

COALITION OF MILITARY MEDICAL CENTER NEIGHBORS

July 16, 2010

John Carman
Chair, BRAC Implementation Committee

In Care Of: Phil Alperson
Montgomery County BRAC Coordinator
Office of the County Executive
101 Monroe Street, 2nd Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear John

As the Bethesda BRAC project reaches its critical stages with the opening of WRNMMC just fourteen months away, we wish to reiterate the importance of continued Community involvement. We feel it is imperative that the Community is at the table through the implementation of any and all of these changes in order to ensure accountability and full implementation of what has been committed to.

From our inception in October 2007 through today, the goal of the Coalition has been to work toward the success of the mission of the new Walter Reed while preserving the quality of life and the economic success of the residential and business communities in the nearby vicinity.

Keeping our collective eye on the money that has been allocated for these projects is easily one of the most important priorities before the community. Consider this list:

- \$45 million from the state's CTP (with \$15 million deferred indefinitely) for key intersection improvements;
- \$5 million from the county's CIP for bike paths
- \$20 million from DAR for a safe and convenient pedestrian crossing to facilitate access to mass transit at the Medical Center metro area
- \$300 million from a DoD appropriation

We believe the BRAC Implementation Committee should remain active – and therefore engaged and involved in the decision making process for how these monies are spent and how projects are prioritized – for the foreseeable future.

A thorough understanding of the challenges we face is necessary if we hope to accommodate the influx of staff, patients and visitors who will be drawn to our area by the new Walter Reed. After all, success for Walter Reed also requires that we maintain the quality of life by providing the opportunity for adequate mobility in the surrounding area. We feel the surrounding Communities who experience the trials and benefits of the area every day bring an open and unique understanding to the table.

The BRAC Implementation Committee has been an effective participant in the process through your leadership and your willingness to encourage community participation. We ask for your continued support and ask that you relay this information to the County Executive, encouraging community involvement in future aspects of the BRAC process. To date we have been cooperative and instrumental

in the process. We have encouraged and insisted that all work together, changed SHA's Community involvement during the planning of projects, worked closely with our elected officials in bringing monies to the table and at this critical time are a crucial component in reaching our goals and objectives.

Please encourage our seat at the table in all BRAC related endeavors. Thank you for your continued assistance.

Sincerely,

Coalition of Military Medical Center Neighbors

Bailey Condrey, Parkwood Citizens Association

Lulu Gonella, Chevy Chase View

Ilaya Hopkins, East Bethesda Citizens Association

Ed Krauze, Bethesda Parkview Citizens Association

Marilyn Mazuzan, Town of Oakmont

Avice Meehan, Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Debbie Michaels, Glenbrook Village HOA

George Milne, Stone Ridge School

Paul Thaler, Locust Hill Estates Citizens Association

Bob Weesner, Village of North Chevy Chase