City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JUNE 22, 2011

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: BRUCE JOHNSON, ACTING CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF ADDING TWO MEMBERS TO THE BRAC-133 ADVISORY GROUP

ISSUE: Consideration of adding two members to the BRAC-133 Advisory Group from the Alexandria City Public Schools and The Fountains Condominium Association.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council agrees to add one representative each from the Alexandria City Public Schools and the Fountains Condominium Association to the membership of the BRAC-133 Advisory Group.

DISCUSSION: The BRAC-133 move to the Mark Center site in the West End of Alexandria is expected to generate impacts upon the community due to increased traffic volume on roadways. This move will bring 6,400 additional employees to the Mark Center site with the provision of 3,747 onsite parking spaces, and a substantial Transportation Management Plan effort, including Department of Defense-paid enhanced DASH service and new Metrobus service.

The impact on Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) in transporting students and gaining access for staff has been a concern. ACPS has requested to be added as a member of the BRAC-133 Advisory Group. Also, The Fountains Condominium Association is within the area affected by the BRAC-133 facility, and wishes to participate as a member of this Advisory Group. The Chairman of the BRAC-133 Advisory Group has forwarded a letter (Attachment 1) requesting ACPS and The Fountains Condominium Association be represented on the BRAC-133 Advisory Group with one appointed representative each. The resolution creating the BRAC-133 Advisory Group permits additional members, if requested by the Advisory Group Chair and then approved by Council. A copy of the most recent resolution adopted by Council is attached (Attachment 2).

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

ATTACHMENTS:
Attachment 1: Letter from BRAC-133 Advisory Group Chair David Dexter
Attachment 2: Resolution No. 2435

STAFF:
Mark Jinks, Deputy City Manager
Michele Evans, Deputy City Manager
Richard J. Baier, P.E., LEED AP, Director, T&ES
Abi Lerner, P.E., Deputy Director, T&ES
David B. Grover, AICP, BRAC Coordinator, T&ES
The Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council
City of Alexandria
City Hall
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Mayor Euille and Members of City Council:

I am writing to request that, in accordance with the resolution creating the BRAC-133 Advisory Group, the membership of the BRAC-133 Advisory Group be expanded to include one representative each from the Alexandria City Public Schools and The Fountains Condominium Association at 301 North Beauregard Street.

I think that it is important to include these additional stakeholders as we consider the best means of mitigating the impending impacts of the new BRAC-133 facility at the Mark Center. It will benefit the community at large by garnering input from a wider spectrum of the affected community and agencies.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David Dexter
Chairperson
BRAC-133 Advisory Group
RESOLUTION NO. 2435

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Defense (DoD) has selected and purchased a building site at the Mark Center as the location to construct a major office building (the "BRAC-133 office building") for occupancy by the Washington Headquarters Service and other DoD agencies; and

WHEREAS, this BRAC-133 office building will entail 1,380,000 square feet of office space, house approximately 6,400 employees, and provide approximately 3,900 parking spaces; and

WHEREAS, this proposed BRAC-133 office building, while similar in overall square footage to the Mark Winkler office buildings the City approved for this site in 2004, is substantially different in overall design; and

WHEREAS, there are transportation improvements that can potentially mitigate the impact of transportation and traffic issues associated with the BRAC-133 office project on the nearby neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the creation of an advisory group can create a forum for developing ideas and recommendations relating to transportation improvements and other issues associated with the BRAC-133 office building, as well as to serve as a communications forum among all parties; and

WHEREAS, there are significant issues with the BRAC-133 project that still remain unresolved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA THAT:

1. The term of the BRAC/Mark Center Advisory Group ("Advisory Group") and its members shall be extended for an additional twelve months.

2. This Advisory Group's original membership shall be expanded by one to consist of members appointed by the Mayor, including 11 representatives nominated by the following groups and civic associations:
   - Brookville-Seminary Valley
   - Lincolnia Hills/Heywood Glen
   - Parkside of Alexandria
   - Seminary Heights
   - Seminary Park
   - Seminary Ridge
   - Seminary West
   - Seminary Hill
   - Beauregard Heights Civic Association
   - Alexandria Economic Development Partnership (AEDP)
   - West End Business Association (WEBA)

3. In addition, the Mayor shall request the participation in the Advisory Group of one representative of the DoD and one representative of Duke Realty.

4. In addition, the Mayor shall appoint to the Advisory Group one member of the Alexandria Planning Commission, one member of the Alexandria Transportation Commission, and one to two at-large members.

5. Additional members representing stakeholder organizations in the geographic area of the BRAC-133 project may be added to the group, if requested by the Advisory Group Chairperson, with the agreement of the City Council.
6. The Advisory Group shall meet periodically, as it deems necessary, with its meetings open to the public.

7. Administrative and technical staff assistance to the Advisory Group shall be provided by the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services, the Department of Planning and Zoning, and supplemented by staff from other City agencies, as necessary.

Adopted: February 8, 2011

WILLIAM D. EUILLE  MAYOR

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, MMC  City Clerk