Maryland Military Installation Council Annual Report for 2009

Overview

In accordance with Maryland HB 1700, effective July 1, 2006, this constitutes the annual report of the Maryland Military Installation Council (MMIC). The MMIC met three times during 2009: May 11, October 2 and November 9. All the meetings were chaired by the Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED) Secretary Christian Johansson. DBED's Office of Military and Federal Affairs continued to provide direct support, including an encroachment analysis which was published this Fall, and coordinates actions associated with the MMIC.

The Council continues to be a forum for community, military installation, business, state agency and elected official dialogue on issues associated with Maryland's bases. In the past few years the issues have focused on implementation of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) decisions, however the Council also provides a forum for non-BRAC related issues, including encroachment, public-private partnering and best practices. Reviewing encroachment issues and best practices associated with military facility interaction are specific HB 1700 reporting requirements. The May 11th meeting featured panels reviewing the building trades’ challenges and opportunities, and the status of BRAC actions at Fort George G. Meade, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Andrews Air Force Base, National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, and Fort Detrick. The October 2nd meeting focused on organizations moving to Maryland, including the Defense Information Services Agency (DISA), moving to Fort George G. Meade; and Fort Monmouth C4ISR, move to Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG). A portion of the November 9th meeting was devoted to an encroachment presentation by Mr. Clark Tyler on the Maryland Encroachment Report. The meeting featured an update on Small Business and Minority Business Opportunities, and private sector updates since the spring 2008 MMIC meeting.

Brief summaries of the three 2009 meetings are provided below. Detailed outlines are available by contacting DBED's Office of Military and Federal Affairs at 410-767-6321.
May 11, 2009 Meeting

The Maryland Military Installation Council met May 11, 2009 at the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) headquarters in Crownsville. The meeting was chaired by DBED Secretary Johansson, with over 100 attendees including Senator Ben Cardin, Congressmen John Sarbanes and Frank Kratovil, secretaries of state agencies, installation commanders, and congressional staff.

Senator Cardin represented that BRAC means growth in Maryland more than any other State because Maryland has strong leadership from the Governor and considerable other assets. He acknowledged the leadership, efforts and accomplishments of BGen Hayes and said Maryland must continue to plan for BRAC and future rounds of BRAC. Senator Cardin thanked the DoD for the security of the country and he said he is proud of what Maryland’s military facilities are doing for our national defense. He warned that the Federal appropriation process will be difficult and that transportation issues are our top priorities. He closed by acknowledging Senator Mikulski’s role as leader of Team Maryland.

Senator Cardin was followed by panels reviewing the building trades’ challenges and opportunities, and the status of BRAC actions at Fort George G. Meade, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Andrews Air Force Base, National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, and Fort Detrick. The Building Trades Panel included Eric Seleznow, Executive Director, Governor’s Workforce Investment Board, Martin G. Knott, Jr. President, Knott Mechanical, and member, Governor’s Workforce Investment Board, and Ron DeJuliis, Commissioner of Labor & Industry, DLLR.

The remaining panels varied in composition but generally included military commanders, regional BRAC coordinators and presidents of local military alliances. In each panel the issues were generally meeting established guidelines, and the concerns centered on transportation infrastructure and workforce development - particularly the difficulty of finding technical graduates capable of obtaining a security clearance. The regional BRAC panels were followed by updates from the presidents of the Southern Maryland Navy, Indian Head, and Maritime Defense Alliances.

A Legislative Session review was provided by Senator John Astle and Representative John Bohannon. Secretary Jim Adkins, Adjutant General, Veterans Affair briefed on activities of the Maryland National Guard and was followed by brief updates from state agencies and congressional staff.
October 2, 2009 Meeting

The Maryland Military Installation Council met October 2, 2009 at the DHCD headquarters in Crownsville. DBED Secretary Christian Johansson chaired the meeting.

DBED Secretary Christian Johansson opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and describing the need for a statewide plan for the Federal Facilities in Maryland. There are 18 Military Bases and 53 Federal Facilities in Maryland. The plan is to create a Federal Facilities Advisory Board and to replicate the military base initiative onto the federal facilities. By focusing on procurement and technology transfer, the impact on Maryland would be substantial. The Secretary was followed with a summary of BRAC Subcabinet activities presented by the Subcabinet's Executive Director.

Comments associated with Maryland's BRAC transportation issues were then made by special guest Congressman John Sarbanes. He said the continued focus must be on transportation, and spoke about the intersections near Fort George G. Meade, including Reese, Rockenbach and Disney Roads; and the funding for those projects. Congressman Sarbanes was followed by Kurt Sommers, BRAC Coordinator for DHCD who gave the Maryland DHCD Program Updates, including DHCD’s BRAC outreach activities, the tax credit exchange program, and the Anne Arundel County housing study.

The Council then heard from the organizations moving to Maryland. Mr. Jo Re, Defense Information Services Agency (DISA), moving to Fort George G. Meade, commented that construction began in April 2008; DISA will start moving in October, 2010, and will complete the move no later than September 2011. Additionally, he said their workforce increased by 6%, and their number one concerns are transportation and finding the workforce.

Mr. Raoul Cordeaux, Fort Monmouth, moving to APG, briefed that C4ISR is moving 7,400-7,500 civilians down to APG from Fort Monmouth, and C4ISR is planning a four phase move: Phase 1 early relocation (32 positions) 2007-2008; Phase 2 340 positions 2009; Phase 3 - 1,275 positions 2010; Phase 4 – Main move into facilities 2011-2012. Phase I Campus Status: $477m Contract; 9 new buildings consisting of 1.5 million square feet; and it is 2-3 months ahead of schedule. Phase II Campus Status: first contract awarded 4/20/09; the major facility contract to be awarded Aug-Sep 2009; and projected “Move In” late February 2011.

The Alliance Presidents, including Dennis Chappell, President, the Indian Head Defense Alliance; Richard Metrey, President, Maritime Alliance; Todd Morgan, President, Southern MD Navy Alliance; James Estepp, representing Andrews Business Alliance; Barney Michel, President, Army Alliance, Aberdeen Proving Ground; Rosemary Budd, President, Fort Meade Alliance; and George Lewis, President, Fort Detrick Alliance gave updates on activities involving their respective alliances.

The Alliance presentations were followed by updates from the Regional BRAC Coordinators, including Wanda Plumer – Prince George’s County; Karen Holt –CSSC, (APG);
and Bob Lieb – Anne Arundel County. Each coordinator spoke about issues impacting their respective areas. Local roads and transportation was an overriding concern.

Maryland State Agencies provided updates, including Marie Halka, Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE); Andy Scott, Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT); Linda James, Maryland Department of Planning (MDP); Andy Moser, Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR); Wendell Sutton, Governor’s Office of Minority Affairs (GOMA); Dr. James Lyons, Maryland Department of Higher Education (MHEC).

The October 2 meeting concluded with comments by MMIC member Delegate Mary-Dulaney James, and Maryland congressional staff.

November 9, 2009 Meeting

The November 9 meeting was held at DH&CD and was chaired by DBED Secretary Christian Johansson. He briefly spoke about the progress Maryland is making in preparing for BRAC, including ground breaking at the Northgate Business Park, workforce preparation from Maryland’s higher education system and the country’s number one rated school system. Opening comments were made by the MMIC Executive Director who spoke about encroachment issues affecting Maryland’s bases, and the OEA Encroachment Conference held in Orlando November 2, 2009.

Following the opening comments Mr. Clark Tyler briefed the Council on the Maryland Encroachment Report and its seventeen attachments; and Maryland’s Department heads gave an update on their respective BRAC initiatives. DLLR Assistant Secretary, Andy Moser, spoke about workforce events the department is conducting; Marie Halka of MDE spoke about outreach to the communities and student training; Linda James of the MDP spoke about providing assistance to the local communities especially working with MDOT; Mary Gable of MSDE, spoke about the issues involved with students of military families transferring in and out of schools; General Adkins, Adjutant General, briefed on seminars with Towson University, especially about training; and Andy Moser of DLLR spoke about maximizing the number of transfer jobs that are coming with BRAC.

APG’s Garrison Commander, Col Andrew Nelson, updated the Council on the construction progress of the C4ISR facilities. Phase I campus is 80% complete with turn-over in less than 6 months, and the FY ’09 construction program is 95% complete.

An update on Small Business and Minority Business Opportunities was provided by Luwanda Jenkins, Special Secretary, Governor’s Office of Minority Affairs and Kent Menser, Howard County BRAC Coordinator. Ms. Jenkins spoke about the BRAC Small and Minority Business Opportunities Study, the updated Business Resource Guide, and a couple of contracting
successes for minority businesses. Kent Menser spoke about the Regional Growth Management Committee (RGMC) initiating the BRAC Business Initiative (BBI). He gave its Mission Statement, the BBI participants, and the criticality of small business to the region.

Private sector updates from the spring 2008 MMIC meeting were provided by Booz Allen Hamilton and L3 for activity associated with Fort George G. Meade, Battelle and MITRE for Aberdeen Proving Ground, and by Battelle and SAIC for Fort Detrick. The overriding message and issue from all three areas was the need to retain and realign workforce, find interns and graduate engineers and information technology specialists, and develop training programs. Also mentioned were the need for road improvements and the need to retain quality of life. Mitzi Gruarino of SAIC’s office at Fort Detrick gave an update on its’ new Advance Technology Research Facility which is being constructed, including the 17 acre research campus, the 330,000 square foot facility, the ability to expand to 800,000 square Feet delivery of the building shell to SAIC-Frederick in August 2010, the special purpose fit-out of the building from September 2010 to October 2011, and its occupancy by NCI-Frederick staff in October 2011.

Regional BRAC Coordinators then provided issue updates on progress at the APG; Andrews Air Force Base; National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda; Fort George G. Meade; and Fort Detrick. Most comments centered on transportation requirements.

The meeting concluded with updates from the alliance presidents, and congressional staff.