

## NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

### DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ACTIVITIES TO IMPLEMENT 2005 BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE ACTIONS AT NATIONAL NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER, BETHESDA, MARYLAND

The Navy announces the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for potential environmental impacts associated with implementing actions directed by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Act of 1990 as amended in 2005, at the National Naval Medical Center (NNMC) in Bethesda, Maryland. Under the 2005 BRAC law, Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC) will relocate all tertiary (sub-specialty and complex care) medical services to the NNMC campus in Bethesda from WRAMC. This new military health care center is to be named the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC) Bethesda. By law the realignment actions must be accomplished by 15 September 2011. The BRAC realignment actions will bring additional patients and visitors requiring additional staff and facilities at NNMC. The DEIS provides information on proposed new construction and facility alterations and an assessment of the potential environmental impacts associated with these actions and their subsequent operation at WRNMMC Bethesda.

The public review period for the DEIS is from 14 December 2007 to 28 January 2008. Copies of the DEIS have been placed at the following locations: Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda, MD, 20814; Chevy Chase Library, 8005 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD, 20815; Davis Library, 6400 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD, 20817; Kensington Park Library, 4201 Knowles Avenue, Kensington, MD, 20895; Rockville Library, 21 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850; Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center, 4805 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda, MD, 20814; Bethesda Urban Partnership, Inc., 7700 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD, 20814; and Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chamber of Commerce, 7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 1204, Bethesda, MD, 20814.

The DEIS is also available at the following websites:

[http://www.bethesda.med.navy.mil/Professional/Public\\_Affairs/BRAC/](http://www.bethesda.med.navy.mil/Professional/Public_Affairs/BRAC/)

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac>

The Navy invites the general public, local governments, state and other federal agencies to submit written comments to the Navy concerning the assessment of environmental impacts provided by the DEIS. All comments must be dated no later than midnight January 28, 2008 to be accepted and addressed in the Final EIS. Please submit comments by mail, by E-Mail at [NNMCEIS@med.navy.mil](mailto:NNMCEIS@med.navy.mil), or by Fax at: (301) 295-5020. The mailing address for comments is:

Officer in Charge – BRAC  
National Naval Medical Center  
8901 Wisconsin Avenue  
Bethesda, Maryland 20889

The Navy also invites the public and government agency representatives to participate in public hearings for the DEIS where verbal and written comments can also be presented to Navy representatives. The Navy will hold two public hearings on January 9 and 10, 2008 from 6 PM to 8 PM, at the Pooks Hill Marriott, 5151 Pooks Hill Road, Bethesda, MD, 20814. To obtain additional information concerning the DEIS or public hearings, or to make a request for special assistance at either of the public hearings, please contact Navy representatives at the addresses provided above or leave a message by telephone at: (301) 295-2722. Please submit any requests for assistance at the hearings by January 4, 2008 to allow time to respond.