

BRAC-133 ADVISORY GROUP
Alexandria, Virginia

March 17, 2012

Mayor William D. Euille and Members of City Council
301 King Street – City Hall
Alexandria, VA 22314

Re: Final Letter of the BRAC-133 Advisory Group

Dear Mayor Euille and Members of City Council:

On behalf of the BRAC-133 Advisory Group (Advisory Group), whose present and past members are listed in Exhibit 1, we hereby submit our final letter to the City Council (Council). As discussed below, the Advisory Group has worked diligently to accomplish the objectives for which it was created.

In the resolution establishing the Advisory Group, dated February 10, 2009, it was stated that the Advisory Group, which was given no binding authority, should strive to be a “forum for developing ideas and recommendations relating to the transportation improvements and other issues associated with the BRAC-133 office building, as well as to serve as a communications forum among all parties.” Since its formation, the Advisory Group has met regularly (*i.e.*, virtually every month) and has been actively involved in discussions and/or decisions relating to such matters as:

- The provision of \$20 million by the Department of Defense (DoD) to fund short and mid-term road improvements in the immediate vicinity of BRAC-133;
- The proposal/plan of VDOT to construct an HOV/Transit Ramp at I-395 and Seminary Road;
- The allocation by the City of \$1 million for a Gridlock Reduction and Intervention Program (“GRIP”) that places traffic control officers at key intersections near the Mark Center at peak travel times;
- Modifications to the Army’s Transportation Management Plan (TMP) and execution of a Letter of Agreement establishing guidelines for monitoring and modification of the TMP;
- Establishment of express transit services between the Mark Center and Metro Stations;
- Creation of a Daytime Residential Permit Parking District in the West End to restrict intrusive parking by BRAC personnel;
- Ensuring VDOT’s appropriate compliance with NEPA with respect to the required Environmental Assessment (EA) relating to the proposed HOV/Transit Ramp at I-395 and Seminary Road;
- The City’s negotiation of a \$1.5 million open space mitigation payment from the Army to be used to purchase open space in the West End;
- Securing a \$400,000 Riparian Protected Area mitigation payment from the Army to the City, with the funds being used to restore and stabilize sections of Holmes Run in the West End;
- Protection of the Winkler Preserve in the face of proposals to develop roadways across selected portions of it;
- The drafting of a “cost/benefit” assessment of the project by the City;
- Ensuring development and deployment of incident response plans;
- Development of plans for continued and future mitigation of traffic congestion in the immediate vicinity of BRAC-133;
- Discussion of the need for a fire station in the West End for quicker access for First Responders to BRAC workers for medical assistance, fire rescues, and the safety and security for the surrounding community area;

- Urging the establishment of a 2,000 vehicle cap on the number of parking spaces that can be occupied at the BRAC-133 parking garages until the DoD can demonstrate for 90 consecutive days that congestion has not reached failing levels of service at certain intersections near the BRAC-133 complex and expressing sincere gratitude to Congressman Moran, Senator Warner, and Senator Webb for contributing to the passage of such legislation; and
- Proposed modifications on building designs to enhance visual aspects, without compromising the safety or security of the mission.

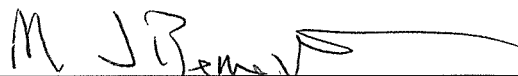
In addition, Advisory Group meetings served as a forum where Advisory Group members, City staff, Members of Council, commercial property owners, and local residents, as well as representatives from nearby Fairfax County and Arlington County governments and agencies, could discuss the regional impact of the BRAC development on traffic and transportation planning and could voice concerns and share ideas.

It remains for the City to establish a manner in which the performance of DoD under the terms of the TMP and the related agreement with the City will continue to be monitored.

Respectfully submitted,



Geoffrey M. Goodale, Chair
BRAC-133 Advisory Group



Mark J. Benedict, Vice-Chair
BRAC-133 Advisory Group

Encl.

cc: The Honorable Mark Warner
The Honorable Jim Webb
The Honorable Jim Moran
The Honorable George Barker
The Honorable Adam Ebbin
The Honorable David Englin
The Honorable Charniele Herring
The Honorable Mary Hughes Hynes
The Honorable Sharon Bulova
Mr. Tom Fahrney, VDOT BRAC Coordinator
Mr. Rashad Young, City Manager
Mr. Rich Baier, Director, Department of Transportation and Environmental Services
Ms. Faroll Hamer, Director, Department of Planning and Zoning
Mr. Adam Thiel, Fire Chief
Mr. Earl Cook, Chief of Police
Members, BRAC-133 Advisory Group

EXHIBIT 1

BRAC-133 Advisory Group Members (Present and Past)

<u>Organizational Affiliation</u>	<u>Representative(s)</u>
Alexandria City Public Schools	Margaret Byess
Alexandria Economic Development Partnership	Stephanie Landrum
Army Corps of Engineers	Jim Turkel
Beauregard Heights	Gerry Chiaruttini
Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association, Inc.	Geoffrey Goodale* Judy Cooper
Citizen-at-Large	Don Buch
Duke Realty	Jerry Dawson
The Fountains	Rick Tedesco
JBG	Kai Reynolds James Nozar
Lincolnia Hills/Heywood Glenn	Julie Edelson Alex Sinaiko
Parkside of Alexandria	Mark Benedict**
Planning Commission	John Komoroske
Seminary Heights	Ron Sturman
Seminary Hill Association, Inc.	Nancy Jennings
Seminary Park	Dick Somers
Seminary Ridge	Peter Carson Michael Souza Dave Cavanaugh
Seminary West	Lynn Bostain Owen Curtis Dave Dexter***
Transportation Commission	Donna Fossum Jayme Blakesley
Washington Headquarters Service	Paul McMahon Ed Fruit
West End Business Association	Kathleen Burns

* Geoffrey Goodale was elected Chair in September 2011 and previously served as Vice-Chair and Acting Chair.

** Mark Benedict was elected Vice-Chair in September 2011.

*** Dave Dexter served as Chair from February 2009 to August 2011.