

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY / NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY BETHESDA  
BRAC INTEGRATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING SUMMARY – APRIL 18, 2017**

- Ilaya Hopkins called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. BIC and audience members introduced themselves.
- Updates from Phil Alperson, Montgomery County Military Installations (BRAC) Coordinator:
  - Check out the County's BRAC site:  
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/>
  - 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/getinvolved.asp>
  - **Printable Timeline: Anticipated Construction-Related Traffic Disruptions in Bethesda:**  
[http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/resources/files/brac\\_projects\\_timeline.pdf](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](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 .
- Phil provided updates on the MD 355 Multimodal Crossing Project at the Medical Center Metro Station.
  - The County has established a comprehensive Crossing Project web site -- <http://md355crossing.com/> -- that supplements the County's BRAC web site.
  - **Upcoming lane closures on Rockville Pike, from Woodmont Avenue to Wilson Drive:** MCDOT has announced that two lanes of Rockville Pike will be closed for the next four weekends, from 10:00 PM Friday through 5:00 AM Monday. The weekends will be Friday through Monday, April 21-24, April 28-May 1, May 5-8, and May 12-15. Phil noted that MCDOT's permit for weekend closures of two lanes of Rockville Pike is good through the end of 2017, and that actual planned closures will be announced as necessary.  
[http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcportalapps/Press\\_Detail.aspx?Item\\_ID=20971](http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=20971)
  - **Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) Plan:** MCDOT and Clark Construction have developed a long-term MOT plan for the Crossing Project that provides for potential lane closures, as follows:

- **Daytime, off-peak, single lane closures** from 9:00 AM -3:00 PM, Weekdays Monday through Friday;
- **Weeknight Overnight double lane closures** from 10:00 PM-5:00 AM, Weeknights Sunday night through Saturday morning;
- **Weekend double lane closures** from 10:00 PM Friday through 5:00 AM Monday.

**Note that the times listed above for potential lane closures do not mean that lanes will be closed every possible time. Actual lane closings will be announced in advance.**

- **Blasting: The only times that traffic will be halted on Rockville Pike is to accommodate controlled blasting to construct a shaft for elevators next to the Navy Gate at South Wood Drive that descend approx. 135 feet to the Metrorail Mezzanine.** A Blasting Plan is being developed with the County Fire Marshall and will be announced at a future date.
  - Blasting will occur over several months but there will only be a single blast any day that blasting takes place;
  - Blasting will be announced days ahead of time;
  - Blasting times have yet to be determined but will not be during peak traffic hours;
  - A warning horn will sound prior to any blast (the horn will be louder than any actual blast);
  - Traffic will be halted for approximately ten minutes.

- **Phil provided updates on SHA Projects:**

- **Intersection Improvement Project at MD 187 (Old Georgetown Road)/West Cedar Lane:** Construction has resumed at full speed following the scheduled “partial winter shutdown,” with completion projected for late summer or fall of 2017.
- **The joint SHA/MCDOT extension of the Bethesda Trolley Trail hiker/biker path along MD 187 from Charles Street to the NIH campus continues with completion expected later this year.**
- **The Intersection Improvement Project at MD 355 (Rockville Pike)/Cedar lane is complete, except for minor landscaping.** It was noted that in the Planning Board’s long-term review of the Bethesda Downtown Plan, a long-standing plan to construct a separated interchange at 355/Cedar is no longer under consideration.
- **SHA has been studying signaling changes it recently implemented at the intersections of MD 355 (Rockville Pike)/Cedar lane and at MD 355**

(Rockville Pike)/Jones Bridge Road to address pedestrian and vehicular safety issues. SHA expects to announce updates to those changes in the next week or two.

- Talking points on the two intersections prepared by Anyesha Mookherjee of SHA for the January 10, 2017 BIC Meeting:  
[http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/Resources/Files/SHA-BIC-SIGNALS\\_INTERSECTIONS-011017.pdf](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/Resources/Files/SHA-BIC-SIGNALS_INTERSECTIONS-011017.pdf)

- **Intersection Improvement Project at MD 185 (Connecticut Avenue)/Jones Bridge Road:** Howard Hughes Medical Institute has completed the relocation of its retaining wall parallel to JBR. This will allow SHA to relocate utilities on the south side of JBR that will precede construction of the second phase of the Intersection project. The first phase was the addition of northbound and southbound lanes on Connecticut Avenue; the second phase will add turn lanes from eastbound JBR onto northbound Connecticut. SHA is currently working with residents of the adjacent neighborhoods to acquire small amounts of ROW and construct storm water management facilities.
  - **Platt Ridge Drive Extension:** SHA expects to approve a Notice to Proceed for the contractor to begin construction within the next couple of months, with completion expected in about a year. This project is separate from, but related to, the 185/JBR Intersection Project and will create a four-way signalized intersection on JBR, eliminate the temporary signal on JBR at Spring Valley Road, and provide safe ingress and egress to for the Chevy Chase Valley neighborhood.
    - **MCDOT Project Description:**  
[http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/projects/platt\\_ridge.html](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/projects/platt_ridge.html)
  - **In past months, SHA added a “bump out” at the intersection of eastbound Beach Drive at southbound Connecticut Avenue to address pedestrian safety.** However, as an unintended consequence eastbound motorists were deprived of a right-only turn onto southbound Connecticut. Recent restriping on Beach Drive has restored the right-only turn lane.
- **Additional matters of interest to the community:**
    - **WMATA is nearing completion of its restoration of the main elevator at the Medical Center Metro Station is beginning a renovation of the main escalators:** <https://www.wmata.com/service/status/details/medical-center-escalator-replacement.cfm>
    - **MCDOT Ride On has added a limited stop express bus running between the Medical Center Metro Station and Lake Forest Mall in Gaithersburg:**  
[http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press\\_Detail.aspx?Item\\_ID=20955](http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=20955)

- **NSAB UPDATES:** Captain Jones, Luke Armstrong and Ryan Emery are in frequent communication with residents of adjoining neighborhoods to resolve issues related to construction on the NSAB campus. NSAB strives to be a good neighbor and is sensitive to matters such as overflow contractor parking and construction-related noise. Jeremy Brooks and Roger Dindyal noted that the campus newspaper, the Journal, is available online at <http://www.dcmilitary.com/journal/> and contains many resources of interest to the community.
- **Ilaya adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 17, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the BCC Regional Services Center.**

**BRAC Committee members in attendance, April 18, 2017:**

Nancy Abeles, Bethesda Crest  
 Steve Aldrich, Montgomery County Planning Dept., M-NCPPC  
 Phil Alperson, Montgomery County Military Installations (BRAC) Coordinator  
 Ilaya Hopkins, East Bethesda Citizens Assn. and Chair of the BRAC Integration Committee  
 Ginanne Italiano, Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce  
 Ed Krauze, Bethesda Parkview Citizens Association  
 Richard Levine, Locust Hill Citizens Association  
 Marilyn Mazuzan, Town of Oakmont  
 Debbie Michaels, Glenbrook Village Home Owners Association  
 Sara Morningstar, Montgomery County Office of Intergovernmental Relations  
 Eric Osberg, Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart

**Ex officio:**

Captain Marvin Jones, Naval Support Activity Bethesda  
 Ryan Emery, Installation Transportation Officer, Naval Support Activity Bethesda  
 Luke Armstrong, Community Liaison Officer, Naval Support Activity Bethesda  
 Jeremy Brooks, Public Affairs, Naval Support Activity Bethesda  
 Roger Dindyal, Community Planning, Naval Support Activity Bethesda  
 Joan Kleinman, Office of Senator Chris Van Hollen  
 Aaron Kraut, Office of Council Member Roger Berliner  
 Constanza Rodriguez, Office of Delegate Marc Korman

**Other Attendees (signed in)**

Abby Curtin, Clark Construction Group  
 Jeanette Musil, DOD Office of Economic Adjustment (via telephone)  
 Kevin Price, Sharp & Company  
 John Stovall, MD Dept. of Commerce  
 Phil Sheridan, Clark Construction Group