

Team Maryland

A team approach has been a key to Maryland's success in Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) processes. With as many as 60,000 new BRAC-related jobs on their way to Maryland by 2011 — the largest single employment growth activity in the state since World War II — *Team Maryland* is focused on ensuring a smooth transition for the nearly 30,000 new households expected in the state over the next decade or so.

As the BRAC Commission explored ways to make the Department of Defense more efficient and effective, *Team Maryland* — a collaboration of Maryland's federal, state and local elected officials, representatives of Maryland state agencies and local governments, and business leaders — presented a compelling case to convince BRAC commissioners and Pentagon decision-makers of Maryland's technology and work force strengths. Maryland's team approach to BRAC has now been adopted as a model by other states.

Today, *Team Maryland* has grown to include the BRAC Sub-cabinet, which was created through legislation sponsored by the O'Malley-Brown administration and passed by the Maryland General Assembly during the 2007 session. Chaired by Lieutenant Governor Anthony Brown, the BRAC Sub-cabinet brings focus to state agencies to make BRAC work for Maryland's citizens.

This summer, the BRAC Sub-cabinet held meetings in Baltimore City and St. Mary's, Frederick, Harford, Baltimore and Cecil counties, with additional meetings planned throughout the fall in every Maryland county directly affected by BRAC. The meetings provide an opportunity for each community to

provide input into the state's "BRAC Plan," which Lieutenant Governor Brown and the BRAC Sub-cabinet will present to Governor Martin O'Malley in December 2007.

Throughout the state, *Team Maryland* is working to identify specific needs such as school and infrastructure requirements. Baltimore City and BRAC-affected counties have named BRAC coordinators who have joined with *Team Maryland* to ensure that each municipality accommodates BRAC growth efficiently and effectively. *Team Maryland* has engaged the Economic Alliance of Greater Baltimore, the Baltimore Metropolitan Council, the **Greater Baltimore Committee** and other partners to address regional issues such as transportation and roads. Partnerships with Maryland's educational institutions are assessing training needs to prepare today's students to fill tomorrow's jobs. In collaboration with the Maryland Small Business Development Center Network, *Team Maryland* is holding seminars to inform small-business owners about BRAC opportunities — from construction of facilities on base to technology for the modern Army to services such as restaurants and retail.

Outside the state, *Team Maryland* has established strong relationships with the Northern Virginia and Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, installations affected by BRAC. Regional challenges and opportunities are being addressed beyond Maryland's borders through cooperative efforts with neighboring Pennsylvania and Delaware.

Every region in the state will be impacted by BRAC, either directly as new jobs and new residents come to the areas surrounding Maryland's military facilities, or indirectly as businesses throughout Maryland access federal contract opportunities and communities across the

state welcome new residents. Working together as *Team Maryland*, we can ensure that BRAC

growth serves as a positive, transforming catalyst for our communities and a path to progress for our citizens.

