

Maryland Military Installation Council

2022 Annual Report

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ARTICLE § 11-207

Submitted by:

Maryland Department of Commerce

January 2023

Maryland Military Installation Council

2022 Annual Report

In accordance with the Economic Development Article § 11-207, this document constitutes the annual report of the Maryland Military Installation Council (MMIC) for calendar year 2022. The MMIC continues to be a forum for Maryland military installations, defense communities, defense businesses, State agencies, and elected officials to dialogue on issues associated with Maryland's military installations. Recognizing the nation is in a constantly turbulent defense spending environment, the MMIC remains focused on the Department of Defense budget impacts, mission alignment and basing decisions, potential Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) activity, and relevant issues among the Maryland military installations, associated defense communities, and supporting the defense industry.

The MMIC met three times in 2022: March 28th, September 12th, and December 9th. These meetings were held in-person at the Maryland state office building at 100 Community Place in Crownsville. The March 28th meeting was chaired by Ms. Lisa Swoboda, Senior Director of the Office of Military and Federal Affairs (OMFA), on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce, Mike Gill. The Secretary chaired the September and December meetings, which were both directed by Ms. Swoboda. OMFA continues to provide direct support and coordinates all actions associated with the MMIC.

MMIC Meetings Summary:

The Council heard from featured speakers at each meeting, with updates on programs relevant to the health and well-being of Maryland's military installations and defense communities. Installation and base commanders provided updates on activities and issues, and the military alliance presidents provided updates on their respective activities.

March 28th

- **Hunter Marsh, for State Delegate Brian Crosby**, provided updates on several bills pending in the state legislature.
- **Spencer Knoll, Military Legislative Assistant for U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen**, reported on relevant contents of the defense omnibus appropriations bill.
- **George Schlossberg, Maryland Military Installation Council (MMIC) Member and Partner and Kutak Rock, Chair, Federal Practice and National Security**, reported on the FY23 President's budget, pending imminent release.
- **Mrs. Patricia Barron, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Military Community and Family Policy**, provided an overview of their efforts to work with states on military family friendly policies and programs, highlighting Maryland's recent strides in childcare provider availability and military spouse licensing.
- **Yolanda Rayford, Chapter Director, Baltimore Chesapeake Region, Blue Star Families** reported on the 2022 Military Family Lifestyle Survey and upcoming Blue Star Family activities.
- **Dr. David Riggs, PhD., Professor/Chair Department of Medical and Clinical Psychology, and Executive Director, Center for Deployment Psychology** gave a presentation on the

Uniformed Services University of Public Health and the Center for Deployment Psychology outreach program.

- **Captain John Brabazon, Station Commander, Naval Air Station Patuxent River, and Donald Mills, Deputy Director, St. Mary's County Department of Public Works** described Maryland's first award from the Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP) and offered lessons learned.

September 12th

- **Bob Carullo, Executive Director, Strengthening the Mid-Atlantic Region for Tomorrow (SMART) Congressional Initiative**, briefly described the SMART program.
- **Stacey Herman, Assistant Vice President, Neurodiversity and Community Workforce Development, Kennedy Krieger Institute** described Project SEARCH, a 10-month program that provides training and support to place those with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the workforce.
- **Matt Boron, Executive Director, Association of Defense Communities (ADC)**, provided an overview of the ADC organization and its legislative advocacy. A recent example of ADC influence is an anticipated increase in the Defense Community Infrastructure Program funding to \$150M for FY23.
- **Jill McClune, Co-Chair, MMIC Workforce Committee**, discussed a survey that will be distributed to the installation tenant organizations to collect inputs on post-pandemic workforce issues. Ms. McClune requested the installation and base commanders' assistance in distribution to major tenant organizations.
- **Tyler Abbott, Chief of Staff, Maryland Department of Environment (MDE)**, described MDE support for various military installation resiliency initiatives.
- **Dana Burl, Program Director for Communications, Outreach and Advocacy, Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA)**, presented on the contents and availability of the newly released MDVA Community Partner Toolkit, and several other MDVA initiatives.
- **Secretary Robert McCord, MD Department of Planning (MDP)**, emphasized the importance and utility of the MDP Compatible Use initiative, and the necessity of installations and their local defense communities to be "good neighbors."
- **Secretary George Owings, MD Department of Veterans Affairs** thanked those in attendance, highlighted the improvements in veteran engagement over the past decade, and emphasized the importance of informing all veterans of available resources.

December 9th

- **Mike Gill, Secretary of Commerce and Director of MMIC**, welcomed attendees and re-emphasized the importance of the military mission in Maryland.
- **Patrick O'Brien, Director, DoD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC)**, provided a detailed briefing entitled "Defense Community Briefing: Federal Opportunities and Defense Priorities."
- **Chris Arnold, Northeast Regional Liaison, DoD Military Community and Family Policy, Defense State Liaison Office**, presented a briefing entitled "Partnering with the Defense State Liaison Office."

- **Amy O'Donnell, Navy Program Director, MD Commerce, and Co-Chair, MMIC Workforce Committee** presented a briefing on the status and initial installation input to the recent MMIC Workforce Committee survey.
- **Jennifer Chiasson, Senior Grant Program Manager, MD Dept. of Commerce, and Sarah Diehl, Compatible Use Community Planning Liaison, MD Dept. of Planning** presented a briefing on the Maryland Compatible Land Use Program, to include the status of the program deliverables.

At each of the three 2022 meetings:

- The military installation garrison and station commanders informed the MMIC of local, state and federal issues impacting their installations and associated defense communities, and reviewed significant upcoming events at their installations.
- Representatives from the seven military alliances offered overviews of their alliance activities and engagement with their respective installations.
- Congressional staff in attendance, representing the federal Maryland delegation, participated in discussions and provided comments on relevant federal issues.
- State agency directors in attendance, or their representatives, provided comments and perspective on many of the programs and issues discussed.

Findings and Recommendations:

As in previous years it is clear that Maryland must remain vigilant in the face of defense budget instability, mission realignments and/or relocation out of Maryland, and potential BRAC activity. Engagement from all Maryland stakeholders is necessary to avoiding losing military missions, which equates to jobs, payroll, contracts, and ultimately huge State and regional economic impacts. Likewise, the State must position itself to take advantage of opportunities, whenever they present themselves, to preserve and increase the federal defense footprint in Maryland.

- All installations have returned to normal (post-COVID) operations, although most still have a considerable segment of their workforce working remotely.
- As much of the workforce returns from work-at-home status, childcare capacity and childcare worker hiring and retention is a continuing problem at most of the installations and surrounding communities.
- Workforce shortages persist at all Maryland installations. In addition to technical and cyber skills, commanders report difficulty in hiring childcare workers, mechanics and other skilled labor. The MMIC workforce committee, with support from other Maryland state agencies, must continue to support and encourage initiatives to improve recruitment and retention of a highly skilled workforce supporting Maryland installations.
- Continued engagement with our federal partners and financial support of our seven military alliances are both essential to maintaining the estimated \$60 billion economic impact of our Maryland military installations.

The minutes of the three 2022 meetings follow.

MARYLAND MILITARY INSTALLATION COUNCIL
Monday, March 28, 2022; 0830-1200
Meeting Minutes

The spring 2022 MMIC meeting was conducted in-person at the state government building at 100 Community Place, Crownsville, MD. The session included updates from the Maryland installation commanders and the Maryland National Guard, remarks from guest speakers, and updates from the alliance presidents. Total attendance was 61.

Welcome and Introductions

Lisa Swoboda, Executive Director of the MMIC and Senior Director of the Maryland Department of Commerce Office of Military & Federal Affairs welcomed attendees to the meeting, provided opening remarks with a review of the agenda. She also introduced headstrong.org, a foundation providing counseling for active duty and veterans.

State Legislative Update

Hunter Marsh, for State Senator Will Smith, provided update on several bills pending in the state legislature.

Federal Legislative Update

Spencer Knoll, Military Legislative Assistant for Senator Van Hollen, reported that the defense omnibus appropriations bill includes:

- \$40M for post-production software development at CECOM.
- \$41M for projects at the U.S. Naval Academy.
- \$21M for space launch capability upgrades at Wallops Island.
- The delegation is taking requests for FY23 funding priorities.

George Schlossberg, Partner and Chair, Federal Practice and National Security, Kutak Rock, reported on the FY23 President's budget should be released today:

- Anticipate a 4% increase to \$773B, with historically high investments in research and development.
- BRAC legislation is unlikely, but the DoD will seek additional authorities to modernize and shed excess infrastructure.

Keynote Speaker

Mrs. Patricia Barron, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Military Community and Family Policy

- Ms. Barron works closely with the Defense State Liaison Office on issues such as portability of occupational licenses (Maryland is a member of the licensure compact), and the Purple Star Schools Program.
- Shared priorities include childcare as a mission-critical service, facilitating change of station issues, improving education for military families, and spousal professional license reciprocity.
- Maryland has already approved 6 of 8 licensing compacts, and the legislature is currently considering three military quality of life bills.

- April is designated the month of the military child. Childcare is considered a critical issue due to worker shortages, and the prospect of increased demand as more parents return to work and need daycare services.

Networking break 10:00-10:20

2022 Military Family Lifestyle Survey

Yolanda Rayford, Chapter Director, Baltimore Chesapeake Region, Blue Star Families

- Blue Star Families works with communities to improve quality of life for military families. The organization is very active in Maryland and adjoining states, with 4098 members in the Baltimore/Chesapeake region.
- The three top issues identified with the most recent survey are:
 - Family stress from PCS and extended TDY
 - Family financial education and readiness
 - Availability of child mental health services
- Blue Star Families advocates to state professional license portability, as well as other regional resources for military families.

Uniformed Services University of Public Health and the Center for Deployment Psychology

Dr. David Riggs, PhD., Professor/Chair Department of Medical and Clinical Psychology, and Executive Director, Center for Deployment Psychology

- USU has been providing both live and zoom training for providers for the past 6 years.
- This outreach program encompasses:
 - Extended learning opportunities for providers
 - Star Behavioral Health Improvement Program
 - Military Kids outreach
 - Rapid response to support mental health providers
 - Recently trained over 80k practitioners
 - david.riggs@usuhf.edu
- The NDAA supports increasing the number of medical and clinical psychology students, but there are currently not enough staff to support the expansion.
- USU funding is continuously threatened, in particular funding for the research program.

Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP) – Maryland’s First Award

CAPT John Brabazon, Station Commander, NAS Patuxent River

Donald Mills, Deputy Director, St. Mary’s County Department of Public Works

CAPT Brabazon described the traffic and pedestrian issues at Gate 2, and acknowledged that “the fix” would be on the community side of the gate. Mr. Mills described how the community, with installation approval, competed in the DCIP to win funding for an off-post infrastructure improvement project, the first DCIP award in Maryland. The project funds a sidewalk/crosswalk to alleviate the Gate 2 issues. St. Mary’s County will provide a 20% match to the \$564,000 award.

Installation Commander Updates

Patuxent Naval Air Station – CAPT John Brabazon, Commander

- NAS Pax received the first Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP) grant awarded in Maryland. The \$564,000 will enable roadwork construction by St. Mary's County to improve pedestrian and traffic flow to Gate #2.
- NAS Pax has an active Intergovernmental Support Agreement (IGSA) with St. Mary's County.

Joint Base Andrews – Col Tyler Schaff, 316th Wing and Installation Commander

- Annual “State of the Base” is scheduled for 12 April.
- “Industry Week” is scheduled for next week.
- The Open House with Air & Space Show is scheduled for September, celebrating the Air Force 75th birthday. Expecting 10,000 children from five states for STEM/STEAM events.
- As usual, JBA is struggling with MILCON funding.
- JBA medics are still supporting COVID response activities.

Naval Surface Warfare Center Indian Head – CAPT Todd Copland, NSA South Potomac Commanding Officer

- COVID restrictions have returned to normal.
- “Staffer Day” is scheduled for 20 April.
- The installation is engaged in much compliance work with EPA.
- Quality of life issues, in particular off-base housing is a persistent problem in terms of both availability and cost/affordability.

Naval Support Activity Annapolis – CAPT Homer Denius, Commanding Officer

- A three-year \$40M renovation of McDonough Hall has begun. Athletic activities will move to other facilities for the next three years.
- The installation is engaged in an initiative with the city and county to work better together, and specifically in pursuing an OLDCC resiliency grant.
- Currently engaged in a bike path/easement project with Anne Arundel County.
- Also continuing to develop a climate resilience initiative to address rising water levels and storm surge over the next century.

Naval Support Activity Bethesda – CAPT Scott Switzer, Commanding Officer

- The installation is currently housing Afghan refugees.
- Working with PEPCO, the local utility provider, to replace aging breakers to ensure consistent and reliable power delivery.
- Currently engaged in a \$70M barracks repair and upgrade project.
- Concerned about funding and future disposition of the Uniformed Services University.

Naval Surface Warfare Center Carderock – CAPT Todd Hutchinson, Commanding Officer

- Currently have 2700 Navy civilians working on the installation.
- This year, 2022, the NSWC is hosting 21 visiting faculty and 84 interns.
- NSWC Carderock will host a STEM outreach event later in the year, featuring “STEM in a Box” for K-3 students, developed by visiting faculty using certified curriculum for schools, and providing textbooks/workbooks for these activities.

Fort Detrick – COL Danford Bryant II, Garrison Commander

- Fort Detrick laboratories continue to support research in COVID detection, avoidance and treatments.

- As COVID restrictions relax, the garrison is reopening to outside activities. The Annual Science Fair will be hybrid this year; in person next year.
- The Medical Research and Development Command (MRDC) will transfer from Army to the Defense Health Agency on 1 Oct. Expect minimal impact on the installation.

Aberdeen Proving Ground – COL Johnny Casiano, Garrison Commander

- APG installation is planning to conduct a Key Leader Symposium every six months, with a vision of “Invest in and inspire our people.” Priorities will include:
 - Leader development
 - Operationalize the garrison
 - Recruit and retain talent
 - Communications and messaging, both internal and external
- Regarding excess infrastructure, APG senior leaders are ceding 3-5% of space back to the garrison.

Fort Meade – COL Chris Nyland, Garrison Commander

- The Ft. Meade workforce is on a projected growth glide path over the next few years from 63K to 67k personnel.
 - Includes construction of two new headquarters
 - Much of the NSA workforce will be moving from off-post office space to the installation.
 - The nature of work is not conducive to telework, with a few exceptions
- The garrison is finalizing an Intergovernmental Support Agreement with Howard County for storm water management. A ceremony will recognize this as the Army’s 100th IGSA.
- The garrison is working with Howard and Anne Arundel counties on workforce development to help transitioning servicemen and family members.
- The garrison is working with the delegation to seek legislative authority to house junior enlisted in on and off-post housing, rather than barracks.
- A congressional staffers briefing and tour is scheduled for 25 April.

Coast Guard Yard – CAPT Vince Skwarek, Commanding Officer

- Currently in a \$26M ship berthing rehab project.
- The Yard is seeking support for an unfunded priority that would invest in capabilities to service the newer ships now in construction.
- Noted persistent difficulty hiring experienced shipyard workers.

Maryland National Guard – BG Adam Flasch, Joint Staff Director, MD National Guard

- The MDNG is still engaged in COVID response.
- Currently there are 6700 members.
- The Free State Challenge Program is seeking sponsors.
- With the A-10 air fame nearing the end of service life, Martin Airport will need a longer runway.
- Working with MDOT on Route 30 challenges.
- Examining MDNG facilities for excess infrastructure and multiple use opportunities.

Army Corps of Engineers – Not represented

Military Alliance President Remarks

Army Alliance (AA) – Tony Lisuzzo, President

- The “State of APG” is scheduled for 26 April.
- The Army Alliance Annual Dinner is scheduled for 6 Jun with a panel of APG speakers to discuss R&D efforts relative to the pandemic response.
- The top federal priorities are:
 - Continued funding until the legacy chemical facility destruction is complete.
 - Increased funding for laboratory revitalization.
- Thanks to the other alliances for supporting the initiative to exempt retired military pay from Maryland taxation.

Fort Detrick Alliance (FDA) – Christy Butler, Executive Director

- The Alliance is working on community engagement with National Guard members deployed to Fort Detrick.
- The Alliance is among sponsors for a 5k Ft. Detrick “shamrock” Fun Run scheduled for 18 Jun.
- The Alliance is focused on events that bring value to members, e.g., launch of a nationally accredited professional development program, partnering with Hood College.
- Also establishing an MOU with Mount St. Mary’s for a tuition discount for Alliance members, with plans to engage similarly with Hood and Frederick Community College.

Fort Meade Alliance (FMA) – Doreen Harwood, President

- The FMA currently has 6 active committees (Education/Workforce and Military Families are the largest).
- Anticipate a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Kuhn Hall Education and Resiliency Center in August. Services will be available to active duty, retired military and military family members.
- The FMA is developing a “Healthy Cooking” initiative to be offered as a service at Kuhn Hall, cosponsored with UMD Integrated Health and the FGGM Garrison.
- The Fort Meade Alliance Foundation Gala, scheduled for 9 April, is sold out at 500 seats.

Southern Maryland Naval Alliance (SMNA) – Gary Kessler, President

- There is \$1M funding available for a South Maryland workforce initiative, which will focus on critical skill fields like cyber, IT and technical specialties.
- A legislative initiatives discussion with delegation staffers is scheduled for 9-10 April.
- The SMNA annual dinner is scheduled for September in the new SMART building.

Military Alliance Council (MAC) – Pam Frank, Executive Director

- The United States Bomb Technicians, a new organization at Indian Head, recently hosted an industry day with 150+ public safety and defense contractors.
- The Bryant’s Road study will focus on potential improvements outside the gate.
- Noted an initiative to designate Route 210 as a technology corridor.
- The Alliance is looking into grant opportunities with OLDCC, and is working on a community scholarship program.

Maritime Technology Alliance (MTA) – Bob Keane, President

- The MTA is supporting the Coast Guard Yard to secure funding to increase dry dock capacity, where loads are critically overextended.

- The MTA supports workforce development at Carderock to ensure the Navy will sustain the capability to develop new warships.
- The MTA will provide support for a more robust STEM program with local schools, specifically directed at women and minorities.

Andrews Business & Community Alliance (ABCA) – Not represented

Conclusion

Ms. Swoboda thanked those in attendance for participation and staying on to the scheduled finish. She reminded commanders of the upcoming Economic Impact Study, and introduced Amy O'Donnell as the new Director for Navy Programs. She also acknowledged BGen(R) Mike Hayes for his work in establishing and managing OMFA. Expect the next MMIC to be another live event in early fall. Ms. Swoboda adjourned the session at 12:30 pm.

Enclosures:

MMIC Agenda 3.28.2022

MMIC Slides 3.28.2022

MMIC Attendee List 3.28.2022

MARYLAND MILITARY INSTALLATION COUNCIL

Monday, September 12, 2022; 0830-1200

Meeting Minutes

The fall 2022 MMIC meeting was conducted in-person at the state government building at 100 Community Place, Crownsville, MD. The session included remarks from guest speakers, updates from the Maryland installation and base commanders and the Maryland National Guard, and updates from the military alliance presidents. Total attendance was 75.

Welcome Remarks

Lisa Swoboda, Executive Director of the MMIC and Senior Director of the Maryland Commerce Office of Military & Federal Affairs welcomed attendees to the meeting, provided opening remarks with a review of the agenda, and introduced MMIC Chair and Maryland Secretary of Commerce, Mike Gill.

Mike Gill, Secretary of Commerce, welcomed attendees, emphasized the importance of the military mission in Maryland, and specifically the economic impact of the state's military installations.

Homecoming 250: Navy/Marine Corps

Bob Carullo, Executive Director, SMART Congressional Initiative

- Mr. Carullo briefly described the SMART (Strengthening the mid-Atlantic Region for Tomorrow) program.
- In recognition of the Navy/Marine Corps 250th anniversary, there will be a "Drive Across America" to highlight workforce issues.

Project SEARCH

Stacey Herman, Assistant Vice President, Neurodiversity and Community Workforce Development, Kennedy Krieger Institute

- Project SEARCH is a 10-month program that provides training and support to place those with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the workforce.
- Much of the training is individualized, and the support team works with employers to ensure appropriate placement.
- Kennedy Krieger will conduct a SEARCH conference 22-24 March 2023 in Washington, DC.

Federal Defense Community Partner Resources

(This presentation was scheduled to be a community partnership panel including Patrick O'Brien, Director DoD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation, and Chris Arnold, Northeast Regional Liaison, DoD Military Community and Family Policy, Defense State Liaison Office. However, both had to cancel at the last minute.)

Matt Boron, Executive Director, Association of Defense Communities (ADC)

- Mr. Boron described the ADC organization and its legislative advocacy. A recent example of ADC influence is an anticipated increase in the Defense Community Infrastructure Program funding to \$150M for FY23.
- Mr. Boron emphasized the opportunities and benefits of community and state investments in defense communities and encouraged strong collaboration with the regional Defense State Liaison Officer.

- ADC is sponsoring the annual Installation Innovation Forum 31 Oct – 2 Nov, in Phoenix AZ. Many installation and base commanders will attend.

Baltimore Federal Executive Board

Ms. Swoboda introduced **Ms. Cynthia Cavaliere, Executive Director, Baltimore Federal Executive Board**. With regard to the Maryland military installations, the Executive Board focuses on employee safety and emergency response, workforce development, and strategic partnerships.

Networking break 9:45-10:15

MMIC Workforce Committee Briefing

Jill McClune, Co-Chair, MMIC Workforce Committee

- Ms. McClune described a survey that will be distributed to the installation tenant organizations to collect inputs on post-pandemic workforce issues and requested the installation and base commanders assist in distribution to major tenant organizations.
- The Workforce Committee is requesting responses by 30 Sep, which will be used to identify and assess issues as reported, and to develop initiatives among military installation stakeholders to address those issues where a solution or mitigation may be possible.

Maryland State Agency Remarks

Tyler Abbott, Chief of Staff, Maryland Department of Environment

- PFAS/PFOS regulatory guidance is problematic, in that the new limits are practically zero.
- Those installations or federal facilities that have PFAS/PFOS presence may be classified under the Comprehensive Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), also known as Superfund. This will lead to more expensive clean-ups and testing requirements.
- MDE is supportive of the various military installation resiliency initiatives.

Maryland Veteran Resources

Dana Burl, Program Director for Communications, Outreach and Advocacy, Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs

- Ms. Burl described the contents and availability of the MDVA Community Partner Tool Kit.
- The MDVA is modernizing how we say “Welcome Home” to returning veterans. Rather than an envelope stuffed with paper collateral, there is now a single card with a variety of electronic links, and a digital “Welcome Home” guide.
- MDVA publishes a meaty bi-weekly newsletter. Subscribe at <https://veterans.maryland.gov>
- MDVA Secretary Owens emphasized engagement and distribution of the newsletter. Over the past decade, distribution of the newsletter has increased from around 2000 to over 200,000.

Installation Commander Updates

Naval Support Activity Annapolis – CAPT Homer Denius, Commanding Officer

- Federally-directed renaming of several NSA Annapolis buildings and facilities is in progress.
- The McDonough Hall \$45M/3 year renovation project is in progress.
- The YP pier and seawall on the Severn River are degraded, and will be replaced.
- The Greenbury Point restoration project is in planning.
- The Military Installation Resiliency Review (MIRR) will be completed in December. Looking into a DCIP project that is supportive of the MIRR recommendations.

Naval Support Activity Bethesda – CAPT Scott Switzer, Commanding Officer

- NSA Bethesda has several ongoing construction projects, to include a \$70M barracks repair and upgrade project.
- COVID-19 restrictions are back to pre-pandemic levels, except for the hospital and other patient care facilities, where masks are still required.
- A significant command concern is needed repair of the fire station. It was built in the 1940's and has had ongoing issues.
- The NSA Bethesda community outreach program will increasingly open the gates to the general public for events to enhance community relations.

Coast Guard Yard – CAPT David Obermeier, Commanding Officer

- The Yard is currently performing a lot of work on foreign weapons systems, including the recent delivery of vessels to Uruguay and an upcoming one to Ukraine.
- Community outreach is a command focus area.
- Noted a continuing persistent difficulty in hiring skilled shipyard workers. Working with the state to restart their apprenticeship program.

Maryland National Guard – BG Adam Flasch, Joint Staff Director, MD National Guard

- The Free State Challenge Program is seeking sponsors. The 22-week MDNG program, located at Aberdeen Proving Ground, provides a challenging and motivational experience for high school dropouts, with most attaining a GED during the course, as well as job and life skills. A new facility is in the works to host the program. <https://freestate.mil.maryland.gov>
- With the A-10 air frame nearing the end of service life, MDNG is planning to continue flight operations at Martin State Airport.
- Working on a \$16M grant from the FAA to extend the runway.
- MDNG is planning to build a second cyber facility at Fort Meade, and to build a third SCIF for cyber-work.
- MDNG is the designated lead agency for the Governor's inauguration.

Joint Base Andrews – Col. Todd Randolph, 316th Wing and Installation Commander

- JBA has workforce issues similar to the other installations in hiring and retention, particularly in the soft sciences (mental health for example).
- The base is trying to work through childcare availability challenges.
- JBA is one of three pilot AF installations with electric vehicle charging stations.
- JBA has been a partner in the SEARCH program (see SEARCH entry above), with numerous program graduates now working on JBA.
- As their MIRR shows flood impacts and tree and vegetation concerns, JBA is coordinating with several federal agencies for the eight permits required to trim trees adjacent to runways.
- The 75th anniversary of the Air Force will be celebrated this weekend at the JBA Air Show, which will feature STE(A)M exhibits for families.

Aberdeen Proving Ground – COL Johnny Casiano, Garrison Commander

- Introduced Mr. Michael Kreilein, the new Deputy Garrison Commander.
- The garrison is leading an initiative to revamp the hiring process to address installation-wide workforce issues.

- The installation has implemented a telework/remote work policy.
- APG hosted a successful Immersion Day for community leaders on 22 Aug.
- Garrison command focus areas include reduction in non-standard ammo, reduction of infrastructure footprint, and reduction of utilities demand.
- The garrison FMWR activities is back to breaking even since the beginning of the pandemic.

Fort Meade – COL Michael Sapp, Garrison Commander

- Ft. Meade will conduct a full-scale Force Protection exercise on 24 Sep.
- The installation will host a veteran and retiree day on 28 Oct.
- The Kuhn Hall Education and Resiliency Center ribbon cutting is scheduled for 17 Nov.
- Within the next 3-5 years, 8-10k employees will be relocating to the fort as part of a regional office consolidation.

Fort Detrick – COL Ned Marsh, Garrison Commander

- Fort Detrick is maintaining strong lines of communication with local community organizations.
- The installation is planning a full-scale emergency response exercise for 2023.
- The new BSL4 laboratory is nearing completion and certification.
- Ft. Detrick tenant organizations are experiencing similar workforce issues, particularly in filling highly or uniquely skilled positions; there are 80 job openings within just the Garrison, and the rising cost of living is a concern for many.

Naval Air Station Patuxent River– CAPT Derrick Kingsley, Commander

- Introduced Alec Young as the new Community Planning Liaison Officer for NAS Pax.
- NAS Pax is investing to maintain infrastructure.
- The MQ 25 contractor has new space requirements which will lead to construction of a new hanger.
- The installation personnel footprint will increase by 200 over the next few years.
- The Air Traffic Control Tower is a high priority.
- Recently received a \$2.7M REPI grant for environmental restoration resulting in the conservation of 100 acres.
- The installation will begin seeking the numerous permits necessary to remove tall trees that encumber the runway approach.
- Retaining workforce talent is a persistent problem.

Naval Surface Warfare Center Indian Head – CDR Brian Koch, NSA South Potomac Executive Officer

- Recently hosted congressional staff visits to the installation.
- Hosted an end-of-month meeting with EPA to review recent inspection findings.
- Completed a successful security assessment.
- The installation security force is hiring to fill vacant positions.
- The command is pursuing several community relations initiatives.
- Anticipated reopening of the Route 301 Bridge will benefit the Indian Head workforce and the entire community.

Naval Surface Warfare Center Carderock – Mr. Dave Drazen, Chief Technology Officer

- NSWC Carderock is back to in-person outreach events.

- This past summer Carderock hosted 80 students as research interns and 20 visiting Navy faculty. They are proud to have 3 Einstein STEM program fellows on base.
- Carderock will host the international human-powered submarine race event in June 2023.
- The command looks forward to a visit from Commerce Secretary Gill in the next week.

Army Corps of Engineers – Not represented

Military Alliance President Remarks

Army Alliance (AA) – Jill McClune, President Emeritus

- Reported on the Army Alliance annual meeting in June, with speakers from key tenant organizations on Aberdeen Proving Ground, who discussed R&D efforts relative to the COVID-19 pandemic response.
- Among the Army Alliance top federal priorities is working with the Maryland congressional delegation to obtain a budget line for the Chemical Security and Analysis Center at APG-Edgewood.
- The Army Alliance will continue working toward a complete Maryland tax exemption for military retirement pay. Thanks to the other alliances for supporting the initiative.

Fort Meade Alliance (FMA) – Joe Pacileo, President

- Described the years-long FMA Foundation initiative to refurbish and outfit Kuhn Hall as an Education and Resiliency Center, and proffer as a gift to the Ft. Meade installation.
- A ribbon cutting ceremony for the Kuhn Hall Education and Resiliency Center is scheduled for 17 Nov. Services will be available to active duty, retired military and military family members.

Military Alliance Council (MAC) – Pam Frank, Executive Director

- The MAC is supporting the advancement of the Purple Star schools program with Charles County Public Schools. The Maryland state legislature in the past session enacted the bill establishing the program. Delegate Patterson was the sponsor in the House.

Maritime Technology Alliance (MTA) – Bob Keane, President

- Discussed the need for investment to preserve unique maritime capabilities, such building, and specifically the ability to design, build and test the new DGX series of ships.
- Highlighted the nationwide shortage of dry-dock capacity.
- The MTA supports workforce development at Carderock to ensure the Navy will sustain the capability to develop new warships.

Fort Detrick Alliance (FDA) – Not represented

Southern Maryland Naval Alliance (SMNA) – Not represented

Andrews Business & Community Alliance (ABCA) – Not represented

MD State Agency Remarks

Secretary Robert McCord, MD Department of Planning emphasized the MDP Compatible Use initiative, and the necessity of installations and their local defense communities to be “good neighbors.”

Secretary George Owings, MD Department of Veterans Affairs thanked those in attendance, highlighted the improvements in veteran engagement over the past decade, and emphasized the importance of informing all veterans of available resources.

Conclusion

Ms. Swoboda thanked those in attendance for participation and staying on 30 minutes beyond the scheduled finish. Expect the next MMIC to be scheduled in early December. Ms. Swoboda adjourned the session at 12:00 pm.

Enclosures:

MMIC Agenda 9.12.2022

MMIC Slides 9.12.2022

MMIC Attendee List 9.12.2022

MARYLAND MILITARY INSTALLATION COUNCIL

Friday, December 9, 2022; 0830-1230

Meeting Minutes

The third MMIC meeting of 2022 was conducted in-person at the state government building at 100 Community Place, Crownsville, MD. The session included remarks from guest speakers, updates from the Maryland installation and base commanders, the Maryland National Guard, the Baltimore District ACOE, and updates from the military alliance presidents. Total attendance was 63.

Welcome Remarks

Lisa Swoboda, Executive Director of the MMIC, and Senior Director of the Maryland Commerce Office of Military & Federal Affairs welcomed attendees to the meeting, provided opening remarks with a review of the agenda, and recognized several individuals:

- Congressman Anthony Brown (not present for this meeting) for his consistent support of the MMIC and Maryland's military installations.
- George Lamont, as a newly appointed MMIC member representing the Central Maryland region.
- Tom Garrison, as the new president of the Southern Maryland Navy Alliance (SMNA).
- Steve Mitchell, as the new president of the Military Alliance Council (MAC).
- Mike Gill, Secretary of Commerce and Chair of the MMIC, at his final MMIC meeting.

Mike Gill, Secretary of Commerce and MMIC Chair, welcomed attendees and re-emphasized the importance of the military mission in Maryland. Sec. Gill provided some motivational comments and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to lead the MMIC, and specifically for his association with the installations, defense communities and the military missions within the State. In his remarks, the Secretary mentioned the return of the DefTech Center, an effort funded by the DoD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation.

Defense Community Briefing: Federal Opportunities and Defense Priorities

Patrick O'Brien, Director, DoD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC)

- Emphasized the aspect of "One Community" and that groups like the MMIC provide opportunities for communities and installations to collaborate.
- Maryland is always among the Top 10 states in defense spending, at approximately \$26-27B. Some of this spending is for personnel, which goes into local and regional economies; and the balance is contractual spending, which mostly goes into the Maryland industrial base and supply chain.
- Anne Arundel County is rebuilding the Fort Meade High School for \$120M, the largest school improvement effort currently funded by OLDCC.
- Regarding the Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP):
 - DCIP is an opportunity for communities to undertake infrastructure investments locally.
 - Community sponsors of a project should consult with installation leaders about potential projects and focus only on those deemed to be competitive.
 - The primary scoring factor will be military value, to include "construction-readiness." A separate panel will review all proposals and score for military value.
 - Other grading factors will include collaboration with historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), improvement of installation resilience, environmental impact, and contributions to military service member and family quality of life.

- The current NDAA drafts include new factors including: projects on land leased from the military, and projects involving critical seaports are eligible. Involvement of HBCUs and ROTCs at HBCUs is a newly added factor for consideration. The House version funds the program at \$100M for FY23, and the Senate version at \$150M. (Continuing resolutions are “killing us.”)
- Mentioned the NAS Patuxent River DCIP project, the state’s first and only DCIP award thus far, which improved access to the base as an example.
- The OLDCC cap per project is \$20M, but since the competition may include 80 or so proposals, the “sweet spot” is much lower.
- There is a matching funds requirement, which is waived for rural communities (<100k population by zip code).
- Must ensure that NEPA compliance is on-track to prevent disqualifying your proposal.
- OLDCC expects to release a Notice of Funding Opportunity after the NDAA is enacted, most probably in March or April. Stressed that potential grantees should be writing their proposals now.
- Mr. O’Brien fielded questions from the audience, including:
 - Confirmed there is no proximity requirement provided the local installation endorses the project
 - Look at proposed language in NDAA for guidance on what constitutes an HBCU; looking at placements of ROTC facilities @ HBCUs
 - Not apparent that Coast Guard facilities are included; critical seaports are.
 - Match requirements are staying the same.
- Regarding the Defense Manufacturing Community Support Program (DMCSP):
 - DoD is concerned about obsolete technology and is focused on fostering innovation, which is the goal of the DMCSP program.
 - This program funds consortia-proposed efforts to foster manufacturing innovation activities.
 - Can provide up to \$5M for DoD manufacturing priorities with a 20% match.
 - Examples of technology areas OLDCC is interested in include hypersonics, battery storage, power generation, and shipbuilding.
 - The ideal proposal team would include private sector, academia, state and local entities. Typically, university-led, but not always.
 - Maryland should focus on areas of need for supporting innovation and look for opportunities to leverage state/local development capabilities. There should be some focus on workforce development for future research needs.
 - Expect the program to be funded at \$50M.
 - Similar timeline to the DCIP with NOFOs out in March or April. Expect a webinar in February to review the program and field questions, but Mr. O’Brien suggests that potential grantees start writing their proposals now.
- Expect Diversification and Modernization to be a \$12M program. This program addresses turnover, attrition and attracting new workforce for industries like shipbuilding.
- The Pentagon is obsessed with resilience. The Installation Resiliency Program is expected to be funded at \$10M for Compatible Use projects and \$12-13M for Military Installation Resiliency Review (MIRR) projects. This program is separate from the DCIP, and funds efforts to address common threats to installation resilience. Encourage tabletop exercises between the installation and local community, to include emergency services and utility providers.

Partnering with the Defense State Liaison Office

Chris Arnold, Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Regional Liaison, DoD Military Community and Family Policy, Defense State Liaison Office

- The Defense State Liaison Office was created in 2004 and covers issues that affect military personnel and liaisons with state offices to support those efforts. The new director is Geraldine Valentino-Smith, a MD State Delegate. The liaison officers work out of home in each region. With a new realignment, Mr. Arnold will represent the mid-Atlantic region, from Virginia to New York.
- Maryland is an "8 out of 10" on DoD policy key issue list.
- Mr. Arnold explained the importance and impact of the many active interstate compacts. Forty-four states have signed at least one compact. Maryland has several in place.
- There has been much positive movement on the military spouse licensure issue. However, many states have enacted legislation that is not reflected on state agency hiring sites and is not visible to many spouses who may be seeking expedited licensure.
- Childcare for military families is a perennial issue. A state license exemption for military childcare off-post, including in-home care, can lessen the administrative burden.
- A relatively new issue is juvenile concurrent jurisdiction for military family youth offenses, which enables use of local municipal and state resources in lieu of federal prosecutions.

Networking break 10:15 – 10:35

MMIC Workforce Committee Briefing

Amy O'Donnell, Navy Program Director, MD Commerce, and Co-chair of the MMIC Workforce Committee

- Executive briefing of recent September to November workforce needs survey of Maryland installation and mission commands was presented to include four proposed action areas where Maryland can have a positive impact.
- Installation commanders and alliance presidents are asked to provide inputs by Jan 6th to include team members for the action teams, as well as their transition assistance program (TAP) POCs.
- A briefing will be emailed to all installation and alliance presidents to facilitate action completion.
- Action teams will form in early 2023, assuming volunteers are identified in a timely manner.

Maryland Compatible Land Use Program Briefing

Jennifer Chiasson, Senior Grant Program Manager, MD Dept. of Commerce

Sarah Diehl, Compatible Use Community Planning Liaison, MD Dept. of Planning

- The attached PowerPoint presentation provides full details
- The current grant program is the second phase of a three-phase plan for Maryland to support compatible use activities between the installations in the state and their surrounding communities.
- Current activities include the creation of a Compatible Use website and a Compatible Energy Siting project:
 - The former provides resources to local communities and the public on the military presence in Maryland, best practices for compatible use, resources, and other guidance for the community. The website has been developed in conjunction with military, state, and local community stakeholder groups.
 - The latter includes an enhancement to the Maryland Smart DG+ siting tool for renewable energy developers to identify areas recommended for coordination with the military, and

a report that outlines the review process for compatible siting of renewable energy projects in Maryland, with recommendations on how to improve those processes to maintain compatible use. These activities were created in conjunction with military, state and local government, and the renewable energy industry.

- A demonstration on the enhanced Smart DG+ siting tool, including military and compatibility layers and the coordination report was provided.
- A demonstration on the soon to be launched Compatible Use website was provided. The website will be launched next week.

Installation Commander Updates

Maryland National Guard – BG Adam Flasch, Joint Staff Director, MD National Guard

- MDNG has installation partners at every active duty base in Maryland save the Coast Guard Yard.
- The MDNG is upgrading the Free State Challenge Program. The 22-week program, located at Aberdeen Proving Ground, provides a challenging and motivational experience for high school dropouts, with most attaining a GED during the course, as well as job and life skills. A new facility is in the works to host the program. <https://freestate.mil.maryland.gov>
- Expansion of the Martin State Airport (MSA) runway is a priority program for MDNG. With the A-10 air frame nearing the end of service life, an improved longer runway will be a key factor in retaining a flying mission in Maryland at MSA. A potential \$16M grant from the FAA would extend the runway.
- MDNG recently broke ground on a new maintenance facility.
- MDNG is building a new facility at White Oak to support the MDNG cyber mission. MDNG has a premiere cyber group that is currently working with the NSA.
- MDNG is supporting the inauguration ceremony for Governor Elect Wes Moore.
- MDNG has a new program that supports pathway to citizenship for new Americans, leveraging service, helping with language proficiency and other assimilation aspects. Working with federal and state partners on this project.

Naval Air Station Patuxent River– CAPT Derrick Kingsley, Commander

- The Naval Air Command is well funded for mission requirements, but the installation is not well funded for mission support, which presents problems in maintaining infrastructure and supporting tenant mission activities.
- A Public Safety Job Fair outside of Gate 2 at the Frank Knox building is planned for the 15th of December.

Naval Surface Warfare Center Carderock – CAPT Todd Hutchinson, Commanding Officer, and Mr. Dave Drazen, Chief Technology Officer

- Regarding community engagement, “STEM in a Box” kits and a video “Inside the Navy’s Indoor Ocean” are available to schools and community organizations.
- A YouTube video featuring NSWC Carderock received over 10M views. The video is titled “Inside the Navy’s Indoor Ocean.”
- Carderock will host the international human-powered submarine race event in June 2023.
- The inbound new commander for NSWC Carderock is CAPT Matthew Tardy.

Naval Support Activity Bethesda – CAPT Scott Switzer, Commanding Officer

- Community engagement: Participated in local Thanksgiving Day parade. Next commander is scheduled to speak at Montgomery County’s Veteran’s Day event next year.
- Construction of new hospital wings is scheduled for 2027.
- Continuing challenges in coping with degraded infrastructure, particularly the steam plant.
- Also continuing hiring and retention challenges with police/security, mechanics and childcare workers. Availability of childcare workers, in which there are currently 62 vacancies, would help alleviate a waitlist of over 300.

Naval Surface Warfare Center Indian Head – CAPT Copeland, Commanding Officer NSA South Potomac

- NSWC Indian Head is currently close to 4000 personnel on base.
- The installation is working with both the county and the town of Indian Head to abate traffic approaching the main gate, which presents a safety issue.
- Although there are electric vehicles on-post, the nearest charging facility is 18 miles away and it is currently illegal to charge an electric vehicle on base.

Naval Support Activity Annapolis – Michael Coury, Deputy Installation Commander

- The surface danger zone of the NAS Annapolis firing range, which is not fully baffled, overlaps some of Greenbury Point, including trails and access roads to three service antennas. The installation does not have sufficient security personnel to keep the roads or walking trails open when the range is hot. The danger zone notifies boaters when the range is in use and monitors the area. The surface danger zone is currently up for public comment.

Joint Base Andrews – Col. Todd Randolph, 316th Wing and Installation Commander

- The JBA Air & Space Expo in September was a huge success. The next airshow will be in 2024.
- JBA has begun a military installation resiliency review (MIRR) grant, focused on storm water management with Prince George’s County.
- A Veteran’s Day event with the Peterson Company dedicated a park in National Harbor to veterans and first responders, and will host families for promotion ceremonies and other celebrations.
- JBA installation is finalizing an Intergovernmental Service Agreement (IGSA) with the Prince George’s County Department of Public Works to manage and remove tree obstructions on Suitland Parkway.
- Col. Randolph endorses all efforts to expand military spouse licensure programs.
- The installation continues to have difficulty in the hiring and retention of childcare workers, particularly with Washington, DC’s announcement of a \$10k hiring bonus offered to newly-hired childcare providers.

Coast Guard Yard – CAPT David Obermeier, Commanding Officer

- The Coast Guard Yard is developing a partnership with NSWC Carderock, enabled by the Maritime Technology Alliance.
- The Coast Guard Yard will engage the Baltimore District Army Corps of Engineers on the need for dredging of the inbound route to enable the approach of larger vessels for maintenance at the Yard.

- There are currently approximately 130,000 jobs in the Maryland maritime industry, creating a large demand and a strong competition for the skilled labor associated with the shipyard industry.
- Working with the City of Baltimore on a maritime technology Pathways in Technology (P-TECH) career readiness program.
- Coast Guard Cutter Eagle ships being worked on at the Yard.

Fort Meade – COL Michael Sapp, Garrison Commander

- The Kuhn Hall Education and Resiliency Center ribbon cutting was a huge success on 17 Nov. It was the result an 11-year collaboration between the garrison and the Fort Meade Alliance and its Foundation.
- The garrison is working on identifying federal priorities with the FMA.
- The Fort Meade High School (actually the Fort Meade Cluster) surprisingly is only about 30% military despite the fact that the current renovation effort is DoD funded. A hard hat tour with Col Hannon of Fort Meade High School showcases the renovations.
- The Army Field Band will perform at the Lyric Theater in Baltimore on Saturday at 3:00 pm.
- Fort Meade supported a DCIP project with BGE for dark fiber to be installed in the Bowie area to get high speed internet access for underserved communities, but it was not selected for an award.

Fort Detrick – COL Ned Marsh, Garrison Commander

- Fort Detrick hosts five cabinet agencies, and all services are represented. The direct line between the U.S and Russia federation is housed on the installation, which has been very busy of late given international politics.
- The Maryland congressional delegation has introduced legislation to retain Fort Detrick as the lead for DoD medical research.
- The garrison and tenants are experiencing difficulty in recruiting and hiring, especially skilled labor, mechanics and childcare workers.
- The garrison will begin to work more closely with the Fort Detrick Alliance, to include identifying federal priorities.

Army Corps of Engineers – LTC David Myers, Deputy Commander, Baltimore District ACOE

- The Baltimore District currently has 1600 employees spread out among many projects across the region.
- ACOE leadership is concerned about loss of workforce continuity due to a recent surge in retirements.
- The Fort Meade East Campus build-out continues on track.
- COL Pinchasin, District Commander, intends to get out to meet installation commanders and other ACOE customers.

Aberdeen Proving Ground – Not represented

Military Alliance President Remarks

Army Alliance (AA) – Tony Lisuzzo, President

- The Army Alliance hosted its annual breakfast meeting on 1 December with retired Command Sergeant Major of the Army Daniel Dailey as the keynote speaker.
- The Army Alliance is coordinating legislative staff visits in the next few weeks.

- The new Harford County Executive has expressed intent to partner closely with the Army Alliance.

Fort Meade Alliance (FMA) – Joe Pacileo, President

- The eleven year FMA Foundation initiative and \$5.1M gift proffer to the Army to refurbish and outfit Kuhn Hall as an Education and Resiliency Center was celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony on 17 Nov. The Kuhn Hall services will be available to active duty, retired military and military family members.
- The FMA annual president’s holiday reception for members is scheduled for 15 Dec at the BWI Hilton.
- The FMA speakers program will resume with events scheduled for January and March.

Maritime Technology Alliance (MTA) – Bob Keane, President

- The MTA has been busy in advocating much needed Coast Guard Yard improvements.
- The Center for Innovation in Ship Design recently celebrated its 20-year anniversary at Carderock.

Military Alliance Council (MAC) – Steve Mitchell, President

- NSWC Indian Head is returning to normal pre-COVID routines. Restarting early in 2023 will be the ”State of the Installation” forums with the local community. The MAC is currently coordinating details with the installation.

Southern Maryland Naval Alliance (SMNA) – Tom Garrison, President

- NAS Pax and the surrounding community are united as one.

Fort Detrick Alliance (FDA) – Not represented

Andrews Business & Community Alliance (ABCA) – Not represented

Conclusion

Ms. Swoboda thanked those in attendance for participation and for staying beyond the scheduled finish. Expect the next MMIC to be scheduled in early April. Ms. Swoboda adjourned the session at 12:20 pm.

Enclosures:

MMIC Agenda 12.09.2022

MMIC Slides 12.09.2022

MMIC Attendee List 12.09.2022