Comment Form

Environmental Impact Statement for BRAC 2005 Implementation and Master Plan Update at Fort Belvoir, Virginia

NOTE: All information submitted will become public record.

1. Your information:

| Name: |
|----------------------|
| Title: |
| Agency/Organization: |
| Address: |
| City, State, Zip: |
| Phone: |
| E-mail: |
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□ Please send a CD copy of the EIS to me.

2. Please check the one affiliation that best represents your role or interest in the EIS:

| Fort Belvoir Resident | Recreational Organization |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| State Government | Private Citizen |
| School/University | Federal Government |
| Civic Organization | Business/Commercial Organization |
| Federally Recognized Tribe | Environmental Organization |
| □ County | □ Other: |
| | |

3. EIS Areas of Concern. Please check the appropriate boxes and write your specific comments about the area of concern in # 4 below. More Comment Forms are provided at the Comment station if you need additional space.

| Construction | □ Noise |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Traffic and Transportation | □ Native American Resources |
| Cultural Resources/Historic Properties | □ Air Quality |
| Socioeconomics | □ Water Quality |
| D Wetlands, Wildlife, Endangered Species | □ Other: |

4. Please write your comments in the space provided below.

Web Site

Comments may be submitted online at: www.belvoirnewvision.com (click on EIS)

E-mail Comments may be e-mailed to: environmental@belvoir.army.mil

Mail Comments may be mailed to: Attn.: EIS Comments Fort Belvoir Directorate of Public Works 9430 Jackson Loop, Suite 100 Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5116

All comments must be received or postmarked by July 2, 2006 to be considered in preparation of the Draft EIS.

(More comment sheets are available if you need additional space.)

Appendix I

Public Scoping Meeting Attendance Roster

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| Media Sign-in Sheet June 7, 2006 BRAC EIS Scoping Meeting: Fort Belvoir, Virginia If you are a media representative and would like to discuss the proposed action with an Army representative, please sign in here. | Name: Chiel Hngele Organization: MT.V. / Hw. Gage He Address: 909 SI Lee St. J City, State, ZIP: H/exan data VA. 23314 Phone: 203-549-1216 Phone: 203-5 | Name: Organization: Organization: Address: Address: E-mail: City, State, ZIP: E-mail: Phone: E-mail: I would like to receive a CD copy of the EIS. Name: I would like to receive a CD copy of the EIS. Name: Organization: Organization: I would like to receive a CD copy of the EIS. Phone: I would like to receive a CD copy of the EIS. |
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Your information will not be used for any purpose other than to mail a copy of the EIS to you.

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Appendix J

Agency Scoping Meeting Discussion Points and Attendance Roster

Fort Belvoir Agency Scoping Meeting June 7, 2006 1:30PM – Springfield Hilton Hotel – Springfield, VA

Discussion Points

- Will the public have the same input opportunity as the agencies?
 - Yes, using the written comment form or online comment form, via email, or through the court reporter to submit oral comments.
- Will the public have the group forum opportunity as the agencies do this afternoon?
 - No, there will be a formal public hearing later in the EIS process (winter of 2006–2007)
 - All the public comments received throughout the scoping process will be compiled and presented in the Scope of Statement, which will become part of the public record.
 - Ask questions of technical experts
- How will the BRAC EIS and the master plan be coordinated, in particular, the siting of the facilities on Fort Belvoir?
 - The EIS and the master plan are being prepared concurrently.
- The Master Plan needs to be decided first to do NEPA analysis of a preferred alternative.
 - Typically the master planning process is conducted ahead of the EIS process; however, because of the accelerated schedule for implementation of the BRAC actions, the master planning and EIS teams are working closely to coordinate the two efforts.
- If the NEPA process (EIS) reveals issues with the Master Plan's preferred alternative (facility locations) late in the process, (winter 2006–2007), will there be time to change/modify alternatives (facility locations?)
 - Yes, it is possible for the Army to revise alternatives.
 - An EIS can go forth to the Public Draft EIS stage without a preferred alternative and determine a preferred alternative at that point on the basis of public input.
- Will there still be enough time if that happens-it is a very narrow window of time to complete the EIS and master plan.
 - The EIS will analyze the entire footprint for proposed facilities, so some movement of siting of facilities within the footprint could occur without significantly impacting the schedule.
 - If it is determined that the preferred alternative is no longer viable, we will already have done the investigation at other locations (through analysis of other alternatives considered) to determine their suitability for development.
 - If an area is added to an alternative that was not previously considered, the EIS schedule would be affected.

Discussion Points

- Additional follow-up NEPA analysis such as a Supplemental EA could be done if needed for specific sites.
- What about agency coordination?
 - Coordination letters to federal, state, and local agencies will be sent.
 - The Commonwealth of Virginia has a "one stop shop" for distribution of EIS materials (i.e., Public Draft EIS) in which Ms. Ellie Irons of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) coordinates distribution of the EIS to all Virginia agencies.
- What is the relationship between the Belvoir New Vision Planners (BNVP) and the BRAC NEPA Support Team (NST)?
 - There is direct overlap between the two, and consistent coordination and sharing of information between them. In fact there are two firms that are members of both teams.
- The July 7 report will identify site locations of 80 percent of the proposed facilities on Fort Belvoir. The locations of the facilities will change the nature of transportation and infrastructure required to accommodate the facilities. State and local agencies will be impacted by these facility sitings, particularly transportation agencies. We (State and local representatives) need enough time to budget and plan to accommodate growth on Fort Belvoir (roads, rail, etc.). Where will the money come from to fund all these improvements?
 - The BRAC NST will take all concerns back to the planners regarding timing of the Master Plan and EIS and the impact on local agency planning constraints.
- What if the master plan finds that Fort Belvoir *cannot* accommodate the proposed square footage?
 - BNVP has determined that the proposed square footage will fit in multiple configurations. At this time that is not a concern. A screening process to minimize impacts to sensitive environmental areas on Fort Belvoir is also being conducted.
- What is the region of influence of transportation and other impacts of BRAC action analyzed in the EIS? What about mitigation?
 - The region of influence has not been defined at this stage.
 - The EIS will propose mitigation, but will not conduct analysis of the proposed mitigation or implement the mitigation. Who is responsible for the proposed mitigation will depend on what the proposed mitigation is.
- Will there be specific detail in the EIS about the potential for off-post transportation improvements (transportation mitigation)?

Discussion Points

- There will be general recommendations put forth for transportation improvements in the EIS that are based on the results of the impacts analysis.
- There will be a negotiation process between the Army and appropriate agencies to determine funding mechanisms for the required transportation improvements.
- Will the federal government lease office space on Fort Belvoir to the private sector? This would affect local transportation issues/development. The local government needs to be made aware of this decision.
 - Leasing of federal land (Enhanced Use Leases [EULs]) is being considered for developers to construct office space.
- 22,000 *jobs* will be relocated to Fort Belvoir. What about collateral contractors that will be subsequently drawn to Fort Belvoir?
 - This will be addressed in the EIS. Planners are analyzing the issue and will be making estimates. The EIS will also analyze impacts on the local economy, schools, and utilities.
- I'm concerned that the mitigation will not be analyzed, just proposed. How do we know the mitigation will be sufficient?
 - Mitigation measures will be recommended on the basis of the results of the impacts analysis to be conducted as part of the EIS.
- The master plan is to be completed in May 2007. Will the EIS be finalized at this time?
 - Development of the master plan and the Draft EIS are being conducted concurrently.
 - The Public Draft EIS with the master plan update is anticipated to be available in the winter of 2006-2007.
- It would help local agencies/commenting agencies to have interim drafts and comment periods, and longer comment periods. We need to see this document before it is final.
 - The Public Draft EIS will have a 45-day comment period in the Winter of 2006–2007. The Final EIS will have a 30-day comment period in the summer of 2007.
- Will the comments received today be on the BNVP Web site? If so, when?
 - Yes. The comment period ends July 2. Comments received will be included as part of the Scope of Statement report to be posted on the Web site sometime in mid-July.

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Agency Scoping Meeting

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Appendix K

Debriefing Meeting Summary

Following the Public Scoping Meeting, the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Support Team (NST) and the Belvoir New Vision Planners (BNVP) convened for a debriefing meeting. Technical staff from each of the information booths provided comments on issues that the public raised; frequently asked questions, comments, or concerns; and general feedback. Below is a summary of the information gathered at that meeting.

Verbal comments given to the BRAC NST and BNVP at the scoping meeting:

Planning issues

- Commented on planning principles; hope they can be adhered to.
- Wanted to know impacts of significant areas of development for BRAC on Fort Belvoir.
- What would the density of the development proposed for the Engineering Proving Ground (EPG) be, and how would the access roads be aligned?
- Several questions were asked about where things were going to be sited, and the siting process in general.
- Will the new Dewitt Hospital partner with INOVA Fairfax Hospital?
- A gentleman who had formerly worked for the Veterans Administration felt the hospital needs to be at EPG. Keeping the hospital on Main post would be a traffic nightmare, and that EPG was a better location from the transportation aspect.

Transportation issues

- Liked map showing directions and origins of relocated workers.
- Why does there not appear to be a tree buffer being maintained along the western edge of EPG to shield the residential neighborhoods from the Parkway. This [may have] been an agreement made in the past.
- The discussion at the transportation booth was almost exclusively focused on the issue of where people are coming from and whether there is likely to be a significant shift in employee's residential locations. Most citizens the BNVP staff spoke with were satisfied with our sample size and approach. However, the agencies, Fairfax County in particular continues to be very concerned that we do not have a full Zip Code listing of current and incoming employees. While they recognize that while we have about 15,000 Zip Codes from incoming agencies, these were obtained at different times from different sources. The BNVP staff does not believe the overall pattern would change. It has been the similar for years, and how it changes over the next 5 years is driven by several factors. It is unlikely to shift percentages more than 2 to 4 percent from any direction.
- Most citizens seemed supportive of the development but were very concerned or even alarmed that the program would proceed without adequate funding for transportation improvements.
- Most citizens felt extending Metro or some form of rail transit was essential.

- In terms of specific suggestions, most are waiting to see specific proposals and concepts. However, quite a few asked what would be done to Route 1, and there were suggestions to extend a road across Southwest Post parallel to Route 1.
- There was strong support for rail south along Route 1 to Fort Belvoir.
- There were a lot of questions regarding what we would study and how far off-post our studies would go. In that regard it does take up to 6 or 7 miles before traffic destined to Fort Belvoir drops below 10 percent of the traffic flow or becomes insignificant.

Socioeconomic issues

- Wanted to know if the number of housing units on-post will increase.
- What will happen to school enrollment as a result of BRAC influx of personnel into the area?
- Retirees versus active workers: very different perspectives of development.

Environmental issues

- Want to see preservation of the Environmental Quality Corridor (EQC) on EPG and the wildlife refuges on the Main Post.
- Could the EQC be open to public access? A past agreement Fort Belvoir made to delineate and adopt the EQC and the refuges was cited.
- Want to continue to have or allow public access to Accotink Creek
- Wanted to know why the Accotink Bay Wildlife Refuge was being shown on a display board as "secondary development area." Did not agree with that area being indicated for development.
- General questions were asked about existing environmental conditions. One person seemed most interested in conservation of shoreline areas and eagle habitats.
- Several people were concerned with the maintenance of the wildlife corridor through the installation. One person asked what effect the connector road would have on the corridor.

Cultural issues

• One resident lives within the Mount Air historic overlay district. Her house is directly across the street from the North Post Golf Course and was concerned by its development. She wants to retain the wooded scene presented by the golf course. She was also concerned about the idea that the hospital would be moved off of South Post. She feels that having the hospital on Main Post is more convenient for both patients and visitors as they have access to the PX, Officers' Club, and so on. That would not be the case if the hospital were to move to EPG.

Scoping issues

- This process is not far enough along to be able to provide substantive comments.
- A representative of the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia provided a letter of scoping comments to the BRAC NST.
- Copies of the display boards were requested to be made available on the BNVP Web site.

Other notes

- Media representatives were in attendance, including reporters from the *Washington Post* and *Mount Vernon Gazette*. Overall reaction from the media was positive
- Some members of the public questioned if this all there is. Data is lacking and there was no formal public forum or presentation.

Appendix L

Submitted Comments

| Date Received 6 /7 /2006 | Comment From: Scoping Meeting | : | | Comment Type Submitted in writing at meeting |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Attended Scoping Meetin | Requests Na | me in Adn | nin Recor Rec | uests Copy of El 🔽 |
| Commentor Type State Government | | Commen | tor Type Other De | scription |
| First Name Vivian | Last Name Watts | Telephone (703)978-2989 | | |
| E-mail vwatts@erols.com | | | | |
| Organization/Affiliation Virginia General Asssembly | | | Title Delegate - 39th He | puse District |
| Address 1 8717 Mary Lee Lane | Addres | s 2 | | |
| City Annandale | State VA | Zip 22003 | Count | y |
| Additional Information | | | | |
| Issue Area Traffic and Transportation | Sul |) Issue: | | |
| EIS Area of Concern Other | Areas of C ic and trans | Concern Other Des portation | cription | |

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Entire Comment

In addition to providing transit access to the Metro system, my biggest concern is off-site traffic impact from development of the largest employment site in Fairfax County.

Specifically, a grade-separated intersection needs to be constructed for the Fairfax Parkway and the street which provide access to Greenspring Village to the north and to the residential development to the south. This should be done as early in the development Engineering Proving Ground as possible, because exisiting levels of traffic on the Parkway have already resulted in at least one fatal incident.

The problems of traffic volume and speeds on what drivers on the Parkway regard as a high-speed facility is excerbated by the fact that (1) the intersection is already 6+ lanes wide, (2) is the only access out of the two residential areas, and (3) Greenspring Village is a major senior citizen residential community of approximately 2,000 units. There is no capacity to absorb any additional traffic.

Environmental Impact Statement for BRAC 2005 Implementation and Master Plan Update at Fort Belvoir, Virginia

NOTE: All information submitted will become public record.

| Your information: | |
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| | |
| Title: Chair Trunsportation Committee | |
| Title: Chair, Trunsportation Committee Agency/Organization: Mount Vernon Council of C.t. zens Associa | tions (HUCCH) |
| Address: B809 Gatzshead Rd | |
| City, State, Zip: Alexandrice, VA 22309 | |
| Phone: $703 - 780 - 5648$ | |
| E-mail: Frohn 22309 @ Gol. com | |
| | |

XPlease send a CD copy of the EIS to me.

2. Please check the one affiliation that best represents your role or interest in the EIS:

- Fort Belvoir Resident
- □ State Government
- □ School/University
- □ Civic Organization
- □ Federally Recognized Tribe
- □ County

1.

□ Recreational Organization

- □ Private Citizen
- □ Federal Government
- □ Business/Commercial Organization

Environmental Organization

XOther: Citizen Association (your neighborg!)

3. EIS Areas of Concern. Please check the appropriate boxes and write your specific comments about the area of concern in # 4 below. More Comment Forms are provided at the Comment station if you need additional space.

| | Noise |
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| Traffic and Transportation | Native American Resources |
| Cultural Resources/Historic Properties | Air Quality |
| Socioeconomics | Water Quality |
| Wetlands, Wildlife, Endangered Species | D Other: |

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Web Site

Comments may be submitted online at: www.belvoirnewvision.com (click on EIS)

E-mail Comments may be e-mailed to: environmental@belvoir.army.mil

Mail Comments may be mailed to: Attn.: EIS Comments Fort Belvoir Directorate of Public Works 9430 Jackson Loop, Suite 100 Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5116

All comments must be received or postmarked by July 2, 2006 to be considered in preparation of the Draft EIS.

Environmental Impact Statement for BRAC 2005 Implementation and Master Plan Update at Fort Belvoir, Virginia

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1. Your information:

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- □ Fort Belvoir Resident
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| Wetlands, Wildlife, Endangered Species | □ Other: |
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Environmental Impact Statement for BRAC 2005 Implementation and Master Plan Update at Fort Belvoir, Virginia

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| | Title: VICe President . |
| | Agency/Organization: auchuba Society 4 NoVa |
| | Address: 7708 Tauxement Rd |
| | City, State, Zip: Alexandra VA 22308 |
| | Phone: 703 - 765 - 5233 ' |
| | E-mail: <u>9 b ooth 123 @ adl.con</u> |
| | Please send a CD copy of the EIS to me. |

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- □ Private Citizen
- □ Federal Government
- Business/Commercial Organization
- Environmental Organization

□ Other: ___

EIS Areas of Concern. Please check the appropriate boxes and write your specific comments about the area of concern in # 4 below. More Comment Forms are provided at the Comment station if you need additional space.

□ Construction

□ Traffic and Transportation

Cultural Resources/Historic Properties

□ Socioeconomics

Wetlands, Wildlife, Endangered Species

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Environmental Impact Statement for BRAC 2005 Implementation and Master Plan Update at Fort Belvoir, Virginia

NOTE: All information submitted will become public record.

| Your information: |
|---|
| Name: KUPT /HOMPSON |
| Title: |
| Agency/Organization: 8108 LITTLE RIDGE LANE |
| Address: FAIRFAX (FATIONIVA |
| City, State, Zip: |
| Phone: 708 690 - 8092 |
| E-mail: KKThompson 1@Cox. net |
| |

□ Please send a CD copy of the EIS to me.

2. Please check the one affiliation that best represents your role or interest in the EIS:

- Fort Belvoir Resident
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- □ School/University
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- □ Business/Commercial Organization
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Environmental Impact Statement for BRAC 2005 Implementation and Master Plan Update at Fort Belvoir, Virginia

NOTE: All information submitted will become public record.

1. Your information:

| Name: MARK GLONET |
|---|
| Title: |
| Agency/Organization: |
| Address: 0641 MOUNT VERNON HIGHWAT |
| City, State, Zip: ALEXANDMA, JA 22309 |
| City, State, Zip: <u>ALEXANDMA, JA 72309</u> Phone: <u>703 780.0925 / 407.9115</u> |
| E-mail: <u>majonet e LSGINC-Com</u> |
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4. Please write your comments in the space provided below.

TONIGHT'S MEETING WAS INSUFFICIENT AS AN OVERVIEW 1) OF THE PROCESS & HOPEPULLY IS NOT INDICATIVE OF THE OUT REPORTS THAT WILL BE CONDUCTED QUEING THE PROCESS, LITTLE ACTION IN FORMATION MAS AUAILABLE PROPOSED CONCERNING ACTION TLONDING TO ONE TATIVE, THE ACTUAL REPRESER TENA AGENCIES ETC ARE STILL BEING IPENTIFIED, WITH PECISIONS STILL FONTAZIONING. THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD SHOLD BE TELD OPEN UNTIL APTER EVCH DECISIONS. MATERIAL PRESENTED ON PEUPENTERTECENARIOS ILLUSTRATED "ACEAS MITHOUT PROVIDING KINFORMATION ON WHAT CRITERIA/ AND PATH WAS ころ TO MAKE SULT & DETERMINATION. THE STATEMENT "4,500 ALRES OP LAND ON FT. BELVAR ARE SNITABLE For pevelopment' SEEMS A BIT PREMATURE IF RESOURCE IMVACT STUDIES HAVE JET TO BE CONOUCTED AND FROM WHAT LITTLE WAS PRESEVTED THIS ACTION WILL HAVE ENORMOUS IMPACTS ON LOCAL QUALITY OF LIFE, NATURAL RESOURCES ON THE POTOMAC LIVER, TRAPPIC & TRANS-PONTATION AND MANT OTHER FACTORS. It will BE MASSINELY EXPENSIVE. (4.) ALTERNATIVES TO BE CONSIDERED SHOULD BG PLESENTED BEFORE THE PUBLIC BEFORE THE PRAFT ELS IS ISSUED. IN PUT MUST BE CONSIDERED FROM THE FURLIC IN THE PETELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVES, ALTERNATIVES MUST RE SIGNIFICANTLY PIFFERENT & TEST AS REALISTIC RANGE OF OPTIONS FOR PACINITY SITING TRANSPORTATION AUTERNATINES PROTECTION OF RESOURCES, Etc. Web Site

Comments may be submitted online at: www.belvoirnewvision.com (click on EIS)

E-mail Comments may be e-mailed to: environmental@belvoir.army.mil

Mail Comments may be mailed to: Attn.: EIS Comments Fort Belvoir Directorate of Public Works 9430 Jackson Loop, Suite 100 Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5116

All comments must be received or postmarked by July 2, 2006 to be considered in preparation of the Draft EIS.

Environmental Impact Statement for BRAC 2005 Implementation and Master Plan Update at Fort Belvoir, Virginia

NOTE: All information submitted will become public record.

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|------|-----|-------|-----|-------|

| Name: Date Rumberger |
|--|
| Title: Principal South County Secondary Schwal |
| Agency/Organization: Same 7 |
| Address: 8501 Silverbroch Roed |
| City, State, Zip: hordow, Va 20079-3068 |
| Phone: 703-446-1604 |
| E-mail: dale. rumberger @ feps.edu |
| 0 - 1 |

□ Please send a CD copy of the EIS to me.

2. Please check the one affiliation that best represents your role or interest in the EIS:

- Fort Belvoir Resident
- □ State Government
- School/University
- □ Civic Organization
- □ Federally Recognized Tribe
- □ County

□ Recreational Organization

- Private Citizen
- □ Federal Government
- Business/Commercial Organization
- □ Environmental Organization
- Other: _____
- **3.** EIS Areas of Concern. Please check the appropriate boxes and write your specific comments about the area of concern in # 4 below. More Comment Forms are provided at the Comment station if you need additional space.
 - Construction
 Traffic and Transportation
 Cultural Resources/Historic Properties
 Socioeconomics
 Wetlands, Wildlife, Endangered Species
 Noise
 Noise
 Native American Resources
 Air Quality
 Water Quality
 Other: <u>envoloantee Margued American</u>

4.

Please write your comments in the space provided below.

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All comments must be received or postmarked by July 2, 2006 to be considered in preparation of the Draft EIS.

Tuesday, June 06, 2006

How is the I-495 to I-95 S arrangement going to be structured to prevent the bottleneck of having to cross 2 lanes to get into I-95 South?

Lee P. Schroeder

Did you ever consider conducting a poll of the DeWitt Health Care Network beneficiaries to get their ideas for the location of the BRAC hospital at Fort Belvoir?

You apparently did such a survey for commuters to Ft. Belvoir. Isn't service and easy access to healthcare beneficiaries just as important? Many of those commuters will probably be healthcare beneficiaries who will get their health care at the new hospital.

Francis C. Houts LTC USA (RTD) 703-780-3374 houtsf@erols.com I am a 75 year old army veteran. I have lived in the Mt. Vernon area for 33 years and have received at least 95% of my medical care at DeWitt. Of the various locations I have heard mentioned for the location of the new DeWitt, the Engineering Proving ground is absolutely the worse.

In the 33 years I have lived here, when I heard this location mentioned I did not know how to drive to it. I knew roughly where it was located but could not give specific directions to anyone. Many people asked me where it was located and I could not tell them how to get to the roving Ground. I have been to some meetings and it is clear that the Fairfax County Supervisors, the local state delegate and senator and the 2 Virginia senators and local Representatives have all given their support to locating the hospital at the Engineering Proving Grounds. This is for the benefits of the local jurisdictions rather than for the benefits to those service personnel, active and retired and their families, who will use this medical facility.

Fairfax supervisors always complain about what the army has wanted to do at Ft. Belvoir. The bottom line with Fairfax County is the dollar and they don't want to pay anything but want to get all the benefits. The Army always seems to "cave in" and give the County what it wants or gets the messy end of the stick. Of course, it is always shown to be a "win/win" situation. The Engineering Proving Grounds is not considered by many of us to be part of Ft. Belvoir. There is no physical connection between the Proving Ground and Ft. Belvoir like between North and South Post.

My choice would be the 9-hole golf course at the Route 1 entrance; followed by the location for the proposed Army Museum or across Route 1 from the main entrance on the area used for soccer and other activities.

Francis C. Houts LTC USA (RTD) 703-780-3373 fhouts@erols.com

Patricia Tyson

8641 Mount Vernon Highway

Alexandria Virginia 22309

<u>T Tyson@mindspring.com</u>

793 780-0925

Fort Belvoir BRAC EIS Scoping Comments

June 7, 2006

Public Involvement

The website link for providing comments did not work. I am submitting this US Mail and by email to Fort Belvoir EIS (<u>environmental@belvoir.army.mil</u>).

The public scoping for BRAC EIS for Fort Belvoir has been totally inadequate. **D**esign all BRAC EIS public components and outreach programs to follow precisely the procedures used in the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project: include presentations to small groups throughout the process, use multiple media forums for outreach and adjust the design of the project and phasing based on public input received throughout the process of design and implementation.

Background

Completely separate from BRAC, Fort Belvoir has undertaken huge growth in facilities and infrastructure. But the Master Plan has not been updated since 1994. An EIS Scoping public meeting was held Nov. 17, 2003. Nothing further has been done on the Master Plan EIS, to respond or address the cumulative effects of these multiple facilities, many in non-conformance with the 1994 Master Plan, nor to address the public comments made submitted for that. How will the public scoping comments for the Updated Master Plan be addressed in the propose EIS to address both BRAC and the Master Plan update.

Cumulative effects have not been addressed on the change to population, traffic patterns, loss of habitat, air and water quality degradation or loss of open space resulting from this incremental growth. The base line for this information also has not been updated to reflect this growth and destruction in natural resources and species of concern or listed Endangered Species. In this unknown baseline data is the enormous growth in the use of private contractors for military and non-military functions on Post, yet there has not been a count of these, non-civilian and non-military employees since 1994. All of these effects must be evaluated prior to initiating a study of the effect of BRAC on the environment and community.

US Army Garrison Fort Belvoir has a long history of hollow and unfulfilled commitments made in multiple Environmental Assessments and in the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan and in Agreements to protect the Chesapeake Bay (the Federal Facilities Compliance Agreement). Among these are unfulfilled and unfunded commitments to mass transit, water quality Best Management Practices (BMP's), conservation protection areas including Refuge boundary definitions. Therefore, all mitigation identified in the BRAC and Master Plan EIS documents must be based on commitments of real funding and real enforcement mechanisms, including annual audits for compliance with all conditions; public disclosures of all violations with fines that prevent subsequent phases of project completion. The Army must be accountable for non-compliance. Nothing less will assure the public that these measures will be undertaken.

BRAC

Federal undertakings in the routine growth on Fort Belvoir have to meet the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirement to evaluate <u>all the viable alternatives</u>. The BRAC EIS must thoroughly examine all methods to minimize the enormous, destructive and disruptive consequences of this Fort Belvoir BRAC 2005 and to commit to adopting the most stringent measures to minimize adverse project impacts. All project mitigation must be unequivocally included in the projects and the project funding. All mitigation noted in the EIS study narrative text must be included in any charts and graphic or other sections of the EIS indicating degree of impact.

The scoping for this EIS is vital to the adequacy of the EIS in addressing all specific impacts, in order to define any necessary mitigation measures and in order to identify the funding of all mitigation measures necessary to minimize the anticipated environmental, social, economic and quality of life impacts from this huge project on the environment, and the community. Nevertheless, the public has never been presented the alternatives or the BRAC project in a meaningful way. The public comments are due the same week that the Alternatives are being narrowed. This violates the principles of NEPA and the community is opposed to this process.

The EIS must include studying mitigation that will minimize impacts, including:

- The use of parking garages to reduce the footprint of parking lots
- Incorporating LEEDS certified standards for all buildings and site development
- The use of "Green roofs"
- Maintenance of 250 foot vegetated buffers along all streambeds,
- Incorporating "demand management" of traffic,
- Eliminating free employee parking
- Annual audits and publication of mandatory mass transit for all employees, and contractors, and residents.
- Building links to mass transit at Springfield and Huntington Metro
- Evaluation of the density of project and the adequacy of infrastructure to support development; i.e. dense projects may support rail extension; sprawl will require more road construction.
- In order to determine where the commuters will be originating, provide the precise zip code numbers and the employees who reside in these zip codes for all the relocating entities and use these to determine BRAC impacts to local road networks.
- Study the impacts to the GW Parkway and the GW Memorial Highway from BRAC.
- In order to plan the precise number of children to be schooled in Fairfax County public schools, include the precise numbers of bedrooms in the proposed housing.
- In order to examine the real commuter and road and air quality impacts, include the precise number of contractors currently serving DOD entities to be relocated and the dollar figures of the contracts under which these contractors perform.
- Include precise lease language for any commercial, for-profit, opportunities on Federal property and include an assessment of the economic impact of these commercial activities if they had been located in adjacent Fairfax County commercial space.

1) As is always true with DoD projects, funding for mitigation is not likely to be forthcoming, unless it is clearly part of the project and is timed sequentially to occur first as a condition of the project and completion of subsequent phases. Concurrency of necessary infrastructure and mitigation measures will only come with an exhaustive, scientific, reasoned EIS and the mitigation measures designed as project integral components. We expect these infrastructure improvements to be funded through BRAC to benefit BRAC implementation and minimize the disruptions anticipated on the community. Anything less is unacceptable.

2) Anything that should have been included in the stalled, incomplete updated Master Plan EIS that is addressed in the BRAC EIS, must be subject to evaluation of <u>all viable alternatives</u>.

3) Using the base line information contained in the outdated Master Plan 1994 for the BRAC EIS, will not reflect the real, degraded environmental and traffic conditions from this incremental growth that has occurred since. None of the subsequent Environmental Assessments has addressed cumulative effects, as required by law. Undertake new baseline studies reflecting the cumulative effects of these multiple non-BRAC projects, including DTRA, RCI, DTRA, etc. for air quality, water quality, open space, traffic counts, child attendance in local schools (reflecting RCI bedroom counts and projections), etc.

4) It is essential to commit to avoidance of impacts to tidal and non-tidal wetlands; if avoidance is not possible, proximate mitigation sites and proven methods. Update the new species and habitat information from recent surveys conducted by the DPW Public Works Natural Resources office and incorporate the findings and recommendations of the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan into the EIS and mitigation measures for the BRAC project.

5) Conduct multiple scoping meetings using the public hearing forum of audience and podium with microphone. Advertise these at a minimum of three weeks in advance of meetings on radio, newspapers, etc. The format of multiple displays and self-education proposed for the June 7th meeting does not adequately inform the public, nor does the public have an opportunity to adequately present views to their elected officials and project officers.

6) Design all BRAC EIS public components and outreach programs to follow precisely the procedures used in the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project: include presentations to small groups throughout the process, use multiple media forums for outreach and adjust the design of the project and phasing based on public input received throughout the process of design and implementation.

7) Address the statutory requirements for **threat reduction measures** and define how the projects meet or exceed the standards and where in the National Capital Region the standards ARE NOT FOLLOWED. Examine the threat of creating a target by consolidation the disparate offices dealing with sensitive intelligence.

8) Do not include the replacement of the Woodlawn Road project in the BRAC EIS. Initiate necessary traffic counts to project traffic impacts to the George Washington Parkway and the George Washington Memorial Highway.

9. Due to inadequate public notifications and public information, extend the deadline for receipt Scoping Comments to September 15, 2006.

10) Post all the public scoping comments on a public website and publish this web address in the Washington Post, the Alexandria Gazette, the Mount Vernon Gazette and the Washington Post Examiner.

Environmental Impact Statement for BRAC 2005 Implementation and Master Plan Update at Fort Belvoir, Virginia

NOTE: All information submitted will become public record.

1. Your information:

| Name: Judy Riggin Title: Woodlawn Friends (Quaker) Meeting - | member |
|---|---------|
| | Themper |
| Agency/Organization: | |
| Address: 2405 Nemeth Court | |
| City, State, Zip: Alexandria VA 22306 | |
| Phone: | |
| E-mail:rigginjm@verizon.net | - |

Please send a CD copy of the EIS to me.

2. Please check the one affiliation that best represents your role or interest in the EIS:

- D Fort Belvoir Resident
- State Government
- □ School/University
- Civic Organization
- □ Federally Recognized Tribe
- □ County

Recreational Organization

- Private Citizen
- D Federal Government
- D Business/Commercial Organization

Environmental Organization Mother: Quaker Meeting-historic church regiligous

 EIS Areas of Concern. Please check the appropriate boxes and write your specific comments about the area of concern in # 4 below. More Comment Forms are provided at the Comment station if you need additional space.

| | t-Noise |
|--|---------------------------|
| #Traffic and Transportation | Native American Resources |
| Cultural Resources/Historic Properties | 占 Air Quality |
| Socioeconomics | d-Water Quality |
| Wetlands, Wildlife, Endangered Species | Other: |
| | |

4. Please write your comments in the space provided below.

earby resident. I am concerned as a U M U as m lautation 10 40 N ON Ű reasons and web site above, we are concerned about Comments may be submitted online at: www.belvoirnewvision.com (click on EIS) The E-mail Comments may be e-mailed to: environmental@belvoir.army.mil m Mail Comments may be mailed to: Attn.: EIS Comments Fort Belvoir Directorate of Public Works 9430 Jackson Loop, Suite 100 Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5116 All comments must be received or postmarked by July 2, 2006 to be considered in preparation of the Draft EIS.

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Nancy James

From: Nancy James [nr ames@earthlink net]

Sent: Friday, June 30 2006 17:19

To: 'environmenta@belvoir.army.mil'

Subject: resubmission of comment form

Nancy R. James Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) Home Address: 4009 Gibbs Street Alexandria, VA 22309 703-360-2989 nrjames@earthlink.net

I represent an historical/religious organization.

I am concerned about cultural resources/historic properties and noise.

I am a member of Alexandria Friends Meeting at Woodlawn. Our address is 8990 Woodlawn Road, Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060. Our one+ acre site is completely surrounded by the Post. Our meetinghouse, 150 years old, is on the left as one turns into Woodlawn Road from Route One. It and the graveyard behind are all that remain of extensive Quaker holdings that ore-dated the Civil War. Continual First Day meetings (Sunday services) have been held there since those early times. This property is now under consideration for inclusion in the National Registry of Historic Places.

My concern is first historical: to preserve this remnant of a rich past in a setting as close to the original as possible. Spec fically I ask that construction within sight of the meetinghouse be screened from our view, that the security measures put in place after 9/11 outside Woodlawn Gate be removed and the gate itself closed, and that safe, direct access to our meetinghouse from Route One be restored.

Secondly, and this is primary: that Friend's practice of silent worship be honored and allowed to continue undisturbed. Specifically, I request that the National Army Museum not be located nearby. I understand realistic interactive exhibits are planned which will include artillery firings, helicopter fly-bys and landings and other extremely loud, warlike simulations. Please display these elsewhere.

Thank you for this opportunity for consideration.

Sincerely, Nancy R. James

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Environmental Impact Statement for BRAC 2005 Implementation and Master Plan Update at Fort Belvoir, Virginia

NOTE: All information submitted will become public record.

1. Your information:

| Name: | |
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| | |
| Address: | |
| | |
| | |
| E-mail: | |

□ Please send a CD copy of the EIS to me.

2. Please check the one affiliation that best represents your role or interest in the EIS:

| Fort Belvoir Resident | Recreational Organization |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| State Government | Private Citizen |
| School/University | Federal Government |
| Civic Organization | Business/Commercial Organization |
| Federally Recognized Tribe | Environmental Organization |
| County | □ Other: |

3. EIS Areas of Concern. Please check the appropriate boxes and write your specific comments about the area of concern in # 4 below. More Comment Forms are provided at the Comment station if you need additional space.

| | □ Noise |
|--|---------------------------|
| Traffic and Transportation | Native American Resources |
| Cultural Resources/Historic Properties | Air Quality |
| | Water Quality |
| Wetlands, Wildlife, Endangered Species | Other: |
| | |

4. Please write your comments in the space provided below. A nch Web Site

Comments may be submitted online at: www.belvoirnewvision.com (click on EIS)

E-mail Comments may be e-mailed to: environmental@belvoir.army.mil

Mail Comments may be mailed to: Attn.: EIS Comments Fort Belvoir Directorate of Public Works 9430 Jackson Loop, Suite 100 Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5116

All comments must be received or postmarked by July 2, 2006 to be considered in preparation of the Draft EIS.

Audubon Society of Northern Virginia 4022 Hummer Road Annandale, Virginia 22003

June 7, 2006

Fort Belvoir Directorate of Public Works ATTN: BRAC EIS Comments 9430 Jackson Loop Suite 100 Fort Belvoir, Virginia 22060-5116

Dear Directorate of Public Works:

On behalf of the 3,500 members of the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia, we present the following comments and questions on the scope of the Army's Environmental Impact Statement associated with the Base Realignment and Closure process for Fort Belvoir. Thank you for including these scoping comments in the public record to be addressed in EIS.

We thank you for the first of the public scoping meetings on June 7, 2006 and hope to have many other opportunities for public involvement, as we requested in our February 13, 2006, attached letter to Colonel Brian W. Lauritzen, Installation Commander. We look forward to your answer to our letter.

The U. S. Department of Defense's 25 million acres have 600 rare plants and animals, including 20 percent of all federally-listed threatened and endangered species, according to the Nature Conservancy. This is the highest concentration of threatened and endangered species of any federal land manager, according to the American Planning Association. In many areas, like heavily urbanized Northern Virginia, DOD properties may be the only remaining habitat for threatened and endangered species. In our view, our nation must do more to protect these species not less, as they represent the rich genetic reservoir of life that should not be lost.

Fort Belvoir is located in a county of one million people and in a metropolitan area of almost 5 million. At 13.5 square miles or 8,656 acres in size, Fort Belvoir is a major property owner and has a tremendous impact on the area's natural resources. It is in a county where the tree cover has dropped from 75 percent in the 1970s to 40 percent today, according to the Fairfax County Urban Forestry Division. (American Forests recommends that suburban residential zones have at least 50 percent tree cover because tree cover is directly related to environmental quality and a sound "green infrastructure.") Eighty percent of the county's streams were in fair to poor condition in 2005, up from 70 percent in 2004. Fairfax County does not meet federal air quality standards for ozone and particulates. Many area parks typically have between 25 and 35 percent non-native plants which out-compete native vegetation. The Potomac River received a grade of C+ by the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin in 2005. With growing development, congestion, population density and impervious surfaces, the county is facing some likely irreversible environmental damage.

The installation's website notes that 39 percent of the installation is "environmentally sensitive." There are two refuges on the installation: Accotink Bay Wildlife Refuge and the Jackson Abbott Wildlife Wetlands Refuge, totaling 1,506 acres and we commend you for maintaining those refuges. The installation has some of Northern Virginia's most productive tidal wetlands and an extensive shoreline.

We ask that the EIS address the following questions:

What criteria are used to define "environmentally sensitive" in the Natural Resources Management Plan and on the Fort Belvoir website? What is the geographic scope of the natural resources and areas that are included?

How and what number of public hearings will be held on the scope of the EIS so that people can present formal comments to a panel and a public audience?

For the data being used as the baseline for the BRAC EIS, what is the source of the data and from what year?

Will Fort Belvoir include in the BRAC EIS the full range of alternatives required under the National Environmental Policy Act? If not, why not?

If you only examine a "no build" scenario and the proposed project, won't full consideration of other alternatives be foreclosed? If so, what is the basis for this decision, a narrowing of the consideration of options?

What mitigation measures will be considered and included in the EIS to avoid and minimize all environmental impacts? Will the full range of mitigation measures be considered?

We request that the following included in the evaluation:

Low-impact development techniques for stormwater runoff Pervious surfaces, e.g., for parking lots Minimization of lawns and turf grass Green roofs for buildings Garages instead of parking lots Convenient access to public transportation LEEDS-certified green buildings Use of natural light and energy conservation in buildings Vegetative buffers along streambeds and borders of natural areas Natural landscaping Tree preservation and planting Use of native plants Purchase and use of low-polluting vehicles and other equipment Reduction in use of herbicides, pesticides, and fertilizers and use of sound nutrient management plans Avoidance of impacts to tidal and non-tidal wetlands; if avoidance is not possible, onsite and in-kind mitigation Flexible working hours Telecommuting Recycling Environmentally-sensitive disposal of fuel and other military ordnance and supplies, including hazardous materials and solid waste A thorough study of cumulative impacts of the BRAC process, especially in light of the multiple facilities built in recent years, many apparently not in compliance with the installation's 1994 master plan Funding required and its availability to meet the required project mitigation measures

It is our understanding that the Defense Authorization Act of 2003 created the Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative, which encouraged installations to collaborate with state and local governments and conservation groups to strengthen conservation in and near military training areas. We believe that this current BRAC process presents an excellent opportunity to work with the local community and conservation organizations to implement this law and to prevent further degradation of our natural resources.

We also stand ready to work with you to fulfill the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act, the federal Clean Air Act, the federal Clean Water Act, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the Endangered Species Act, and other federal environmental laws, as well as the state's efforts to increase wetlands and clean up the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Glenda C. Booth Vice-President Tel. 703-765-5233;gbooth123@aol.com



| Office of the Superinter | |
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| 8115 Gatehouse R | bad |
| Falls Church, Virginia 22 | 042 |
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| ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATI RESOURCE DIVISION U.S. ARMY. FORT BELVO | |
| | Falls Church, Virginia 22 JUN 2 0 2006 ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATI RESOURCE DIVISION |

June 8, 2006

Donald N. Carr Director of Public Affairs United States Army Fort Belvoir 9820 Flagler Road Suite 201 Fort Belvoir, VA 22060

Dear Mr. Carr:

I am writing on behalf of Jack D. Dale, Superintendent, Fairfax County Public Schools. Attached is a letter that Dr. Dale sent to Robert Templin regarding the impact of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission.

Since we were unable to attend the June 7, 2006 Public Scoping Meeting, Dr. Dale would like the letter to be entered into the official record per your recommendation to Dan Storck, Fairfax County School Board, Mount Vernon District.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you need anything, please contact me at <u>Christine.Donohue@fcps.edu</u> or 571-423-1010.

Sincerely,

N. Dorta

Christine W. Donohue Chief of Staff

CWD/slk Attachment



PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Jack D. Dale. Superintendent Burkholder Administrative Center 10700 Page Avenue Fairfax, Virginia 22030

September 26, 2005

Robert G. Templin, Jr. President Northern Virginia Community College 4001 Wakefield Chapel Road Annandale, VA 22004-2790

Dear Dr. Templin:

Pending the ratification of the recommendations of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) by the President and Congress, it appears Fort Belvoir will face a significant expansion. Several thousand military and civilian personnel offices are expected to relocate, causing an influx of personnel and their families into the Fort Belvoir area with potential impacts on the Fairfax County Public Schools.

The purpose of this letter is to enlist the federal government's assistance to ensure a smooth and well-planned transition. To this end, we request federal resources to conduct a study of the socioeconomic and environmental impacts of the changes at Fort Belvoir and designation of the Fairfax County Public Schools as a "cooperative public agency," allowing our participation in the decision-making process under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The relocation of thousands of jobs into the Fort Belvoir area will require substantial planning, timing, resources, and expense to ensure that high quality education will be sustained in this area of the county. Should an influx of students materialize, Fairfax County Public Schools may well need supplemental capital resources to increase school capacity both at Fort Belvoir Elementary School and at other area schools. We may also have to devise a plan to realign school boundaries.

In order to understand the impact of the shifts, it is necessary to have some insight into the size, mobility, and household income of personnel to be relocated during the next five to ten years. In an effort to provide a foundation for the impact study, the following questions should be asked of Fort Belvoir and the Department of Defense:

- What is the location by zip code of the current workforce that will be reassigned?
- What are the numbers of the current workforce who currently own, lease, or rent their residence?
- What are the number of children per household by zip code, age, and type of residence?
- What are the plans for phasing personnel for work assignment relocation? How many personnel will be relocated by what end dates?
- How many will be military personnel and how many will be contractors?
- What is the household income (in ranges) of personnel by phase?
- Will there be response-time or distance-from-base requirements for off-base personnel?

Robert G. Templin, Jr. September 26 2005 Page 2

- What additional on-base housing is planned for Fort Belvoir over what periods of time?
- How many families are expected to relocate to Fort Belvoir from outside of a commutable vicinity (e.g., from other states)?

According to local officials, Fort Belvoir's chief planner was in the process of releasing a new master plan for the base when he was alerted of the BRAC recommendation to accommodate the expected increase in workers. Assuming that he is back to the drawing board, Fairfax County Public Schools would like to be involved in the new planning blueprint for the base. We would like to provide the best education possible to the military families we will be hosting, and this can be accomplished most efficiently by being involved in the initial planning stages and throughout the process.

Prospects for development increasing in the Fort Belvoir area will be an incredible opportunity but also a significant challenge. It is our hope that you will consider our requests and contact us if you should have any further questions. Thank you for your continued support of the students of Fairfax County and of the Fairfax County Public Schools.

Sincerely,

Jack D. Dale Superintendent of Schools

JDD:mak



Mount Vernon Crew Boosters, Inc. P.O. Box 205

Mount Vernon, Virginia 22121-0205 www.mverew.com

June 15, 2006

The Mount Vernon High School Crew team requests the Master planner to consider the following information while developing the Fort Belvoir master plan. Crew is a club sport offered at Mount Vernon, the assigned high school for all high school aged students of those stationed or living near Fort Belvoir. As a youth sport, Mount Vernon Crew relies on Fort Belvoir's support by allowing access to the water from the base as well as a small area on the base for team assets. With the estimated influx of 21,000 additional personnel to Fort Belvoir, the number of students being assigned to Mount Vernon High School will increase as well. This year alone, the crew team had 62% of its members military affiliated. We anticipate that our military affiliation will increase as more personnel are assigned to the Fort Belvoir area.

Space needs for the Crew on Fort Belvoir:

The Mount Vernon Crew needs access to the water from Fort Belvoir either from the marina or another suitable location where we can place a water level floating dock of least 55 feet long into launchable water. The team also needs space to secure 4 flat bottom jonboats, open space to place several racks for crew shell storage 60 feet apart in length and 10 feet apart in width without obstacles nearby to allow for movement of the crew shells off and on the racks, open space to place 2 racks 10 feet tall by 5 feet wide for storage of oars, space that meets environmental standards for a 4 x 4 gas storage shed, space near the crew shell racks to place a 10 x 8 vinyl storage building and several small vinyl storage containers for team equipment, and a flat area large enough to be able to park the team's 45 foot long trailer for loading and unloading team equipment.

Current use of space on Fort Belvoir:

The Mount Vernon High School Crew team has used the marina located on the south post of Fort Belvoir for 5 years. The team practices out of the marina during the crew season from mid February through the end of May (Monday through Sunday) but maintains some assets there throughout the year. The drainage ditch that separates the main marina and the Point serves as the crew area. Static crew assets include: 3 sets of wooden storage crew shell racks placed directly in the ditch, a 10 x 8 vinyl storage shed and a few small vinyl containers near the edge of the ditch, a wooden oar rack near the vinyl containers, a small floating dock at the extreme outer area of the marina channel, and a metal gas storage building near the floating dock ramp. Team launches are secured to the floating dock during the season and stored under the wooden crew shell racks during the off-season. Crew shells are stored on the team's trailer in the RV lot also located on the south post of Fort Belvoir. The team does not use the marina office, building, bathrooms or docks either during the season or off-season.



Requested additions to the crew space at the Fort Belvoir marina:

The team requests permission to put up an additional set of wooden storage crew shell racks near the ones currently in the crew site and a second gas shed. Additionally, the team would like to build protective covers on top and around the storage racks to help preserve crew shells and be allowed to store our shells on the racks during the off season.

Secondary location for crew space on Fort Belvoir:

Should the marina close or become unsuitable for use by the crew team, we request access to Tompkins Basin in the area near the Archery range on south post. Crew has low impact to the surrounding area and wildlife and uses access to the water for only the 14 weeks of the crew season. The floating dock that would be built and placed in Tompkins Basin by the team would remain at this location throughout the year for use by anyone authorized base access.

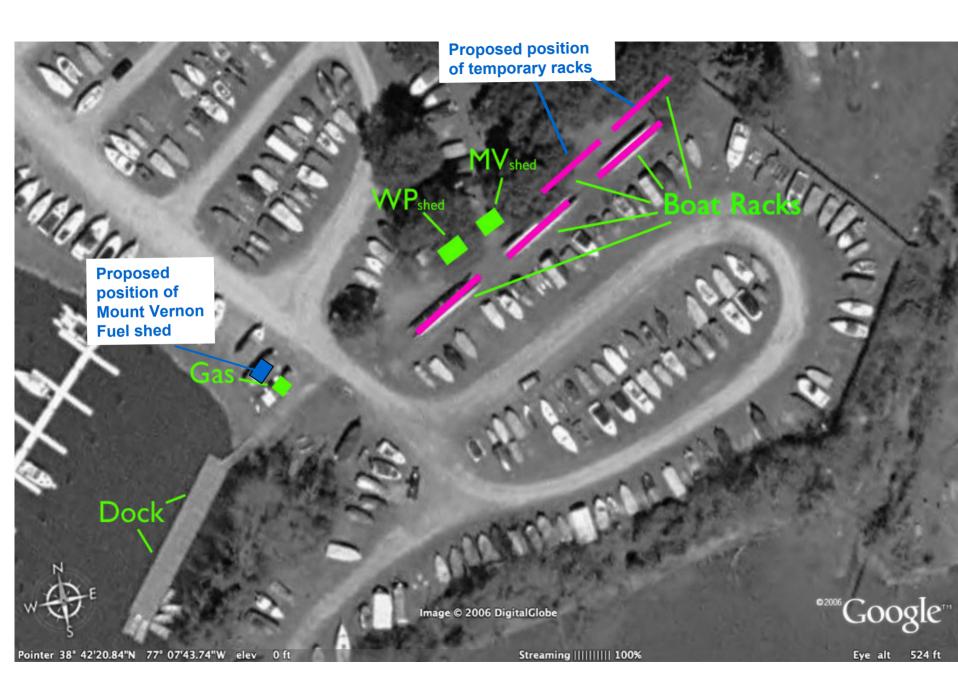
Thank you for your time and consideration of the needs of the Mount Vernon High School Crew team on Fort Belvoir.

Robin Jones

President, Mount Vernon Crew Boosters, Inc.

Attachments:

- 1) Google map of crew assets at the Fort Belvoir marina
- 2) Proposed secondary location for crew on Fort Belvoir (Attachment 1:Tompkins Basin)
- 3) Proposed layout of crew assets at Tompkins Basin









COMMONWEALTH of VI

L. Preston Bryant, Jr. Secretary of Natural Resources Department of Historic Resources RESOURCE DIVISION 2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23028. ARMY, FORT BELVOIR

> Tel: (804) 367-2323 Fax: (804) 367-2391 TDD: (804) 367-2386 www.dhr.virginia.gov

2006

June 5, 2006

Colonel Brian W. Lauritzen Department of the Army Installation Management Agency Headquarters, U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Belvoir Directorate of Installation Support 9820 Flagler Road, Suite 213 Fort Belvoir, Virginia 22060-5928

Re: BRAC Actions at Fort Belvoir Ft. Belvoir, Fairfax County DHR File No. 2006-0820

Dear Colonel Lauritzen:

We have received your invitation to the June 7, 2006, pre-scoping meeting regarding the upcoming Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) actions at Fort Belvoir. Unfortunately, we will be unable to send a representative to the meeting; however, we welcome the opportunity to provide preliminary comments concerning this undertaking.

As you may know, there is an identified historic district at Fort Belvoir that is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and its implementing regulations 36 CFR Part 800, require a federal agency to take into account the effect of its undertakings on historic properties listed in or eligible for the National Register and to afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation the opportunity to comment. The Section 106 regulations allow a federal agency to coordinate the steps of the process with other environmental reviews as long as the requirements of Section 106 are met. We, therefore, request that the Army continue to consult with the Department of Historic Resources (DHR) on the impact that the BRAC actions will have on historic properties and archaeological sites at Fort Belvoir.

If you have any questions about our comments, please call me at (804) 367-2323, Ext. 114.

Sincerely

Marc Holma, Architectural Historian Office of Review and Compliance

Administrative Services 10 Courthouse Avenue Petersburg, VA 23803 Tel: (804) 863-1624 Fax: (804) 862-6196 Capital Region Office 2801 Kensington Ave. Richmond, VA 23221 Tel: (804) 367-2323 Fax: (804) 367-2391 Tidewater Region Office 14415 Old Courthouse Way, 2^{od} Floor Newport News, VA 23608 Tel: (757) 886-2807 Fax: (757) 886-2808 Roanoke Region Office 1030 Penmar Ave., SE Roanoke, VA 24013 Tel: (540) 857-7585 Fax: (540) 857-7588 Winchester Region Office 107 N, Kent Street, Suite 203 Winchester, VA 22601 Tel: (540) 722-3427 Fax: (540) 722-7535



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Pierce R. Homer Secretary of Transportation Office of the Governor P.O. Box 1475 Richmond, Virginia 23218

(804) 786-8032 Fax: (804) 786-6683 TTY: (800) 828-1120

June 30, 2006

Dr. Craig College Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff Installation Management 600 Army Pentagon Washington, DC 20310

Colonel Brian W. Lauritzen Garrison Commander 9820 Flagler Road, # 213 Fort Belvoir, VA 22060

Dear Gentlemen:

The purpose of this letter is to provide formal comment to the Department of the Army on the scope of the EIS that will evaluate potential environmental, transportation, and socioeconomic effects associated with the implementation of the BRAC action at Fort Belvoir. This letter is in direct response to the May 17 request for scoping commentary on the Fort Belvoir EIS.

The Virginia Transportation Secretariat supports the mission of numerous military installations across the Commonwealth and coordinates highway, rail, transit, airspace, and port activities with these installations on a daily basis. We are proud of our military commitments and our long history of jointly defining and solving transportation problems.

Fort Belvoir is a valuable asset to the United States, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and Fairfax County. Continued development of Fort Belvoir, based on the BRAC mandates, will bring enormous change to the entire Northern Virginia region. It is incumbent upon the Army to have a fully-scoped, comprehensive analysis of all impacts, and in particular direct and indirect transportation impacts, of the BRAC decision at Fort Belvoir.

The BRAC plan to add over 20,000 jobs at Fort Belvoir, doubling the present employment at the Fort, will have a major impact on land use and transportation in the entire Northern Virginia region. In addition, numerous additional private contractors will be required to relocate to the immediate vicinity of the Fort. The combined effect of these relocations will seriously challenge not only the regional transportation network, but also the ability of Fort Belvoir to safely and efficiently deliver its workforce to the various Fort Belvoir worksites in a timely manner. Dr. College and Mr. Lauritzen June 30, 2006 Page 2

Because of this, it is imperative that transportation infrastructure in the region, including I-95, regional transit services and facilities, Route 1, and the Fairfax County Parkway, be studied as part of the land use planning, management, and development at Fort Belvoir. Moreover, construction of transportation infrastructure necessary to support the BRAC decision must also be an obligation of the federal government. The only way that we, and I believe that includes the federal, state, and local governments, can insure that there is an appropriate and timely integration of the land use and transportation planning issues associated with the transition at Fort Belvoir, is to include highway and transit infrastructure in the overall land use management and development plan for Fort Belvoir.

To this end, please accept this letter as our formal request to the Army to include highway and transit infrastructure in the planning of the necessary BRAC-related improvements and land use decisions made at Fort Belvoir. The Army should consider both the direct and indirect transportation impacts of the proposed BRAC action at Fort Belvoir, as well as appropriate mitigation measures for these direct and indirect impacts. These infrastructure needs will extend beyond the completion of the final segment of the Fairfax County Parkway.

As you know, the completion of the final segment of the Fairfax County Parkway has been delayed for several years by environmental contamination on the Engineer Proving Ground site. In an effort to accelerate that project, we have asked the Department of the Army to assume responsibility for the final design and construction of the final segment of the Parkway, and that the Army consider using the Eastern Federal Lands Division of the Federal Highway Administration to administer a design-build contract for the Parkway project. This arrangement would allow environmental remediation to occur at the same time as the final design and construction of the final segment of the Parkway. This arrangement also is consistent with other project agreements on military bases in Virginia, including Fort Belvoir.

Virginia will provide approximately \$89 million in construction funding for this Fairfax County Parkway project and approximately \$4 million worth of completed preliminary engineering work. Once the project and directly-related environmental remediation is complete, the Commonwealth will accept the Parkway into the state system of highways for long term maintenance and operations. This arrangement will allow the Department of the Army, in consultation with the Commonwealth and the Federal Highway Administration, to design and construct the Fairfax County Parkway in a way that better integrates the limited available transportation capacity with the specific land uses and security needs of Fort Belvoir.

In addition, Virginia will fully fund and construct a fourth lane on I-95, from Rt.123 to the Fairfax County Parkway, at an estimated cost of approximately \$75 million.

I need to underscore, however, that any serious analysis of the long-term Fort Belvoir transportation needs must consider more than just the final segment of the Fairfax County Parkway and the I-95 fourth lane.

Dr. College and Mr. Lauritzen June 30, 2006 Page 2

Should you have any questions or if you desire that we meet regarding the issues and concerns expressed in the letter, please give me a call. I look forward to continuing our long and successful history of defining and solving transportation and security problems in and around our prized military installations.

Sincerely, ione R. Homen erce R Homer

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PRH:ah

Copy: The Honorable John Warner The Honorable George Allen The Honorable Tom Davis The Honorable Jim Moran The Honorable Gerald Connally Mr. Gregory A. Whirley, Sr. Mr. Matthew Tucker The Honorable John Beall Monday, June 19, 2006

We received a meeting notice and request for comments on the scope of the upcoming EIS related to BRAC actions at Fort Belvoir. We offer the following comments and recommendations:

According to our records, numerous wildlife and wildlife resources are known from the Fort Belvoir area of Fairfax County. This includes doucmentations of the following listed species: Federal Threatened State Threatened bald eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus), State Threatened wood turtle (Clemmys insculpta) and State Threatened peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus). Also known in the project area are a number of streams listed as either confirmed or potential anadromous fish use areas and streams designated a Threatened and Endangered Species Waters known to support wood turtle. We recommend that the EIS fully address the habitats available in areas expected to be impacted by the BRAC actions at Fort Belvoir and how the proposed impacts may affect these habitats and the wildlife that inhabit them.

We typically recommend the following to reduce impacts associated with development on our natural resources:

We recommend that the project be designed so as to avoid and minimize impacts to undisturbed forest, wetlands, and streams to the fullest extent practicable. Avoidance and minimization of impact may include relocating stream channels as opposed to filling or channelizing as well as using, and incorporating into the development plan, a natural stream channel design and wooded buffers. We recommend maintaining undisturbed wooded buffers of at least 100 feet in width around all on-site wetlands and on both sides of all perennial and intermittent streams. We recommend maintaining wooded lots to the fullest extent possible. We generally do not support proposals to mitigate wetland impacts through the construction of stormwater management ponds, nor do we support the creation of in-stream stormwater management ponds. We are willing to assist the applicant in developing a plan that includes open-space, wildlife habitat, and natural stream channels which retain their wooded buffers. We recommend that the stormwater controls for this project be designed to replicate and maintain the hydrographic condition of the site prior to the change in landscape. This should include, but not be limited to, utilizing bioretention areas, and minimizing the use of curb and gutter in favor of grassed swales. Bioretention areas (also called rain gardens) and grass swales are components of Low Impact Development (LID). They are designed to capture stormwater runoff as close to the source as possible and allow it to slowly infiltrate into the surrounding soil. They benefit natural resources by filtering pollutants and decreasing downstream runoff volumes. We recommend conducting any in-stream activities during low or no-flow conditions, using non-erodible cofferdams to isolate the construction area, blocking no more than 50% of the streamflow at any given time, stockpiling excavated material in a manner that prevents reentry into the stream, restoring original streambed and streambank contours, revegetating barren areas with native vegetation, and implementing strict erosion and sediment control measures. Due to future maintenance costs associated with culverts, and the loss of riparian and aquatic habitat, we prefer stream crossings to be constructed via clear-span bridges. However, if this is not possible, we recommend countersinking any culverts below the streambed at least 6 inches, or the use of bottomless culverts, to allow passage of aquatic organisms. We also recommend the installation of floodplain culverts to carry bankfull

discharges.

We recommend that the EIS address these recommendations and ways that the Department of the Army can proceed with needed activities on the base while adhering to our recommendations and protecting our natural resources to the greatest extent possible. Without a clear understanding of what activities may occur, we are unable at this time to make specific recommendations on how such activities may impact the wildlife of the Commonwealth and/or how the Army may mitigate or compensate for such impacts.

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries maintains a system of databases called the Virginia Fish and Wildlife Information Service (VAFWIS). The VAFWIS contains up-to-date information on all of Virginia's wildlife resources. We recommend use of the VAFWIS during the initial planning stages of any project in order to identify wildlife resources (e.g., threatened or endangered species, trout streams, colonial waterbird nesting colonies) that may be impacted by a project. Basic access to the VAFWIS is available via our website, <u>http://vafwis.org/WIS/ASP/default.asp</u>. Subscriptions to the VAFWIS, which allow a greater level of access, also are available. Alternatively, project managers can request Initial Project Reviews by our VAFWIS staff. For information on these services, please contact Shirl Dressler at 804-367-6913. There is no charge to government bodies/agencies for these services.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please do not hesitate to contact us as needed during this EIS process.

Amy Martin Environmental Services Biologist VDGIF, Wildlife Diversity

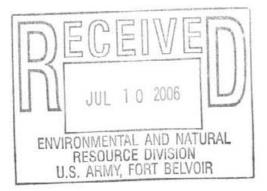


Virginia Railway Express

1500 King Street • Suite 202 • Alexandria, Virginia 22314-2730 • (703) 684-1001 • FAX (703) 684-1313 Web Site: http://www.vre.org • E-Mail: gotrains@vre.org

June 30, 2006

Directorate of Public Works 9430 Jackson Loop, Suite 100 Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5116 Attn: BRAC EIS Comments



To Whom it May Concern:

The Virginia Railway Express' (VRE) planning department has reviewed the BRAC scoping meeting materials presented at the June 7, 2006 scoping meeting and would like to offer comments on the master planning effort underway to accommodate the base realignment and closure actions identified for Ft. Belvoir. We are pleased to see the planning effort includes transportation goals supporting and enhancing an integrated, multimodal transportation system. We are writing to ensure, however, that the Army and master planning/EIS team fully understand VRE's operating environment and the impacts that may result from the BRAC action.

The VRE Lorton Station is located approximately three miles from the Ft. Belvoir main post and Davision Airfield sites. VRE's Franconia-Springfield Station is located approximately 2.5 miles from the Engineer Proving Ground site. Both stations are on VRE's Fredericksburg line, which serves commuters from Prince William and Stafford counties, the City of Fredericksburg and other points south. VRE service is oriented northbound (to Union Station in Washington, DC) in the mornings and southbound (to Fredericksburg) in the evenings. There are currently six northbound trains during the morning commuting period and six southbound trains during the evening commuting period on the Fredericksburg line. VRE operates a single southbound midday train to Fredericksburg that leaves Union Station at 12:55 pm. VRE also operates service from Manassas and western Fairfax County; Manassas line trains do not stop at either the Franconia-Springfield or Lorton Stations, however.

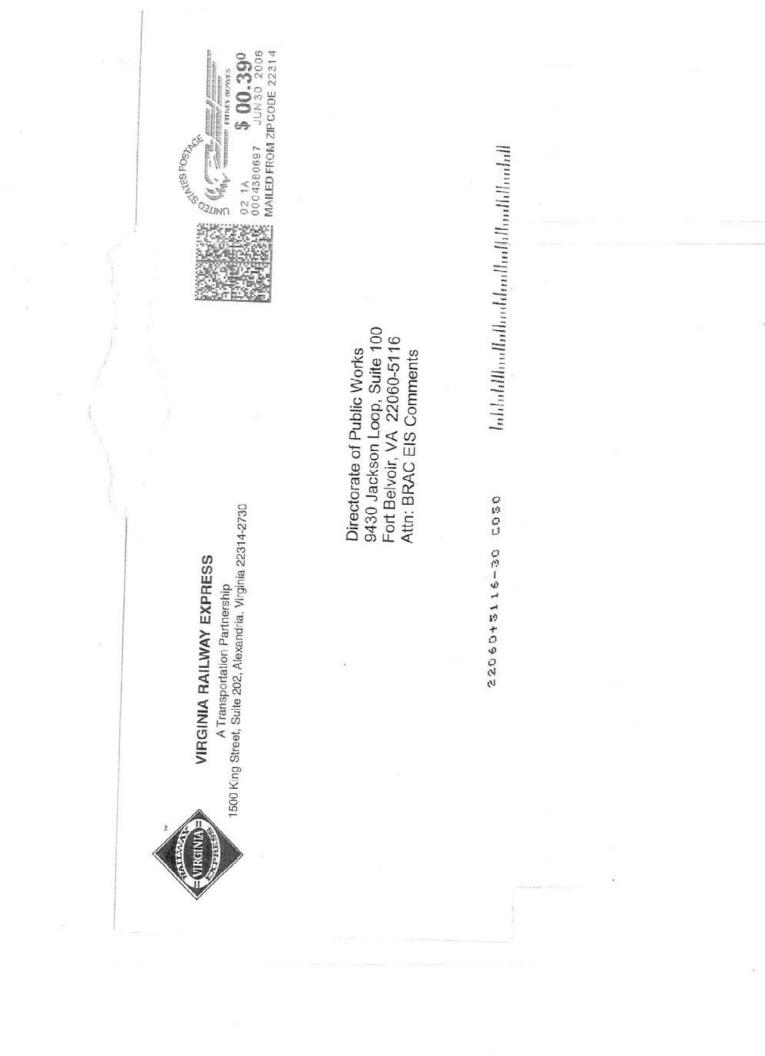
VRE capacity and service frequency is limited by track capacity, available rolling stock (i.e., rail cars/passenger seats and locomotives), parking capacity at outlying stations, and train storage. VRE capacity expansion is currently constrained by the availability of capital funding as well as limitations within the existing operating agreement between VRE and CSX Corporation, who owns the tracks over which VRE operates between Washington, DC and Fredericksburg.

- A Transportation Partnership -

Northern Virginia Transportation Commission 4350 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 720 Arlington, Virginia 22203 (703) 524-3322 Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission 14700 Potomac Mills Road Woodbridge, Virginia 22192 (703) 583-7782 Given the current growth constraints facing VRE, any proposals to mitigate BRAC impacts that rely on increased use of VRE must be heavily coordinated with our agency. Expansion plans must address all elements of the VRE core network (i.e., rolling stock, parking and storage/maintenance facilities) in tandem.

I thank you for this opportunity to comment and look forward to working with you during the BRAC planning process.

Sincerely, Dale Zehner Chief Executive Øfficer



COUNTY OF PRINCE WILLIAM



4379 Ridgewood Center Drive, Prince William, Virginia 22192-5308 (703) 792-6820 Metro 631-1703 Fax (703) 792-6828

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

1 0 2006

ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL

RESOURCE DIVISION

U.S. ARMY, FORT BELVOIR

HH

Thomas Brunn Director

June 30, 2006

Fort Belvoir Directorate of Public Works ATTN: BRAC EIS Comments 9430 Jackson Loop, Suite 100 Fort Belvori, VA 22060-5116

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the scope for the EIS related to the BRAC initiative at Fort Belvoir.

As the BRAC analysis for transportation is being done for Fort Belvoir, please take into consideration that the Council of Government's (COG) Traffic model which will be used in this analysis, is done on a large scale regional basis. BRAC impact, although large in a local scale, it will get minimized in a model of that size.

Also, the COG model does not do an effective job in determining traffic patterns due to changes in mode (such as transit, car/vanpooling, and slugging). A change from a location in the central core to a suburban community would definitely have a change in traffic pattern and mode choice a commuter is using, especially those currently living in Prince William County and other suburban jurisdictions. These shifts are not shown in a COG scale model and would not even make a significant impact in the numbers. A more scale oriented traffic analysis with adjustable factors needs to be completed to see the true changes in trips and mode shifts that would affect this area.

Thanks again for the opportunity to comment and if you have any questions, please call Ricardo Canizales at (703) 792-5985.

Sincerely,

Tom Blaser Transportation Division Chief

Cc: Susan Roltsch, Assistant County Executive Dana Fenton, Legislative Affairs Director



PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

TB\rld\c:\Blaser\BRAC

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COUNTY OF PRINCE WILLIAM 4379 Ridgewood Center Drive Prince William, Virginia 22192-5308

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

05 JUL 2005 PM 5 T



Fort Belvoir Directorate of Public Works ATTN: BRAC EIS Comments 9430 Jackson Loop, Suite 100 Fort Belvori, VA 22060-5116

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ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCE DIVISION U.S. ARMY, FORT BELVOIR



401 9th Street, NW North Lobby, Suite 500 Washington, DC 20004 Tel 202 482-7200 Fax 202 482-7272 www.ncpc.gov

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Chairman Committee on Government Reform U.S. House of Representatives The Honorable Tom Davis

Mayor District of Columbia The Honorable Anthony A. Williams

Chairman Council of the District of Columbia The Honorable Linda W. Cropp

Executive Director

Patricia E. Gallagher, AICP

IN REPLY REFER TO: NCPC File No. 6598

JUL - 7 2006

Directorate of Public Works ATTN: BRAC EIS Comments 9430 Jackson Loop, Suite 100 Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5116

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for opportunity to comment on the scope of the environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) action for Fort Belvoir, Virginia. The National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) is the federal government's central planning agency for the National Capital Region. NCPC has certain review responsibilities for Fort Belvoir's master plan and individual projects, and therefore seeks to ensure that the environmental documentation provides effective information.

Within the time constraints associated with the BRAC action, we believe that the Department of the Army has made a strong commitment to planning for anticipated growth in a manner that will transform Fort Belvoir into a model of smart, sustainable development. We encourage the Army to continue to seek early and continuous public and stakeholder involvement in this planning process, as it will substantially enhance the outcome of this process. The EIS should consider the BRAC action in the context of the other master plan and project activities, such as the proposed museum.

NCPC prepares the *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital Region: Federal Elements*, which provides policy direction for federal development (see attached copy). The Federal Elements address many of the topic areas discussed below, such as transportation, historic preservation and urban design, and form the basis of our scoping comments. Three principles shape the Federal Elements:

 Accommodate federal and national capital activities: Safely and efficiently accommodate government functions while promoting the highest design quality. July 6, 2006 Page 2

- Reinforce "smart growth" and sustainable development planning principles: Orient development to transit options; protect environmental and natural resources, organize new development in compact land use patterns; promote opportunities for infill development to take advantage of existing public infrastructure, and adapt and reuse existing historic and underutilized buildings to preserve the unique identities of local neighborhoods....recognize(s) the interrelationships between economic growth environmental quality and livability, and the responsibility that citizens have to preserve their communities and quality of life for future generations.
- Support local and regional planning and development objectives: We encourage Fort Belvoir to use the Comprehensive Plan policies as a tool in the EIS process to evaluate how, and how effectively, alternatives meet federal planning goals in the region, and to identify measures that could allow alternatives to more successfully reach these goals.

The Belvoir New Vision consultant team has identified options which should form the basis for three alternatives that, at a minimum, should be analyzed in the EIS. The EIS should analyze, for each alternative, how, and how effectively, each alternative addresses the following issues, as well as mitigation measures that would allow each alternative to address impacts or more effectively meet certain planning objectives. The analyses should be comparative, identifying differences between each alternative.

All of the alternatives should be evaluated for how, and how effectively, they can achieve the compact, mixed-use, pedestrian-friendly, sustainable and connected urban designs that represent a significant component of the "Belvoir New Vision Goals." Where these goals cannot be met, the EIS should identify mitigation to better achieve these goals.

Each alternative in the EIS should provide detailed *comparative* analyses on how, and how effectively, the significant increase in generated trips, and location and mode shifts are addressed, as well as the impacts to the capacity of the surrounding transportation network and the quality of the infrastructure. The alternatives should identify approaches and mitigation that promote transportation mobility, accessibility and multi-modal transportation choices, minimizes singleoccupant vehicle use and encourages transit use. The transportation analyses should identify all assumptions regarding transportation infrastructure that will be built, and as appropriate, identify the impacts if infrastructure is not built. July 6, 2006 Page 3

The amount, location and design of parking, as well as parking demand, should be analyzed for each alternative. Analyses should focus on how effectively each alternative minimizes the overall need for parking, minimizes the land demands of parking, and addresses the design of parking facilities to support sustainable, "smart-growth" objectives.

We encourage including extensions of fixed transit services within one or more alternatives. While the need to meet BRAC-imposed deadlines and current financial resources appear to constrain short-term options for fixed transit extensions, inclusion of this feature will provide information that will be useful in evaluating different alternatives and preparing designs that could readily integrate future transit proposals.

Alternative analyses should address improving circulation and connections between the different areas of the Fort Belvoir installation, particularly north and south post. Further, connections and circulation to the surrounding community should be evaluated. This should include identifying and assessing current, proposed or temporary street and access closures resulting from security needs that could impact traffic and circulation.

NCPC recognizes that security measures are critical to ensure force protection and mission continuity. Fort Belvoir will be accommodating uses with different security needs, and as such, this presents opportunities to use site selection, design strategies, and other measures to ensure security and *also* support resident, worker and public access to appropriate facilities and services; provide accessible and well-designed public spaces; and minimize impacts on surrounding communities. The EIS should include information on risk and threat assessments sufficient to identify and evaluate appropriate security measures. We would welcome the opportunity to work with Fort Belvoir regarding strategies to meet both security and urban design objectives, and have also attached NCPC's *National Capital Urban Design and Security Plan*.

Fort Belvoir includes significant environmentally sensitive areas, including forests, streams, shorelines, and habitat areas. It also contains areas of historic and cultural significance. For each alternative there should be an evaluation of how, and how successfully, the resources will be protected and proposed development will be integrated development with these resources. Where full protection cannot be provided, mitigation measures should be identified. Further, we encourage consideration of alternatives and/or mitigation that improves connections between open spaces on the installation sites as well as to regional systems.

July 6, 2006 Page 4

We encourage inclusion of alternatives that examine the full range of options for locating development to fulfill the development needs created by the BRAC action, such as the use of the airport, golf course, or sites proposed for remediation. Further, we encourage consideration of alternatives and/or mitigation measures that provide additional housing and services at the installation. This will result in useful planning information for decision-makers.

Each of the alternatives should be evaluated for their impacts on air, water and soil, both during construction and long term. Mitigation should be identified as appropriate. Further, Fort Belvoir has areas that require environmental remediation, and the alternatives should be evaluated considering how remediation issues may limit development opportunities, as well as how development may influence remediation strategies.

The significant growth directed at Fort Belvoir will result in increased demands for and shifts in housing, services, retail and office space, not only on the installation, but in the surrounding community. We encourage alternative analyses that identify and evaluate the likely shifts in demand for housing, services and office space, and infrastructure needs. Further, we encourage the Army to continue their coordination with Fairfax County and other stakeholders to determine how the different alternatives could provide opportunities to support local economic and community development objectives; such as future redevelopment along Route 1.

Our agency looks forward to working with Fort Belvoir representatives, other stakeholders, and the consultant team throughout the process. We are currently reviewing prior Commission documents to identify other relevant comments, and will provide those under separate cover as needed. These comments have been prepared by staff and do not reflect an adopted position on the part of the Commission. Please call Julia Koster, at 202.482.7211, if you have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

Patricia E. Gallagher, AICP Executive Director

Attachment

cc: John Cogbill, Chair, National Capital Planning Commission Ralph Newton, Acting Director, Washington Headquarter Services Colonel Brian Lauritzen, Field Artillery Installation Commander, Ft. Belvoir

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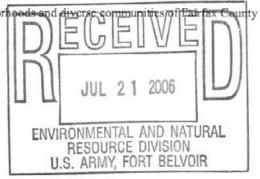


County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse

July 10, 2006

Colonel Brian W. Lauritzen, Commander U.S. Army Garrison Fort Belvoir ATTN: BRAC EIS Comments 9430 Jackson Loop, Suite 100 Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5116



Dear Colonel Lauritzen:

Fairfax County's staff attended the public agency scoping meeting held on June 7, 2006 and has reviewed some of the initial information that has been provided regarding the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) actions for Fort Belvoir. We also attended the June 22, 2006 Board of Advisors meeting at which Belvoir New Vision Planners presented three potential development strategies for the accommodation of BRAC requirements. We are submitting the attached comments for consideration as you begin the important process of preparing an EIS for BRAC related actions. These comments were endorsed by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on July 10, 2006.

The proposed relocation of approximately 22,000 employees and an undetermined number of contractors to Fort Belvoir, the Engineer Proving Ground (EPG), and/or the GSA Warehouses and private properties approximate to these locations will present profound challenges and significant opportunities in the southern portion of Fairfax County. We appreciate that the BRAC actions may assist revitalization efforts in Springfield and along the Richmond Highway corridor. Absent substantial thought and commitment from the U.S. Army, however, BRAC will also create severe adverse impacts that could degrade the quality of life and the quality of the environment in southern Fairfax County for years, if not decades, to come. Our attached comments highlight numerous concerns that we have regarding these potential impacts, including concerns regarding impacts to the area's already-stressed transportation system, impacts to parks and recreation facilities, impacts relating to housing, impacts to governmental services and utilities, and impacts to air, water, ecological, and cultural resources. The EIS and associated master planning documents must satisfactorily address all of these concerns if this effort is to ultimately succeed.

We wish to place a particular emphasis on linkages between relocation activities and transportation considerations. Transportation facilities are insufficient to address existing demands, much less the demands that an additional 22,000 employees and related growth will create. The EIS should clearly identify the full extent of impacts that the BRAC actions and related development will create and should evaluate these impacts within the context of broader land use changes that are under way and that can be anticipated in southern Fairfax County.

Department of Planning and Zoning Director's Office 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 700 Fairfax, Virginia 22035 Phone 703-324-1325 FAX 703-324-3337 www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/

Excellence * Innovation * Stewardship , Integrity * Teamwork* Public Service Colonel Brian W. Lauritzen July 10, 2006 Page 2

There should be a clear commitment to the funding and immediate implementation of mitigation measures that will both minimize the number of additional motor vehicle trips that the BRAC actions will generate and ensure that additional transit and road facilities and improvements will be provided that will be sufficient to at least meet the demands that will be generated by BRAC and related development.

We understand the tremendous pressures that Fort Belvoir is under to accommodate the additional activities at Fort Belvoir and EPG within the legally mandated BRAC time frame, but wish to stress the need to ensure that implementation of BRAC mandates will not occur at the expense of the quality of life and the quality of the environment at Fort Belvoir, at the Engineer Proving Ground, at the GSA Warehouses and in southern Fairfax County.

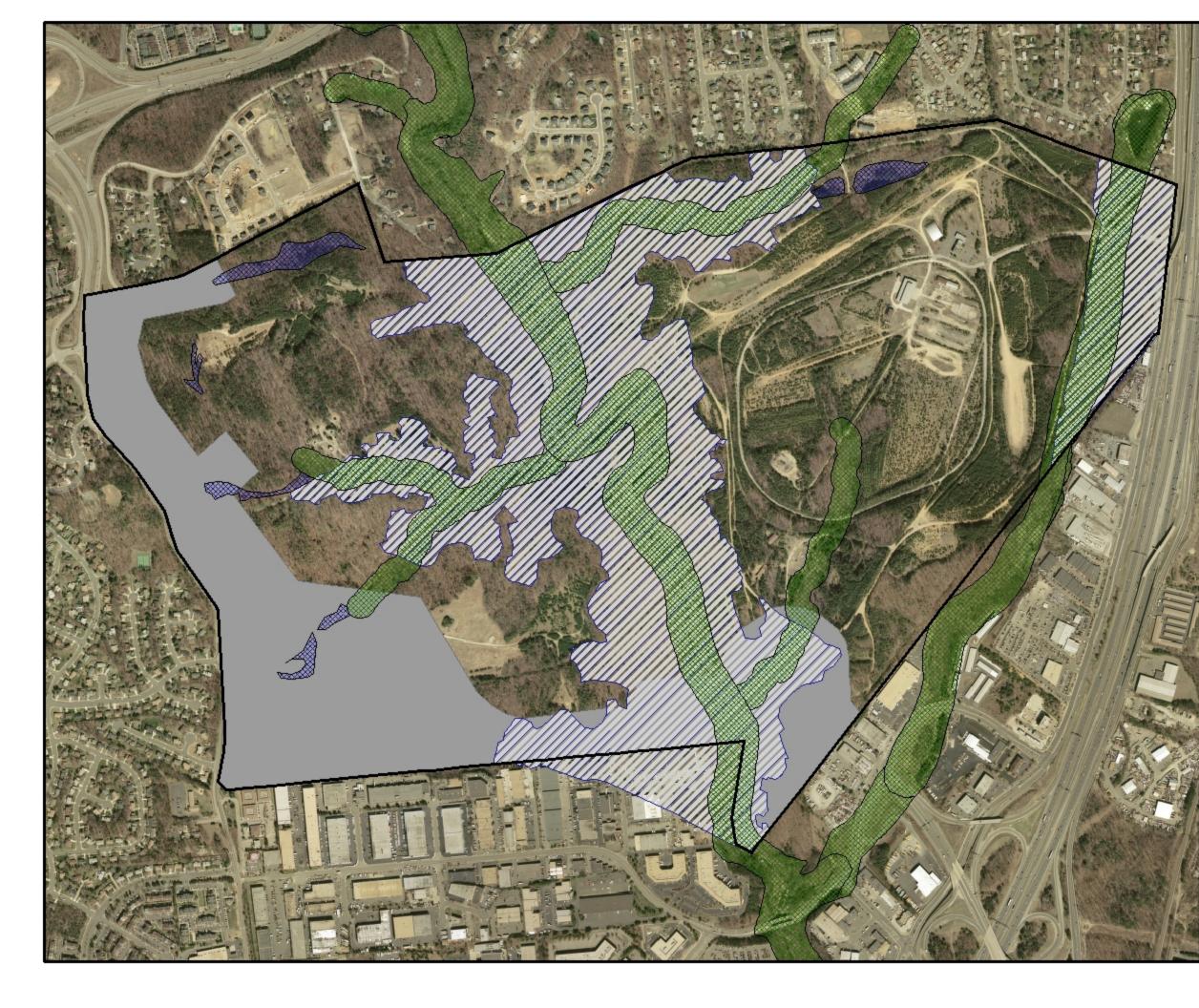
We offer our assistance to project consultants at all stages of the EIS and master planning processes and strongly encourage project consultants to work closely with us throughout the process. Fairfax County would also like the elements in our Comprehensive Plan (including the Transportation Plan) to serve as a guide in the EIS development. As a major stakeholder in this process, we wish to be integrated into all key phases of this planning process. Toward this end, I am designating Fred Selden, Director of the Planning Division of the Department of Planning and Zoning (DPZ), Noel Kaplan, a Senior Environmental Planner with DPZ, and Mark Canale, a Senior Transportation Planner with the county's Department of Transportation, as Fairfax County's principal points of contact for the Fort Belvoir BRAC EIS and master planning efforts. They will take the lead in facilitating coordination between the project consultants and county staff. Fred and Noel can be reached at 703-324-1380; Mark can be reached at 703-324-1100.

Since elv. James P. Zook Director

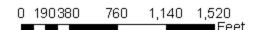
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 cc: ¹ Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Fairfax County Planning Commission Fairfax County School Board Anthony H. Griffin, County Executive Robert A. Stalzer, Deputy County Executive Katharine D. Ichter, Director, Department of Transportation Jimmie D. Jenkins, Director, Department of Public Works and Environmental Services Gloria Addo-Ayensu, Director, Department of Health Michael A. Kane, Director, Fairfax County Park Authority Paula C. Sampson, Director, Department of Housing and Community Development Colonel Brian W. Lauritzen July 10, 2006 Page 3

> Jack D. Dale, Superintendent, Fairfax County Public Schools Sandra Stallman, Manager, Park Planning Branch, Fairfax County Park Authority Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation Central Springfield Area Revitalization Council



Engineer Proving Ground (EPG) Fort Belvoir, Viginia



Scale of aerial photo Flight date 2002 Prepared 7/2005 by Fairfax County DPZ

Legend

EPG Gross Buildable Area

Wetlands

Resource Protection Areas (RPA)

Environmental Quality Corridor (EQC)

Fairfax County Parkway Right of Way

| Potential Buildable Area | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| | |
| EPG Gross Building Area | 795 acres |
| Environmental Constraints | 292 acres |
| (RPA, EQC, Wetlands) | |
| VDOT Improvements | 173 acres |
| EPG Net Buildable Area | 391 acres |

Fairfax County Department of Planning and Zoning Fort Belvoir BRAC – EIS Scoping Comments July 2, 2006

General

- 1. The EIS and Master Plan should be comprehensive in nature, to include consideration of development on the Main Post, the Engineer Proving Ground and the GSA Warehouses, as well as the broader context of regional development conditions (e.g., future development in Springfield and along the Richmond Highway corridor).
- 2. With respect to the Master Plan update and NEPA documentation, the county should be integrated into the review of each key deliverable product (e.g., 30%, 60%, 95% submissions of the Master Plan and related maps), and sufficient time (at least three weeks for each document) should be built into the schedule to allow for a county review of, and comment on, these materials. Coordination with the county should occur prior to formal submissions to Army and/or Department of Defense staff in the decision making process. This would allow county concerns to be addressed prior to the documentation gaining Army/DOD-level approval.
- 3. We appreciate the opportunity that was provided to us to meet with project consultants on May 9, 2006 and recommend continued, regular coordination between the project team and county review staff. Further, we recommend that county staff be provided with specific points of contact for coordination and communication on land use, transportation, environmental, parks and recreation, public facilities, and school issues.
- 4. The planning process should be flexible enough to adapt to changes that may occur to Fairfax County's Comprehensive Plan as well as development and redevelopment projects that may occur in the area during the process.

Alternatives

1. A "no action" alternative should incorporate an appropriate "baseline" that identifies existing development and should recognize the transportation improvements necessary to correct existing deficiencies and achieve an acceptable level of service on the supporting transportation network. The no action alternative should also address how Fort Belvoir has increased its working population at a pace that has exceeded the ability of the infrastructure to support this level of development. A "no action" alternative that is based on the existing Master Plan would, in our view, be inappropriate, as Fort Belvoir has already exceeded the projected 2015 working population that was envisioned in the 1993 Master Plan, while many of the planned road improvements anticipated to serve this working population have not been completed. Future land use alternatives can then be compared with this baseline.

- 2. At the June 22 Board of Advisors meeting, Belvoir New Vision Planners presented three potential development strategies for the accommodation of BRAC requirements: one approach would concentrate new development on the Main Post; another approach would concentrate new development at EPG (as well as the General Services Administration property in Springfield); and the third would disperse development on the Main Post (including Davison Army Airfield), EPG, and the GSA site. We look forward to analyses documenting what the effects that each of these approaches would have on the environment and recommend that particular scrutiny be placed on the effects that concentration of development in any one location could have on transportation facilities and other infrastructure.
- 3. We encourage the Army to consider alternative locations for BRAC development that might be outside of Fort Belvoir but close to a transit facility. Toward this end, we are encouraged that the GSA property is now being considered for BRAC facilities.
- 4. With respect to the GSA site, we recommend that the Belvoir New Vision Planners work closely with county staff on the development of potential connections between this site and the nearby Franconia-Springfield Metrorail/Virginia Rail Express stations.

Transportation--General

- 1. Transportation analyses performed in support of the EIS should be coordinated with modeling and analyses that have been performed as part of the County's Transportation Plan update process.
- 2. The EIS should clearly document, for all alternatives, where both current and relocated employees and contractors reside and what the anticipated number and timing of vehicular trips to and from both the Main Post and the EPG site will be. To what extent will highway facilities be able to accommodate increased trips?
- 3. Transportation improvements should be provided and appropriately phased in order to correct transportation deficiencies and to achieve an acceptable level of service on the transportation network in support of existing and new development. Road and transit improvements based on present and projected commuting patterns through Fairfax County should be provided to accommodate the existing and additional trips to and from the Main Post and EPG sites. Analysis should be sufficiently comprehensive to consider the need for improvements beyond the immediate vicinity of the Main Post and EPG.
- 4. Are current access points into Fort Belvoir and EPG as currently constructed able to handle the number of vehicles entering the installation at the peak hour period? Will signal modifications need to be implemented along Richmond Highway and the Fairfax County Parkway to accommodate the changes in commuting patterns?
- 5. The EIS should identify specific measures that will be applied to optimize the use of Metro, the Fairfax Connector, Virginia Rail Express, and Park and Ride facilities in order to reduce single occupancy vehicle use.

- 6. An effective Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program should be incorporated for existing and future development. Goals should be established for specific percentage reductions in single-occupant vehicle usage. Ridesharing, carpooling, van pooling, bus, VRE, Metro, establishment of park and ride/transit facilities, and limiting available parking are just some of the methods that can be incorporated into an effective TDM program.
- 7. In addition to commuting patterns of employees, the EIS should address the extent to which transit service will be available to provide connections between new office development at Fort Belvoir/EPG and commercial establishments in neighboring areas. The establishment of a fixed guideway link and/or a shuttle bus service from the Franconia-Springfield Metrorail/VRE stations as well as an on-post shuttle system should also be considered, and the EIS should address both on- and off-post transit service.
- 8. The EIS should evaluate the possible use of the abandoned coal train line right-of-way for some type of transit link to and from Fort Belvoir Main Post.
- 9. The completion of the Fairfax County Parkway and the Connector Road that will establish a new link between Richmond Highway and Telegraph Road are two current projects that are critical needs in the area. In our view, both projects <u>must</u> be in place prior to the BRAC-related relocations of employees. These projects face funding and/or environmental issues that may delay their completion in sufficient time to support these relocations. The EIS should consider and identify the impacts that will occur if either or both of these projects are not in place by 2011.
- 10. The EIS must address how BRAC related development will be phased to the availability of necessary roadway and transit improvements.

Transportation-Main Post

- 1. The EIS should consider improvements to transit connections between existing transit facilities (Metrorail, VRE, bus service, park and ride lots, etc.) and Fort Belvoir and EPG. The extension of Metrorail should be considered, but implementation of such an extension within the BRAC time frame is unrealistic and should only be considered as a long range enhancement. Construction of park and ride facilities to the south of Fort Belvoir, a bus rapid transit extension from the existing REX service, and/or implementation of express service from Franconia-Springfield Metro/VRE, the Lorton VRE station, or from Prince William County are all possible considerations.
- 2. The EIS should address the over-capacity projected in past environmental assessments for the Richmond Highway/Fairfax County Parkway, Richmond Highway/Backlick Road, Richmond Highway/Pohick Road, Richmond Highway/Belvoir Road, and Kingman Road/Fairfax County Parkway intersections, as well as over-capacity at the I-95 ramps and the Fairfax County Parkway. Improvements should be provided to correct these deficiencies.

3. The EIS should consider the provision of an additional grade-separated connection between the North and South Post areas along with access that would improve traffic flow and reduce backups at the existing entrance gates.

Transportation—Engineer Proving Ground

- 1. The proximity of the Engineer Proving Ground site to the Franconia-Springfield Metrorail and Virginia Railway Express stations may afford opportunities to optimize the use of this transit resource. The EIS should address the extent to which employees can be expected to commute to the area via Metrorail and the extent to which transit connections between the EPG site and the Franconia-Springfield station could increase commuting via transit to the site. Will such transit connections be provided? Will development design at the EPG site emphasize these connections if the proposed development indicates a demand for them?
- 2. The remaining segment of the Fairfax County Parkway should be constructed prior to the relocation of significant numbers of employees to Fort Belvoir. The EIS should address the timing of this critical transportation project as it relates to any "build" alternative.
- 3. The EIS should address future over-capacity concerns associated with Backlick Road at EPG and the I-95 ramps at the Fairfax County Parkway (which will relate to development at both the Main Post and EPG). The EIS should also discuss the current design concept for the Fairfax County Parkway and access to EPG from the Parkway. Improvements should be provided to correct any deficiencies associated with these intersections and facilities.

Nonmotorized Transportation

- 1. The EIS should include a map of planned pedestrian and bicycle trails and demonstrate how they will connect to those shown on the adopted Countywide Trails Plan. Development of appropriate segments within and adjacent to Fort Belvoir should be examined. Furthermore, trails along Richmond Highway and the Richmond Highway/Telegraph Road connector road as well as the Potomac Heritage Trail should be identified and incorporated onto the map of planned trails. The EIS should identify mechanisms through which new trails will be funded and constructed.
- 2. The EIS should address the extent to which pedestrian and bicycle connections will be provided between on-post and/or near-post housing and on-site employment areas.
- 3. The EIS should address the extent to which pedestrian connections and facilities (e.g. bus shelters) will be provided in order to facilitate transit use by new and existing employees.
- 4. The EIS should address the extent to which new office buildings will be designed to accommodate bicycle commuting (e.g., secure parking facilities, locker and shower facilities).
- 5. The Accotink Stream Valley provides a major greenway corridor through the Springfield area of Fairfax County. The Cross County Trail, a 40-mile trail that runs from the Occoquan River in Lorton to the Potomac River in Great Falls, traverses a portion of the Accotink Stream Valley. As the EPG site is developed, additional trails along the Accotink Stream Valley

should be developed and planned to link up with the Cross County Trail to provide a link between the EPG area and the Springfield Community Business Center as well as Lake Accotink to the north.

Development Envelopes/Design-General

- 1. Fort Belvoir should continue to incorporate high quality landscape and architectural design elements in its Master Plan. The EIS should address landscaping and design considerations; natural landscaping and green building approaches should be considered. The EIS should encourage the establishment of a vegetation management plan that would control invasive species and promote the establishment of native species in open space areas.
- 2. The EIS should identify design concepts that will result in compact development envelopes, thereby increasing open space, reducing impervious cover, and reducing associated adverse environmental impacts. Toward this end, the use of shared parking and structured parking should be evaluated.
- *3.* The EIS should address the extent to which support retail uses will be provided to serve new office development.
- 4. The development associated with BRAC provides and opportunity for implementation of "Green Building" practices such as those promoted by the U.S. Green Building Council. The EIS should identify the extent to which new development will be designed to meet or exceed federal guiding principles for high performance and sustainable buildings.

Development Envelopes—Engineer Proving Ground

- 1. The EIS should document how development of the EPG site will occur in a manner that is consistent with Fairfax County's Comprehensive Plan. Toward this end, development should be concentrated to the east of the Accotink Creek stream valley (recognizing the Environmental Quality Corridor, as noted later in these comments). The area west of the EQC is designated in the Comprehensive Plan for public park use and other needed public uses; planned park land should be dedicated to the Fairfax County Park Authority for park purposes. The 2003 Defense Authorization included dedication of a 135-acre portion of this area to FCPA.
- 2. The Engineer Proving Ground represents an opportunity to address much of the existing and projected parkland and recreational facility deficits in the Springfield Planning District. The Comprehensive Plan for this area includes 225 acres of Stream Valley/Greenway parkland, 60 acres to be developed as a complex of lighted active recreation fields for use as a sports complex, and 25 acres to be developed as a multi-use activity center for cultural and seasonal events.

Development Envelopes—GSA Warehouses

1. The EIS should evaluate the opportunities and challenges that are posed by the immediate proximity of this site to transit, as well as the site's proximity to the consortia health care university campus.

Demand for Services—General

- 1. The EIS should provide information regarding the estimated number of employees who will probably move their residences to the Fort Belvoir area as a result of the BRAC actions and should document the effects that these relocations will have on county services. Particular housing, schools, utilities, park and recreation, and emergency service concerns are noted below.
- 2. Similarly, the EIS should provide information regarding the estimated number of contractors who will probably move their businesses to the Fort Belvoir area as a result of the BRAC actions and should document the effects that these relocations will have on community services.

Housing

1. Increases in on-site housing supply and off-site housing demand associated with growth at Fort Belvoir should be clearly documented. For off-site housing, estimates should include that range of sales and rental rates that would be considered affordable to residents.

Schools

- 1. The EIS should identify the magnitude of the anticipated increase in number of school age children that will result from the anticipated on-post and off-post development resulting from employment growth at Fort Belvoir.
- 2. If a significant increase in the number of school age children is anticipated, the EIS should identify sites for new schools that will be sufficient to accommodate the expected increase and should identify federal funding that can be made available for school construction.

Utilities

- 1. The EIS should address capacities of sewer and water facilities as they relate to anticipated levels of development.
- 2. Where needed to accommodate anticipated growth, sewer and water facilities should be expanded in capacity. For each alternative, the EIS should identify the need and funding sources for any system expansions that will be needed as a result of the alternative.

Parks and Recreation

- 1. Fort Belvoir provides recreation and community services that support its residents and employees. The EIS should include a needs assessment that projects the overall needs of its population for indoor and outdoor recreation and leisure facilities, open space, community services, and cultural and environmental programs. The EIS should address how the needs identified will be met on-site, and if not met on-site, the impact of the demand for these facilities on existing park and recreation resources in the area. Project consultants are encouraged to consult guidance regarding service levels for ten key types of recreational facilities that has been developed by the Fairfax County Park Authority; this guidance has been incorporated into the Parks and Recreation section of Policy Plan volume of Fairfax County's Comprehensive Plan. FCPA has recently conducted a Countywide Park and Recreation Needs Assessment that projects park and recreation needs through 2013 and will be pleased to provide information collected through this process. The Mount Vernon and Lee District areas are deficient in many recreational facilities. This deficiency is especially high for athletic fields, specifically rectangular fields.
- 2. The EIS should identify the extent to which, if any, each alternative would result in future development on areas that are now developed with (or designated for) recreational use. To offset any loss of redesignated recreation areas, additional recreation facilities should be identified and evaluated as part of the EIS process.
- 3. Pole Road Park, Grist Mill Park, Woodlawn Park, Huntley Meadows Park, Historic Huntley, Mount Air Historic Site, the Berman Tract, Kingstowne Park, Island Creek Park, Levelle W. Dupell Park, Pohick Estates Park, Southgate Park and Lorton Park are located in the immediate vicinity of Fort Belvoir. Other parkland in the vicinity of Fort Belvoir includes Pohick Bay Regional Park, as well as state- and federally-owned parkland on Mason Neck. Hooes Road Park, West Springfield Park, Rolling Forest Park, Rolling Wood School Site Park, Saratoga Park, Accotink Stream Valley Park and Pohick Stream Valley Park are located in the immediate vicinity of the EPG site. Laurel Hill is a large countywide park that also serves this area. Most of these parks contain extensive environmental and cultural resource preservation areas. The EIS should comprehensively analyze impacts to FCPA-owned land in the area that may include air quality, water quality and quantity, noise levels, flora and fauna habitat changes, cultural and historic resources, environmental resources, and park facility capacity and recreation service levels. It is imperative that any off-site impacts to parkland from development, stormwater management changes, construction, or other activities at Fort Belvoir be anticipated and mitigated.
- 4. As noted earlier, much of the area west of the EQC on the Engineer Proving Ground site should be dedicated for park purposes, consistent with the county's Comprehensive Plan.

Emergency Services

1. The EIS should address the additional demands that 22,000 new employees (and the still to be determined number of employees with associated federal contractors) will create on emergency services and the extent to which Fort Belvoir will be providing these services. The EIS should document funding needs and sources for additional emergency service needs.

DeWitt Army Hospital Relocation and Expansion

1. The EIS should evaluate opportunities that INOVA Mount Vernon Hospital may provide in supporting the post and the relocation of medical care functions from the Walter Reed Medical Center.

Air Quality

1. Air quality analyses should consider both on- and off-post traffic congestion and measures that will be taken to reduce vehicle trips and vehicle miles traveled. The analysis should not be limited to carbon monoxide and particulate concentrations but should also evaluate development options with respect to emissions of precursors of atmospheric ozone.

Ecological Resources--General

- 1. The EIS should address how impacts to wetlands will be minimized.
- The EIS should address how any unavoidable impacts to wetlands will be mitigated. Mitigation/compensation should occur as close to the areas of impact as possible; the Stormwater Planning Division of the Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (703-324-5500) may be able to provide guidance regarding wetland mitigation/compensation opportunities.
- 3. Environmental Quality Corridors (EQCs) as defined in the County's Policy Plan should be protected. The EIS should recognize the EQC policy and address how new development will be designed consistent with this policy.

Ecological Resources-Main Post

- 1. We commend Fort Belvoir for its environmental stewardship efforts and recommend that the BRAC-related efforts serve to reinforce and, where possible, expand upon these efforts. The ecologically significant natural resource areas identified in Fort Belvoir's Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP) should be recognized as a fundamental planning factor, and efforts should continue to be made to protect and enhance these areas. Toward that end, the EIS should address the compatibility of all options with the full extent of significant natural resources as identified in the INRMP, with particular focus on the southwestern portion of the post (see below) and efforts to protect, and perhaps augment, Fort Belvoir's Forest and Wildlife Corridor (particularly in areas where this corridor is narrow). Direct and indirect impacts (e.g., potential for impacts by invasive species due to edge effects) should be addressed, as should be potential mitigation measures.
- 2. We are particularly concerned with the possible intensification of development in the southwestern portion of the post. This area contains mature upland forest with low levels of fragmentation, adjoins the Accotink Bay National Wildlife Refuge, and protects both the Accotink and Pohick Creeks as they enter the tidal regime of the Potomac River at Pohick Bay

and Gunston Cove. Combined with the federal, state and regional park land already existing in this area, the southwest area represents an area of particular ecological significance that should be protected to the greatest extent possible.

- 3. The EIS should identify sensitive areas along the Accotink Creek corridor that are critical for protection of the main stem of Accotink Creek as it approaches the Accotink Bay National Wildlife Refuge.
- 4. The EIS should assess potential impacts to the Jackson Abbot Wildlife Refuge on Dogue Creek. This refuge is southwest of Huntley Meadows Park on the main stem of Dogue Creek. Protection and expansion of this refuge is critical to protect the wetlands and sensitive wildlife along the Dogue Creek corridor and in close proximity to the county's wildlife preserve at Huntley Meadows Park. This action would also support the county's Comprehensive Plan, which calls for the protection of the Environmental Quality Corridor associated with Dogue Creek.
- 5. The EIS should assess the impacts of shoreline development, to include recreational, office, residential, etc. on Gunston Cove, the Potomac River and the mouth of Dogue Creek. Of particular note is possible recreational facility development on Gunston Cove. This area already has high use by recreational boats from Pohick Bay Regional Park and is experiencing conflicts with natural resource protection and passive recreation. This area also has one of the highest year-round concentrations of Bald Eagles and other species of concern.
- 6. New development should be concentrated within areas of the Post that have already been developed or otherwise disturbed.

Ecological Resources—Engineer Proving Ground

1. The entirety of the Environmental Quality Corridor (EQC) associated with Accotink Creek and its tributaries as well as other RPA and wetland areas, as delineated by staff and represented on the attached map (the areas in question are those that are identified as "non-buildable area" located outside of the area being dedicated for the Fairfax County Parkway), should be preserved in, and, where applicable, restored to, a natural condition. The EQC should be dedicated to the County for incorporation into the Stream Valley Park system. The RPA along the eastern property boundary and disconnected wetland area in the northeastern portion of the site should also be dedicated to FCPA.

Water Resources

- 1. The EIS should identify all 100-year floodplains (applying the county's definition) and all Resource Protection Areas (applying the recently revised designation criteria) on the Main Post and the Engineer Proving Ground. These areas should be protected consistent with county policy and regulations.
- 2. In defining boundaries of Resource Protection Areas, Post-specific information regarding locations of perennial streams and wetlands should be used to augment county maps of

Chesapeake Bay Preservation Areas. Where perennial streams are known to exist, protection of these streams and associated buffer areas consistent with the text of the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance should be pursued, even if these areas are not identified as RPAs on county maps (note that the county has not performed perennial stream evaluations on Fort Belvoir property).

- 3. The EIS should recognize watershed management planning efforts that are under way in Fairfax County; Fort Belvoir should participate in the watershed management planning efforts for Dogue Creek, Accotink Creek, and Pohick Creek as these efforts get started.
- 4. Project consultants should coordinate with the Stormwater Planning Division of the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services on the identification of stream and stormwater management projects in the area of the Main Post and EPG. A point of contact within the Stormwater Planning Division is Matt Meyers, who can be reached at 703-324-5500.
- 5. The EIS should identify any body of water on or near the Main Post or EPG that is included on the list of impaired waters designated pursuant to Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and should address the implications of these designations. Pohick Bay, other tidal waters, and nontidal portions of Accotink Creek on the Main Post and EPG are considered to be impaired.
- 6. The EIS should address how impacts to streams will be minimized.
- 7. The EIS should address how any unavoidable impacts to streams will be mitigated. Mitigation/compensation should occur as close to the areas of impact as possible; the Stormwater Planning Division of the Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (703-324-5500) may be able to provide guidance regarding stream mitigation/compensation opportunities.
- 8. At a minimum, Fort Belvoir should provide erosion and sediment control measures, stormwater management measures, and water quality best management practices that are consistent with county requirements. The EIS should clearly establish that these requirements will be satisfied.
- 9. The EIS should address opportunities to minimize impervious cover and to use other low impact development and better site design techniques. For all new development and redevelopment at Fort Belvoir, designs should be pursued that would serve, to the extent possible, to replicate predevelopment hydrologic conditions through infiltration of stormwater runoff.

Site Contamination

1. The EIS should identify sites on the Main Post, Engineer Proving Ground, and GSA Warehouses that have been subject to contamination and the status of efforts to clean these sites. The EIS should further identify the relationship, if any, between site contamination issues and siting decisions for new development.

Cultural Resources

- 1. The EIS should identify the potential impacts of each alternative on historic and archaeological resources. Projects impacting on cultural resources should comply with the Secretary of Interior's Standards and planning should be done in accordance with these standards. If a determination is made that project activities (undertakings) have the potential to adversely affect cultural resources on or near Fort Belvoir, the Areas of Potential Effect should be identified and mitigation to protect the resources should include the preparation of a Memorandum of Agreement or Programmatic Agreement allowing for the involvement of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Fairfax County Park Authority Cultural Resource Management and Protection Section, Alexandria Friends Meeting Religious Society of Friends, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation as signatories to such agreements. Any new development and construction activities within the Fairfax County Woodlawn and Pohick Church Historic Overlay Districts and within the District's viewsheds should be subject to review and comment by Fairfax County.
- 2. A statement should be included in the EIS that would <u>require</u> all Section 106 archeological work (scopes of work and reports) be coordinated with the Fairfax County Park Authority. It is a requirement under Section 106 that consultation be made with all interested parties, of which the Park Authority is the prime one regarding archeology. Having done much of the survey work in that area and conducted data recovery on the Barnes/Owsley Plantation located there, FCPA is the most knowledgeable entity regarding the archeology on Fort Belvoir. The property has numerous significant prehistoric and historic sites including the ca. 1700 grave of Maj. Thomas Owsley, which has yet to be located.

Other

- 1. We have previously expressed concern about a possible Old Colchester Road site for the proposed National Museum of the U.S. Army and wish to reiterate this concern in light of new uncertainty regarding where on Fort Belvoir this facility may be located. The cumulative impacts of the museum, BRAC, and other programmed development at Fort Belvoir should be addressed in the EIS. In addition to environmental and transportation impacts, impacts to the Fairfax County Woodlawn and Pohick Church Historic Overlay Districts and viewsheds associated with these districts should be considered in any siting decision for this facility.
- 2. The EIS should document anticipated operations at Davison Army Airfield and identify associated noise impacts. Of particular interest would be any differences that might occur in airfield operations under the various options.