

October 19, 2011

BRAC-133 Advisory Group

Summary Meeting Minutes – Approved 12/14/2011

1. David Grover, BRAC Coordinator, called the roll. Members present included: Lynn Bostain, Dick Somers, Don Buch, Donna Fossum, Geoff Goodale, Judy Cooper, Gerry Chiaruttini, Jerry Dawson, Jim Turkel, John Komoroske, Margaret Byess, Julie Edelson, Kathy Burns, Peter Carson, Ed Fruit, Rick Tedesco, Ron Sturman, and Paul McMahon. Absent were: Kai Reynolds, Mark Benedict and Stephanie Landrum.

Elected official and staff present included: Vice Mayor Kerry Donley, Councilwoman Del Pepper, Sharon Annear, Bruce Johnson, Mark Jinks, Blaine Corle, Adam Thiel, Ray Mui, Rich Baier, Abi Lerner and David Grover.

Members of the public attending (who signed in) included: Jim Brown, Doris Gazin, Diane Costello, Peggy Tadej, Elizabeth Niely, David Saadah, Carolyn Griglione, David Levy, and Shirley Downs.

2. Mr. Grover proceeded with disposing of the minutes from the July 20, 2011, September 7, 2011 and September 21, 2011 meetings. All were accepted with minor changes noted for the September 21 meeting by Ron Sturman.
3. Lisa Landers and Robert Morris of FHWA presented an update on the Short and Mid-term Road Improvements Categorical Exclusion (CE). They provided an overview of the preliminary Short and Mid-term alternatives that had been considered and the meetings with stakeholders, as well as the upcoming public information meeting to be held November 3 at Landmark Mall. They have completed the majority of the data collection and are engaged in the preliminary design phase. Construction is scheduled to begin early in the summer of 2012 and should be completed in October of 2013.
4. Abi Lerner provided a brief update on the HOV/Transit Ramp Environmental Assessment (EA), saying that the project is moving forward, and they are awaiting completion of the traffic forecasting before moving into the air and noise analyses. Ron Sturman asked for some clarification regarding the basis for the City's support of the HOV/Transit Ramp project. Rich Baier stated that staff would send out the information prior to the November meeting to the Advisory Group. Mr. Somers reiterated again his position on record as to Seminary Park's opposition to a flow to or from the HOV ramp which would allow traffic to pass Mark Center and move across Beauregard towards or from the direction of Skyline.
5. Chairman Geoff Goodale announced the upcoming Commonwealth Transportation Board Public Meeting on October 25. This is an opportunity to express opinions on the Six Year

Road Improvement Program. The meeting will be held at the VDOT NOVA headquarters on Alliance Drive in Fairfax County.

6. Mark Jinks provided an update regarding the status of the reparations payments from DoD for the RPA intrusion, and the loss of open space related to BRAC at the Mark Center. Mr. Jinks stated that the City has \$390,000 in hand for stream mitigation at Holmes Run and that money is earmarked for that project only. Mr. Jinks further stated that the \$1.5 million offered by DOD for the loss of open space is pending signatures on the final agreement, and the City hopes to have those funds in hand within 45 days. Those funds are earmarked for open space acquisition in the West End.
7. Mark Brunner of Senator Warner's Office made brief remarks related to the Senator's efforts to address traffic, parking and related concerns with the BRAC facility at the Mark Center. Several members of the audience questioned the security for the BRAC facility. Mr. Brunner and Mr. Turkel both assured everyone that the building meets security specifications. Shirley Downs commented that parking should be paid for by BRAC and other DOD employees.
8. Ed Fruit of WHS reported on the move-in status at the BRAC facility, saying that 2300 seats have been moved to date, they are taking a two week hiatus on further move-ins, but will resume at the rate of about 75 per day after that. The expectation is that there will be 4,700 in by the end of 2011 and the balance in by the end of September 2012.
9. Ray Mui of DASH gave a report on the ridership numbers for DASH and WAMATA Express transit serving the Mark Center. Ridership continues to trend upwards, with very impressive totals using the Pentagon services both fare and subsidized riders.
10. Abi Lerner gave a brief update on the on-going traffic monitoring efforts by both VDOT and the City beginning in August. Mr. Lerner reported that to date there have been no instances of severe backups. Most queues observed were existing before August. Some increases in queue volumes have been observed, but are more seasonal in nature and not attributable to BRAC. City staff and VDOT will continue this monitoring of queues, turning movements and travel times over the next year. The City has made some adjustments in July 2011 of signals in the area, but none since then.
11. Diane Costello inquired if DoD needed the ramp to meet their goals as stated in the TMP. Paul McMahon responded they did not need it. Ms. Costello also inquired about the Chambliss crossing and possible delays come Spring due to revisions of plans. Claudia Hamblin responded that the consultants are looking into that now, but that it is not anticipated that the review process will be prolonged.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.