

**Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations
Draft Resolution**

Army's Preferred BRAC Alternative for Fort Belvoir

(for membership consideration and approval after the
October 19, 2006 Dinner Forum)

Whereas, the United States Army's preferred Base Realignment and Closing (BRAC) alternative for Fort Belvoir has identified a number of "Off-Post" transportation improvements that are needed to mitigate the impacts BRAC will have on the surrounding Fairfax County transportation infrastructure; and

Whereas, the preferred BRAC alternative would locate most of the new 22,000 employees and a proposed Army Museum on the Engineering Proving Grounds (EPG) to the west of I-95, thereby establishing a "Fort Belvoir No. 2" that would double the size of the Fort and extend the installation and impacts into the Springfield area; and

Whereas, the Army must immediately develop an implementation plan for "Off- Post" transportation improvements that includes working with Fairfax County government and community organizations on refining the list of necessary projects and developing funding sources and a project execution schedule; and

Whereas, the Army must consider the following additional improvements in addition to those on their list of proposed "Off-Post" Transportation Improvements:

1. Add a another VRE station for pick up and drop off of passengers north of the Lorton Station but south of the Franconia-Springfield Metrorail station.
2. Provide a flyover of I-95 to the EPG from the new VRE station site which can accommodate buses--estimated cost unknown. [Note: Depending on the location and design, the flyover of I-95 could also provide a connection to both the Metrorail and VRE stations.]
3. Improve Backlick Road entrance to the EPG with the addition of turn lanes and basic signalization (estimated cost \$5 million).
4. Improve access and ramp design to EPG as part of the Fairfax County Parkway Project to handle the increased intensity of development and the new Army Museum at the EPG. Build a full interchange to handle the various movements to and from EPG and the Fairfax County Parkway (estimated cost \$50 million).
5. Build the Fairfax County Parkway to the full 6 lanes as shown on the County's Transportation Plan. The current project provides for ROW for six lanes but with the construction of only four lanes. This will require additional transportation analysis (estimated cost \$40 million).
6. Develop a TDM program that:
 - a. Establishes a robust, centrally administered TDM program at Fort Belvoir and EPG for all agencies that includes 1) shuttle bus service for Fort Belvoir and EPG to and from the Franconia-Springfield and Huntington Metrorail stations and the Lorton VRE station.
 - b. Establishes a TDM Coordinator position to facilitate carpools, vanpools, and other TDM programs, including the use of staggered arrival and departure times over a 3-hour period, setting a goal of a specific percentage of carpools, telecommuting with local jurisdiction assistance, and easy pedestrian and bicycle access. A slug program should also be considered.
7. Provide the EPG site with a spine road that connects the Fairfax County Parkway with Backlick Road. This must be included on development plans. The spine road should be designed with enough lanes to accommodate travel volumes both to and from the EPG site.
8. Widen Route 1 from Old Mill Road to Telegraph Road from four to six lanes. Include grade separated interchanges to access Pence Gate (estimated cost \$50 million).
9. Re-synchronize all signals along Route 1, the Fairfax County Parkway, John J. Kingman Road, and Telegraph Road (estimated cost \$0.5 million).
10. Establish an on-base shuttle bus service internally and between Fort Belvoir and the EPG.
11. Provide a Transit Transfer Center for buses at the Army Museum with parking (estimated cost \$30 million).
12. Provide bus rapid transit to and from Huntington and Franconia-Springfield Metrorail stations via Routes 1, 7100, and/or 7900 to Fort Belvoir and EPG.
13. Widen Telegraph Road from two to four lanes from Beulah Street to Hayfield Rd (estimated cost \$19 million).
14. Widen Telegraph Road from two to four lanes from Hayfield Road to South Kings Highway (estimated cost \$15 million).
15. Add a flyover of Route 1 at Belvoir Road with turn lanes providing an additional grade-separated connection to and from the North and South Posts (estimated cost \$25 million).
16. Prepare a concept plan that shows how access to and egress from the Army Museum and the EPG will function and how DOD and non-DOD traffic will be handled so that backups do not occur on the Fairfax County Parkway.
17. Add highway ITS advisory radios, cameras, and permanent VMS signs along Route 1 in the Fort Belvoir area and the Fairfax County Parkway in the EPG area at strategic points. This would provide public notification of changes to Fort Belvoir gate closures, force protection changes, and other significant events. Notice would assist in rerouting traffic in and around Fort Belvoir (estimated cost \$2.5 million).
18. Study additional access points to the EPG site from Franconia-Springfield Parkway (Route 7900), Backlick Road, and the Fairfax County Parkway. Fairfax County Parkway improvements are currently on hold pending completion of the EPG environmental clean-up. In addition, the builder of the road (the Army or VDOT) is now in question. The Army must develop a plan to clean up the site and to fund and construct this project. To make the EPG site work, this must be resolved now so the road can be opened in sufficient time for BRAC implementation. Because the project has been on hold, the cost estimates continue to escalate. This escalation does not include additional transportation improvements to support BRAC.
19. Fund fully and construct the 4-lane Connector Road from Route 1 to Telegraph Road prior to BRAC implementation. Only 2 lanes are currently funded.
20. Provide a park-and-ride and transit transfer center on or

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adjacent to Fort Belvoir as part of the Richmond Highway Public Transportation Initiative (estimated cost \$30 million); and

Whereas, it is obvious that the "Off-Post" transportation improvements will not be funded or in place by the target date for fully implementing any BRAC alternative for Fort Belvoir,

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations (the Federation) urges the Governor of Virginia, the Fairfax County Congressional and Virginia legislative delegations and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to take steps immediately to delay the implementation of the BRAC decision regarding Fort Belvoir for at least two (2) years and to require that needed "Off-Post" transportation improvements be not only funded but in operation by the BRAC implementation date.

*Submitted by Earl Flanagan,
Federation Transportation Committee Co-chair*

Fairfax County Medical Reserve Corps Looking for Volunteers

Here is an opportunity to help your community during a public health emergency - the Fairfax County Health Department, in cooperation with the Fairfax County Citizen Corps Council, is recruiting volunteers for the Fairfax Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). To date, approximately 3,000 medical and non-medical volunteers are signed up and receiving training.

The all-volunteer MRC is designed to augment the capacity of the public health system to respond to large scale events related to bioterrorism or natural, widespread epidemics. During a public health emergency, MRC volunteers would staff dispensing sites where vaccination or medication would be provided to county residents, usually at a local high school. To accomplish this, 54 teams of 232 people per team are needed.

Despite the name of the program, the majority of volunteers needed for the Medical Reserve Corps are individuals without a medical background. Especially needed are seasoned, experienced managers to fill MRC leadership positions, including incident coordinator, branch director, volunteer coordinator and unit leader. All volunteers will receive the necessary training to fulfill their responsibilities.

Representatives of the Fairfax MRC are available to present information about the program and Fairfax County's public health emergency response plans to community organizations. To request a presentation, please contact Donna Foster, MRC Coordinator, via email at donna.foster@fairfaxcounty.gov, or at (703) 246-2433. Residents wishing to volunteer for the Fairfax MRC may register online by visiting www.fairfaxmrc.org or by calling (703) 246-2433.

Fairfax County Public Schools Adopts New Management Strategy

The Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Board has adopted a new management strategy referred to as Strategic Governance. Dr. Charles Dane, Federation Education Committee Chair, attended the work sessions by the FCPS School Board. The mission, vision, and goals have been established and can be viewed on the FCPS website, www.fcps.edu. Scroll down to "Continuing Interest" and click on Strategic Governance.

Both the School Board, the Superintendent, and his staff have been working extremely hard and thoughtfully in the development and implementation of this strategy and will continue this initial effort during the coming year.

There are two important changes that will occur as a result of this new system. The old system established specific targets, usually 10, e.g., reduce the number of trailers (these targets often changed from year to year), and the Superintendent was then held accountable for achieving or progress towards these targets.

The new Strategic Governance system establishes broad goals. Then the Superintendent and School Board agree on sub-goals and the measurements necessary to monitor the annual achievement or annual progress toward these sub-goals and, by extension, the goals. Presumably, these goals and sub-goals remain the same from year-to-year. While this is a change in the way that the School Board holds the Superintendent accountable, this aspect indirectly affects the students. However, the other changes with this new system, i.e., establishing additional goals, will directly affect some of the courses in the curriculum and the way that many courses (both those directly created to address the new goals and other courses) are taught.

*Dr. Charles Dane
Federation Education Committee Chair*

Federation Membership Renewals Due

It is not too late to renew your community's membership in the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations for the coming year.

If your community still needs to renew for the 2006 - 07 year, you can print a membership application/renewal form off the Federation website, www.fairfaxfederation.org. For a paper copy of the application, or if you have questions or need additional information on your community's membership in the Federation, please contact Jeffrey Parnes, First Vice President and Membership Chairman, at (703) 904-0131 or at jparnes@cox.net.

We look forward to receiving your community's membership renewal and your participation in the collective voice of the Federation this year!

www.fairfaxfederation.org