from the community on in-demand or needed routes.

Keynote Speaker: DOD S&T Program, with focus on Maryland

Jagadeesh Pamulapati, PhD, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Science & Technology (S&T)

Foundations

- Dr. Pamulapati has oversight and policy for all DOD foundational S&T initiatives, advocating for laboratory infrastructure, supporting S&T workforce, and leading research development.
- Reviewed the DOD S&T enterprise (see attached charts).
- Key takeaways from the presentation:
 - There are 16 Communities of Interest (COI) technology areas that the DoD is interested in, including Autonomous vehicles, Space, Cyber, Biomedical research, Advanced Electronics, Air Platforms, and more.
 - Mr. Pamulapati provided information on the DoD laboratory space in Maryland.
 - Highlighted two funding programs:
 - The DoD's Central Laboratory Investment Program (CLIP) program which supports infrastructure needs and noted two CLIP locations in Maryland at Adelphi (AI) and Indian Head (Combustion).
 - Laboratories also have authority to take up to 4% of funding for reinvestment in workforce, research, infrastructure or tech transfer via the FLEX 4 program. Two examples of FLEX-4 spending in MD at DEVCOM ARL for Electromagnetic Bioeffects program and at NSWC IHEODTD for novel propulsion systems.
 - Presented on the landscape of federally funded research and development centers and university affiliated research centers. One of the oldest and largest UARCs is JHU APL. Also noted ARLIS's work in human behavioral sciences for intelligence security agencies within the DoD.
 - Provided an overview of the SBIR/STTR program and the OSD Transitions SBIR Technologies (OTST) office which creates a transition pipeline for early-stage technologies, maturing to prototype level, and generating partnerships with program offices for eventual incorporation.
 - SBIR/STTR awardees in MD: nearly \$8M in Phase 1 funding, \$50M in Phase 2
 - Provided an overview of the DoD's Basic Research Office, including Technical and International Programs, Diversity, STEM programs, Research Policy and BRO oversight.
 - BRO provides grants to Universities - UMD and JHU APL have eight active grants collectively.
 - investment in Maryland HBCUs/MIs, including work at Morgan State, establishing it as Center for Excellence in Materials Science and elevation award for increasing the amount of research funding received (R1 v R2).
 - Reviewed DoD STEM programs and research leveraging labs and partner orgs managing programs for the K-20 education level, reaching about 1M students and 40k educators.
 - Reviewed Critical Technology Areas (CTA) for DoD - Secretary established 14 CTAs, manage four of those areas, and the other 10 are managed by other Asst Secretaries. Largest investment in MD is in non-CTA areas but has potential to be CTAs.
 - See website: <https://www.ctoinnovation.mil/>
- Q&A:
 - Q (Ivan Caplan): What's the process for identifying gaps in S&T areas and opportunities? Annual?
 - A: CTAs are reviewed on a four-year cycle and that informs the NDAA. COIs will be reviewed on an annual basis including gaps in those areas.
 - Q (Kevin Anderson): Rankings by state for investment?
 - A: Can generate that data if there is interest.

- Q (Krist Zimmerman): With the upcoming NDAA, where will DoD's increase push for innovation, where will this impact S&T Foundations?
 - A: One of the largest offices and will see that with S&T Foundations through NDAA. Budget will maintain its funding in the innovation space.
- Q (Bob Keane): NSWC CD must find funding for naval facilities upkeep. Does S&T Foundations have an overview of this?
 - A: Referenced Tidal Basin and mentioned that Flex 4 funding can be utilized to maintain the upkeep of facilities like this. Depending on lab leadership to explore partnerships and expand partnerships and what can be done considering the budgets are largely flat.
- Q (Col Marsh): From the Army's perspective on energy modernization and resilience, what is S&T's perspective on next-generation technology? Is DHA research in another office; where does that fit in?
 - A: There is a separate office for energy modernization, the Acquisition and Sustainment office. But S&T Foundations does have an office on energy generation and storage, but the focus is on the battlefield, not lab. DHA was included on the map presented and does have oversight of their investments via the executive steering committee. Recognized that medical research is a sizable investment for DoD.
- Q (Lisa): What is being done to address the valley of death after SBIR phase 2?
 - A: The undersecretary for the research and engineering office is looking into how to overcome the valley of death to enable small scale production. Two programs available: Acceleration, Procurement, and Building of Innovative Technologies (APFIT) that focuses on taking small and nontraditional businesses and looking at their technologies and taking them to small scale production. The other program is with the Office of Strategic Capital looking at how to partner with small businesses, providing loans to get them to production state. The transition program in S&T is focused on earlier stages.
- Q (Dale Moore): How to anticipate the future battlespace and technologies needed for future force design and architecture since technologies are changing so rapidly?
 - A: S&T Foundations is focused on the very early stage to see what is coming up and what can be adapted. What capabilities can be demonstrated in the future? Looking at new models, Defense Innovation Unit, SBIR/STTR, etc., and using foundational research to find applications for the DoD. It is difficult, but learning lessons through overseas engagement in Ukraine and Middle East conflict and having to adjust accordingly. We took air dominance for granted in the past, but it is no longer guaranteed, and will need to look at workarounds. Divine from peer adversaries and their capabilities to gain strategic dominance.

U.S. Army Chesapeake Bay Strategy

Anisha Downs, Assistant for Environmental Compliance, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment

- See attached charts
- The Navy is the lead for the Chesapeake Bay action team and Ms. Down's office represents the Army. The Navy was involved in the development of the strategy.
- Ms. Downs provided the Army's goals for the Chesapeake Bay strategy, including restoring and sustaining the Bay and tributaries water quality, restoring and sustaining living resources and healthy habitats on Army installations, strengthening stormwater management practices to maintain a healthy watershed, and foster Chesapeake Bay Stewardship.

- Next steps are to develop and execute the implementation through Army installation environmental staff to execute strategy recommendations.
- Provided a website for the project to view the project storymap: <https://denix.osd.mil/army-chesapeake>
- During a brief Q&A session, a request from Secretary Flora to connect Ms. Downs with the State's commissions on the Chesapeake Bay.

Networking Break 10:00-10:15

Blue Star Families: Annual Military Families Survey

Yolanda Rayford, Director, Baltimore/Chesapeake Chapter, Blue Star Families

- Ms. Rayford provided information on Blue Star Families and reviewed the 2023 MD Blue Star Families survey results. Focus areas included spouse employment, childcare, food insecurity, health care and social ties. (See executive summary provided. Full survey results are available at this link: <https://bluestarfam.org/research/mfls-2023/>)
- The survey period was for March 15th and May 27th, 2023.
- Thematically, the biggest issues remain: financial challenges, housing concerns, and the impact of PCS on children's education.
- Most respondents are spouses and family members of active-duty service members.
- Most respondents say they need childcare, and many cannot work due to the cost of childcare.
- 13% of respondents report food insecurity and require the use of food pantries and other services.
- 36% of respondents report waiting two months or more for healthcare.
- The number of respondents reporting that they would recommend military service to family or friends is going down.

Q&A Session:

- Q (Krist Zimmerman): How to help Blue Star Families get more respondents?
 - A: For 2024 there are going to be around 9k respondents; survey results are yet to be released. Since they have begun the Blue Star Families survey, they have received over 100k responses. From the receipt of information, not all the responses will count. They communicate information about the survey to potential respondents, and there are barriers which they are looking to address.
- Q (Sec Flora): Can you drill down further on childcare data?
 - A: Does not have that statistic at hand.
 - Sec Flora notes childcare is a statewide and national issue, and Blueprint for Education is looking at Childcare and how it affects employment.
- Q (Lisa): On average, a third of respondents are paying more for housing than the BAH. Is that specific to MD?
 - A: National data. Will send more data to attendees via email. Comprehensive data on the Blue Star Families survey is on the website, and encourages attendees to visit.
- Q (Lisa): What is the source of the new question on social engagement and interaction?
 - A: Added that question post-COVID19 pandemic to address mental health challenges identified in the 2022 survey. A number of programs and services have been provided to address these concerns, and this question was added to assess social engagement impact.
- Q (CAPT Schwarz): The Spouse Employment Act and a lot of other activities focused on addressing other concerns for military families, but what other actions are happening to address these concerns?

- A: Blue Star Families has over 100 employees working remotely and are implementing an Action Plan. Our government relations team has been lobbying for legislative changes to address childcare.
- Q (Matt Scassero): A lot of these issues are being addressed through other organizations like MOAA. Is Blue Star Families partnering with other advocacy organizations?
 - A: Yes, the data within the annual survey is shared with those organizations and it is an all-hands effort requiring collaboration. Working with MOAA, Hire our Heroes, etc.

Maryland Military Installation Commander Updates

Aberdeen Proving Ground – COL Phil Mundweil, Garrison Commander

- APG Senior Mission Commander, MG Edmunson, had a change of command and retirement ceremony on 7 June. The incoming commander, BG James Turinetti will assume command on 28 Jun.
- A ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new Biomanufacturing Facility in the Edgewood area is scheduled for 12 Jun. This site will produce essential materials for energetics and other projects, addressing EO to support a regional biomanufacturing economy.
- The 249th Army birthday will be celebrated on 14 June. The Ironbirds (Aberdeen baseball team) will host a military appreciation night with fireworks on the 14th.
- The Army Test & Evaluation Command will host a change of command for MG Gallivan on 10 July. The Network Cross-Functional Team will also host a change of command this summer.
- DEVCOM will host a legislative visit to APG on July 18th to display new weapons systems being tested on APG via DEVCOM.

Fort Detrick – COL Ned Marsh, Garrison Commander

- On June 18th Rachel Jacobsen, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment will preside at a ribbon cutting ceremony to a Battery Energy Storage initiative on leased Ft. Detrick property. Will help meet the installation's energy needs.
- \$32M has been obligated for destruction of the old steam plant.
- The Forest Glen Annex commissary building needs structural upgrades, requiring temporary closure. More to follow as a decision is made as to whether it can be corrected.
- BG Bailey, the Ft. Detrick Senior Mission Commander, will change command with incoming MG Modi on July 10th.
- COL Marsh recognized the impact of the MMIC, and thanked those who have provided support during his tenure. He will change command on July 23rd.

Fort Meade – COL Michael Sapp, Garrison Commander

- COL Sapp will change command with incoming COL Yolanda Gore on 6 Aug, the first female garrison commander of Fort Meade.
- The new solar array at Fort. Meade apparently cannot be connected to the local grid because Ft. Meade is not officially a Maryland municipality. Need to address with BGE.
- Three of the eight Maryland Purple Star Schools are in the Fort Meade cluster.
- Fort Meade is supporting Anne Arundel County in application for a DoD resiliency grant through the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC) for an installation resilience review.
- Recognized that a recent fire in the housing area of Fort Meade had three fire departments from 12 locations, including BWI, respond and this showcased the interconnectedness of the community and how key those relationships are.
- The Cooper Avenue upgrades will start with a ground-breaking ceremony.
- The Fort Meade “Red, White & Blue” celebration is scheduled for 28 June.

Naval Support Activity (NSA) Annapolis – CAPT Christopher Schwarz, Commanding Officer, and also interim Commanding Officer NSA South Potomac (Indian Head and Dahlgren)

- The Navy is responding to a lawsuit on weapons testing in the Potomac due to testing done by NSF Dahlgren that impacts the river, which is in Maryland's territory. The Navy is working with MDE to pursue a permit to continue weapons testing.
- Lots of concert events at NSA Annapolis and NSASP Dahlgren.
- NSA South Potomac is participating in a requested traffic study at Indian Head between the main gate and route 227 intersection on route 210. The community, led by the Southern Maryland Tri county Council, has submitted an installation resilience grant to the DOD's Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation. This resulted from significant gate crashes at the entrance gate, as well as the increased traffic on the road area resulting from the installation growth.
- NSA Annapolis continuing efforts to improve resiliency at Greenbury Point through berm and shoreline restoration efforts. Hosted MD CoDel staffers to tour resilience projects at Academy. Working on the seawall but need more funding.
- An RV park will be established as a part of Greenbury; town hall at NEX to discuss this on Wednesday.
- Pursuing renewable energy at the old Dairy Farm; industry day this Thursday to discuss what is possible. Hosted two community events working with Gambrills community and working with the county to see what else they want to see at the Dairy Farm.

Naval Support Activity Bethesda – CAPT Alan Christian, Commanding Officer

- We have ongoing construction which causes changing traffic patterns. Looking for opportunities to partner with the public to address road issues.
- We have focused on QOL initiatives, with improvements in barracks and MWR programs.
- Hosted Earth Day with Montgomery County for tree planting.
- Conducting periodic joint exercises with community law enforcement.
- Currently hiring for childcare positions.
- Our long-range planning includes transportation and parking solutions.

Naval Surface Warfare Center Carderock – Dave Drezen, Chief Technology Officer

- CAPT Tardy has been alerted to a new assignment. Uncertain on who will be the incoming commander, or when that will occur.
- Renamed the main conference facility building after Ray Montaghue, the Hidden Figure of the Navy Ship Modeling design. The renaming required SECNAV approval.
- This summer NSWCCD is hosting 154 students, in several different capacities.
- Regarding Tech Transfer, recently signed a Partnership Intermediary Agreement to continue to develop the ship design community as the Navy tries to design the next destroyer.

Naval Air Station (NAS) Patuxent River– CAPT Douglas Burfield, Commanding Officer

- Held an event at NAS Pax River for local high school graduating students at the recreation center, funded by MD State's Attorney's Office. This is a long-standing tradition with the St Mary's schools and the installation.
- Southern Maryland has two Purple Star schools within the NAS Pax River cluster.
- NAS Pax has awarded a 50-year facilities privatization contract for water & sewer service and maintenance.

Joint Base Andrews – Col. Todd Randolph, Installation and 316th Wing Commander

- In April JBA hosted a State of the Base event with local leaders and elected officials.
- Every service is represented on base, including the MD State Troopers. The 89th airlift wing greets AF One. The 113th national guard also on JBA patrols Capitol airspace. The 459th Reserve

Air Fueling Wing refuels aircraft in the air as needed, a strategic enterprise to support global reach. All these missions require support.

- The Andrews Business and Community Alliance has been helpful in advocating for the installation and QOL initiatives. They provide a bridge to business leaders and legislators. Recognized their work at Imagine Andrews charter school.
- JBA hosted Earth Week activities in April and recognized MDE's support of those events, as well as National Police Week observation in May, on which the base partnered with PG County police.
- This week Lt. Gov. Miller will speak at the Small Business Conference hosted by JBA.
- On 9-11 July JBA will support the NATO Summit in DC, with 39 countries landing aircraft at JBA.
- Col. Randolph's change of command ceremony is scheduled for 2 July.

Maryland National Guard – COL Craig Hunter, representing The Adjutant General, Maryland Military Department

- Initiated an educational partnership in April with University of Maryland Eastern Shore.
- Notified on 6 June that Maryland will be designated for a STARBASE program to be located at Martin State Airport. This is a STEM program that provides students with real world applications of technology.
- MDNG will host a business and elected leader flight day at Weide Airfield (Aberdeen Proving Ground, Edgewood Area) on 12 June to promote awareness of the MDNG and strengthen relationships with the community.

Coast Guard Yard – Not represented

Army Corps of Engineers – Not represented

Military Alliance President Remarks

Army Alliance (AA) – Mike Ray, President

- The Army Alliance held its annual dinner meeting on 3 June. Maryland Senator Dawn Gile was the featured speaker, with a message on legislative initiatives to support Maryland military families.
- On 29 April, the Alliance's legislative lead was in DC meeting with CoDel staffers for MD, DC, PA, and DE. The Alliance is assisting in the formation of a Maryland Defense Research Coalition to advocate for a legislative amendment to enable the Chemical Biological Center to conduct certain types of chemical agent R&D.
- The Alliance is supporting a Harford County/APG resiliency grant application to the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation for a military installation resilience review.
- With a large turnover in APG senior leadership this summer, the Alliance will provide orientation briefings to incoming leaders.

Fort Detrick Alliance (FDA) – Jennifer Staiger, President

- The Alliance is engaging business and military leaders in "Business Before Hours" and "Business After Hours" events. Upcoming event on 27 June from 5-7 pm. This is one way for businesses to get engaged with installation leadership and build contractual relationships.
- The 15th annual Tech Showcase is scheduled for 17 October. This event also contributes to relationships with Ft. Detrick tenant organizations and local defense businesses.

Fort Meade Alliance (FMA) – Tim O'Ferrall, Executive Director

- FMA is in the midst of a pilot program, the Career Transition program, to assist service members transitioning into their next careers. There were 109 applicants in pilot year; 50 participated in a “hiring day” event; and 35 received offers. Funding is available to continue next year.
- The “Friends of Meade” initiative is funded by a local development council to support schools in the Fort Meade cluster. Included is funding for two teachers for a summer internship at Fort Meade.
- The FMA program “Business in a Minute” was recently completed with NSA. The DISA session is scheduled.
- Annual meeting will be held on 13 June where they will say a farewell to Col Sapp.

Maritime Technology Alliance (MTA) – Bob Keane, President

- Working with Carderock, Navy, and the congressional delegation to reconstitute the former world-class ship design capabilities.
- Also working on funding for a new dry dock at the Coast Guard Yard, with preliminary dredging of Curtis Creek. Hoping to get funds added to Key Bridge initiatives to address this work.
- Providing continued support to several STEM initiatives:
 - Let’s Go Boy & Girls
 - Biannual International Submarine Races
 - Maritime Digital Harbor Program

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

- Recent briefing of the Governor at NAS Pax River supported by Bonnie Green with The Patuxent Partnership.
- Dale Moore will become SMNA’s new president.
- SMNA will have a role in the new MD Aerospace Commission.
- Introduced Bonnie Green, who described the summer internship program, starting today with a cohort of 43 interns. Of the 41 who participated last year, 10 continued with employment on the base.

Andrews Business & Community Alliance (ABC) – James Estepp Jr, President

- Thanked Secretary Anderson and Lisa for their support. Celebrated their 20th anniversary last Friday; Steny Hoyer attended the celebration.
- Recognized Col. Randolph’s leadership and that his change of command is rapidly approaching.
- “Imagine Andrews” was renewed for another five years.
- Growing relationships with NDW.

Military Alliance Council (MAC) – Not represented

State Agency Closing Remarks

Department of Environment – Scott Goldman, Chief of Staff

- Nothing new or significant to report but invites commanders to connect.

Veterans and Military Families – Ross Cohen, Deputy Secretary

- The Department won a U.S. Chamber of Commerce award for military spouse employment initiative, Hire our Heroes.

State Department of Education - Mary Gable, Assistant Superintendent

- Maryland now has eight purple star schools. Applications will go out late Summer and early Fall. Currently getting the message out to local superintendents and networks. The Governor attended a MD Purple Star Schools celebration.
- The state participates in several interstate compacts.
- Continuing work on the issue of professional license reciprocity for military spouses.

Department of Planning - Secretary Rebecca Flora

- Thanks to all who contributed to the development of the Military Compatibility website, which is a one-stop-shop for any planning efforts involving our military installations. MDP received an award from the American Planning Association's Federal Planning Division for this work, most of which was completed last year.
- Planning operates SDAT site and US Census Bureau data; when looking for surveys, or data, come to Planning for support for planning concerns.
- Resiliency is also a huge goal for planning via sustainable growth subcabinet and goals. Looking at how to grow sustainably and development practices that support that.

Department of Labor – Ms. Portia Wu, Secretary of Labor - Not represented**Department of Transportation – Not represented**

Announcement: Karen Holt announced that the Association of Defense Communities will host an “ADC Connect” forum on partnerships on 25 July in DC and the Installation Innovation Forum in October in San Antonio.

Conclusion

Ms. Swoboda thanked those in attendance for participation, announced that the next MMIC meeting is planned for December, and adjourned the session at 11:45 am.

Enclosures:

MMIC Agenda 6.10.24
MMIC Slides 6.10.24
MMIC Attendee List 6.10.24