

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY / NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY BETHESDA
BRAC INTEGRATION COMMITTEE
MEETING SUMMARY – MARCH 17, 2015**

- **Ilaya Hopkins called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.**
 - Ilaya reminded BIC members to update their calendars to include the 2015 Quarterly BIC meetings, which will be held at 7:00 PM at the BCC Regional Services Center on the following dates:
 - June 16, 2015
 - September 15, 2015
 - December 15, 2015

- **Updates from Phil Alperson, Montgomery County Military Installations (BRAC) Coordinator:**
 - **Matters discussed at BIC meetings are detailed chronologically with background material on the website’s “Get Involved” Page:**
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brctmpl.asp?url=/Content/EXEC/brac/get_involved.asp
 - **Printable Timeline: Anticipated Construction-Related Traffic Disruptions in Bethesda:**
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/resources/files/brac_projects_timeline.pdf
 - **BRAC Transportation Projects and Commuting Options:**
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brctmpl.asp?url=/content/exec/brac/projects_glance.asp

 - **Phil reminded the Committee to get traffic and BRAC news and information first by following Montgomery County BRAC on Twitter @BracMoCoMD .**

 - **NIH signs Record of decision (ROD) for long-range Master Plan:** Phil reported that the NIH signed the ROD in January. If funded, the Master Plan will bring 3,000 additional NIH personnel to the Bethesda campus over 20 years from leased space elsewhere in the County. Notably, the ROD maintains the 2:1 parking ratio for the current 20,000 personnel but requires a 3:1 ratio for the new personnel – an increase of 1,000 parking spaces on campus. Several officials from the Bethesda area have gone on record urging a campus-wide 3:1 ratio.
 - **3-13-15 Bethesda Now: Elected Officials Ask NIH to Reconsider Parking Spaces On Bethesda Campus – A group of elected officials this week asked the NIH “to be an even better neighbor” by reducing the amount of parking spaces on its 310-acre campus.**

and Bradshaw Construction. The project is expected to be complete by fall 2018, weather permitting.

- **MCDOT Presentation (requires Adobe Flash Player):**
https://prezi.com/vyzxo9dddj2/md-355-crossing-brac/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy
 - **PDF version (6 pp):**
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/Resources/Files/MMX-MCDOT-BIC-RFP-120214.pdf>
- **CROSSING PROJECT OVERVIEW:**
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/projects/metro_mc.html
- **Phil reported that the Corridor Advisory Committees (CAC) for the County Rapid Transit Vehicle System have begun to meet. Several BIC members serve on the CAC focusing on the southern MD 355 route.**
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rts/index.html>
- **SHA Updates:**
 - **Christopher Bishop noted that SHA has suffered greatly with the sudden passing of two key engineers on the Intersection Improvement projects -- Mark Daugherty and Jon Dixon. In addition, Kevin Nowak has left SHA District 3.**
 - **Christopher introduced Kevin Oberheim of SHA; they reported that the traffic lane switch on Rockville Pike at Cedar Lane originally planned for February, but postponed repeatedly due to inclement weather, was completed early Monday morning, March 15. The Intersection Project is now more than 50% complete. Estimated completion – weather permitting --- is late summer 2016.**
 - **SHA had essentially completed work to rebuild a culvert under Cedar Lane and will now focus on the culvert beneath MD 355. SHA will now work to backfill construction areas on Cedar Lane that will enable SHA to move a jersey barrier and allow RideOn to fully restore Route 34 service to east bound Cedar Lane. This task may take some time.**
 - **The new traffic pattern on MD 355 will prevent vehicles travelling northbound from turning left onto West Cedar Lane until the intersection project is complete in later summer 2016 (weather permitting). MetroBus J2 and J3 now follow partial detours onto Battery Lane rather than West Cedar Lane. It was suggested that SHA place an Electronic Message Board on northbound MD 355 south of Battery Lane, so that drivers will be able to turn left on Battery since they won't be able to turn left onto West Cedar Lane.**

for this project in FY17 or 18. Meanwhile, construction of medical swing space, which began in preparation for the Building C project, is now on hold.

- **NSAB is considering forming an economic development “Alliance,” as modeled by other military installations throughout Maryland.** NSAB would partner primarily with the area business community as well as medical and educational institutions. Alliances are represented at quarterly meetings of the Maryland Military Installations Council (MMIC). BNSAB PAO Ron Inman is leading this project and will be reaching out to local stakeholders.

- **NIH Update:**
 - **Phil Neuberg defended the NIH 2:1 parking ration as a long-standing agreement with NCPC, and that NIH has spent millions of dollars to promote transit and other transportation alternatives for its personnel, many of whom do not work conventional hours.**

- **MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION:**
 - It was suggested that SHA or MCDOT try to give greater warning when major construction or traffic disruptions are planned, i.e. more than two weeks notice.

 - NSAB noted that discussions have begun with SHA and MCDOT about enhanced signage on the Beltway and other major roads that would direct visitors to Connecticut Avenue, Jones Bridge Road, or Old Georgetown Road, or alternatives to Rockville Pike.

 - It was requested that MCDOT explore restricting the use of traffic signals at NSAB gates on Jones Bridge Road that are closed on the weekend.

- **Ilaya adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 16, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the BCC Regional Services Center.**

BRAC Committee members in attendance, March 17, 2015:

Nancy Abeles, Bethesda Crest Home Owners Association
Phil Alperson, Montgomery County Military Installations (BRAC) Coordinator
Christopher Bishop, Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA)
Ilaya Hopkins, East Bethesda Citizens Assn. and Chair of the BRAC Integration Committee
Ginanne Italiano, Greater Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chamber of Commerce
Karen Kuker-Kihl, The Promenade Apartments
Richard Levine, Locust Hill Citizens Association
Janet Maalouf, Maplewood Citizens Association
Marilyn Mazuzan, Town of Oakmont
Debbie Michaels, Glenbrook Village Homeowners Association
Phil Neuberg, National Institutes of Health
Leslie Weber, Suburban Hospital (Johns Hopkins Medicine)

Ex-officio:

Captain David Bitonti, Naval Support Activity-Bethesda
Ryan Emery, Naval Support Activity-Bethesda
Ron Inman, Naval Support Activity-Bethesda
Ken Reichard, Office of Senator Ben Cardin
Joan Kleinman, Office of Congressman Chris Van Hollen
Drew Morrison, Office of Council Member Roger Berliner

Other Attendees

Stacy Coletta, MCDOT Transit Services
Olivia Delaplaine, Office of Delegate Marc Korman
Charise Geiling, Sharp & Company
Tracey Johnstone, Action Committee for Transit
Aaron Kraut, Bethesda Now
Jeanette Musil, DOD Office of Economic Adjustment
Kevin Oberheim, Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA)
Susan Sharp, Sharp & Company
Courtney Wilson, DOD Office of Economic Adjustment