



## **Military Engagement Feedback Session #1**

**Date:** Wednesday, October 20, 2021

**Time:** 2:00 – 3:30 PM

**Location:** Microsoft Teams

### **Attendees:**

Jim Estep	Andrews Business & Community Alliance
Pam Frank	Military Alliance Council
Carl Pritchard	Fort Detrick
Steve Tkacik	NRL Chesapeake Bay
Sarah Diehl	Maryland Department of Planning
Joe Griffiths	Maryland Department of Planning
Chuck Boyd	Maryland Department of Planning
Jennifer Chiasson	Maryland Department of Commerce
Eric Spillman	Spillman Consulting
Anson Blackall	SIA Solutions
Rhiannon Schweitzer	SIA Solutions
Cyrena Eitler	Stantec

The first feedback session of the military engagement group was held using Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, October 20, 2021. The purpose of this meeting was to provide an overview of the compatible use project and public outreach methodology, receive input on content creation and existing resources, and receive input on compatible use best practices and success stories at the regional, local, and installation levels. This meeting also provided an opportunity to share the draft mockup of the compatible use website.

The following items were discussed (by agenda item):

### **1. Introductions**

- Introductions included a discussion of how/if participants interact with or support the communities surrounding their affiliated military installation and any additional information they would like to learn about the project.

### **2. Overview and Purpose of the Compatible Use Project:**

- Sarah provided a brief overview of compatible use and how the project team is framing the discussion of the issue across stakeholder groups. Issues with compatible development spans beyond that of just the military, i.e., highways, airports, etc. The discussion was followed by an overview of the project, including the stakeholder involvement process, and public outreach methodology.

### **3. Desired Goals & Outcomes of Feedback Sessions**

- Anson elaborated that the purpose of these feedback sessions is to identify additional resource gaps, share additional resources, and also expand our audience. The project team is very interested in other tools and resources that can be included as part of the website and handbook and it is very important that we engage with other stakeholders to gain insight outside the military realm to make sure we achieve intended project outcomes.

#### 4. Resource Review/Collection

- Anson noted that throughout the project, we have heard a lot about coordination that is happening between the installations and communities and the need for data. We have also looked at the JLUS studies that have been done throughout Maryland; highly recommend looking into those – will find information about available housing, workforce development issues and anything that has an adverse effect on military operations. If you are not familiar with compatible use, that is a great resource to find more information.
- Cyrena noted the Statewide Joint Land Use Response Implementation Strategy that identified strategies and recommendations that the state should focus on to improve compatible use. The appendix provides a lot of insight into what some of the issues are that have been highlighted a priority for further actions.
- Anson asked the group for feedback on resources that they use within their communities or suggestions of areas that we have yet to look into:
  - Steve noted that radio frequency disruption could be an issue; Chesapeake Beach works with the community liaison at NSA Annapolis and provides reactions to issues. He noted that he will think about some of these issues and provide additional feedback that is particularly related to how the installation interacted with surrounding communities.
- Cyrena asked if climate change issues are affecting Maryland’s installations and if resiliency is a big concern?
  - Pam noted that Charles County was the recipient of the Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR) grant; there is a meeting to discuss those issues tomorrow.
    - In particular, one issue that Indian Head faces is that there is only one way in and out at the end of 210. There is a concern with the water and flooding.
    - She also noted that the community has started coming with questions to the Military Alliance Council (MAC) who is linked into different offices.
- Jim noted that there are a lot of opportunities for partnerships. The JLUS at JBA has led to many partnerships, including where the state and county are working with JBA to assist in recycling efforts and pre-pandemic was working with local food banks to support their efforts instead of getting rid of these resources.
  - There has always been great cooperation with DPWT and the state regarding the timing of lights; there has been a great deal of collaboration that has already taken place.
  - He noted they could use more reciprocity measures; the Alliance is working through this process and did not get it in 2021.
    - Lisa Swoboda was working with David Ianucci on this. Senate President Miller was approached in 2018 and he suggested they work with now Senate President Griffith. He offered to send more information to the team.
    - He also added that they wanted to make sure that census data was included when Prince George’s County was proposing projects.
  - Cyrena asked if there was a IGSA in place for JBA?
    - Per Jim no, but they (Andrews Business Community Alliance) serve as the point of continuity between the base, various commanders, and the county.
- Anson asked if there are any other examples of partnerships or collaboration between installations and communities?

- Steve noted that Chesapeake Beach has executed some sea-level rise mitigation actions, including the installation of several thousand feet of rip rap along the water; trying to restore the cliff. He also noted that the installation is pretty small and most of these issues are handled by NSA Annapolis.
- Sarah asked if there is anything about the surrounding communities that participants would like to know that might help create partnerships or better information sharing?
  - Jim noted the Honorary Commander Program that teams community members with corresponding commanders on the base. This is a great way to bring community advocacy groups on base and get to know the mission there while the base gets to know the community. It is a great way to promote outreach between the parties.
  - Pam noted that the MAC is in an educational mode within their community; the community doesn't even really know what the installation does. They are starting a did-you-know campaign to get community residents and leaders more involved with what is going on in the installation and how it affects the community.
- Cyrena noted that during the BRAC process, there were a lot of BRAC actions that affected installations in the state – a major issues was transportation impacts. It was a recommendation for the need for regional transportation authorities, like MPO's, etc. to get the installations more engaged in their regional transportation planning. As they reach out to get input for priority transportation projects, these groups also need to get in touch with the installation to see what their priorities and needs are. Has anyone seen that happen over the last 10-15 years in Maryland?
  - Steve noted that they widened the road in Chesapeake Beach, and it directly impacted their waterfront dock. It was a good experience, the base was approached long before any work was done with drawings, etc. to make sure the mission would not be impacted a lot.
- Steve noted a security concern about all of this information in one place.
  - Per Sarah, there will be a review process with the appropriate parties before anything goes live to ensure that parties are comfortable with the level of information that is being shared.
- Eric reviewed the website outline which can be found at the end of the presentation PDF.
- Anson reiterated the need for contacts and organizations that may also play a part in ensuring compatible use. Please forward to the team if you have any suggestions.

## **5. Next Steps & Wrap-Up**

- The MDP/Spillman teams will be following up on any leads from today's meeting and will use this feedback to inform the tabs on the website. The team will be getting back together with the full stakeholder group in November to present a project update.
- Next feedback session being planned for January 2022. This session will be an opportunity to provide input and feedback on website functionality and design details. The final feedback session will take place in late spring/summer and be a final demonstration of project deliverables.
- MDP has launched a survey effort to get insight on how adjacent communities interact with neighboring military installations around Maryland. Results will the team of other compatibility topics to explore. The survey can be found [here](#) and is open until 12/17.
- Sarah will be sending a copy of the presentation after the meeting.