

## BRAC Barometer

By Karen Holt, [klholt@harfordcountymd.gov](mailto:klholt@harfordcountymd.gov)  
410-273-5708

Fall has been a peak activity time for BRAC activities involving the APG-CSSC Regional BRAC Office.

Back in September, the CSSC Public Facilities and Land Use Inventory was awarded to TischlerBise. Their team of consultants has been working with the eight jurisdictions within the Chesapeake Science and Security Corridor to assess existing inventory, gather GIS layers and look at available facilities related to schools, emergency services, parks and open space, libraries, community colleges, etc. They will also examine significant capital improvement projects planned before conducting a level of service and gap analysis. We anticipate completion of this project by mid-December. This study will allow us to “overlay” the results of available facilities and existing inventory with the growth areas projected from the Sage study. The Sage study was released earlier in September and demonstrated that the CSSC region can both absorb and accommodate growth related to BRAC at APG. Nothing extraordinary has to happen in the region; however planned investments in the areas of infrastructure and capital improvements need to occur timely to meet demands. Based on the results of these two studies, we can better prioritize infrastructure and facility needs regarding future capital planning.

In September we also attended the C4ISR Joint Symposium in Atlantic City, hosting a CSSC general information booth on relocation for a myriad of defense contractors civilian DoD currently working with Ft. Monmouth. Located next to the Harford County Office of Economic Development booth, we jointly encouraged attendees to visit our booths at the Ft. Monmouth Relocation Fair in October. I'll get to that highlight in a moment!

The last week of September was significant from a BRAC perspective in that movement regarding construction took place at APG and CSSC held a workforce development and education conference with nearly 300 attendees.

The contract for the C4ISR Center of Excellence at Aberdeen Proving Ground was awarded on September 25 by the Army Corp of Engineers Philadelphia District Office with a total award amount of \$477,477,000 to Tompkins Turner Grunley Kinsley, A Joint Venture, out of Washington, D.C.; to include demolition in the “5400 block” of APG; construction activity will begin February 1, 2008. The infrastructure bid has also been awarded in increments to address upgrades and improvements in roads, intersections, utilities, etc. The first piece of this project will include the 715 gate upgrades.

The CSSC Conference, “BRAC: Transformation of the Regional Workforce,” held on September 28, 2007, focused upon what makes a tech community great, what strategies are necessary to recruit a technical workforce, what does the transformation at APG mean to mission work, what job skill sets are the missions transferring from Ft. Monmouth looking for in their workforce; and how does the tech aspect impact education in our

public schools and colleges and universities today, particularly in relation to STEM curriculum and security clearance access. If you didn't get a chance to be a part of the day's activities, presentations from the event are available on our website: [www.apg-cssc.com](http://www.apg-cssc.com).

Okay, and now, about the Relo Fair in Ft. Monmouth. October 10-11 was our second annual relocation fair for Ft. Monmouth employees. More than 80 representatives from throughout the Chesapeake Science and Security Corridor hosted approximately 26 booths at Gibbs Hall to showcase the communities surrounding Aberdeen Proving Ground to more than 2,000 invited civilian DoD and contractor personnel eligible for relocation to our region. Aptly themed, "Set your target on a new community," a variety of information ranging from housing, education, tax information, recreational amenities, spousal employment and higher education was available to help employees make informed decisions regarding relocation. Several multimedia presentations and panel forums provided for visual demonstrations and Q & A's that focused on community living. This was an exciting opportunity to show the 'unity in our community' as we welcomed BRAC-impacted families to CSSC. Much information was circulated regarding the APG community. As a regional business person and CSSC ambassador, look for your opportunity to further assist via contact with many of the employees who will travel to this area as a result of self-driving tours, home buyer guides, and relocation materials distributed at the event. Let's make our first impression...and all that follow the best for our new neighbors!

*Boxed item highlight:* Visit [www.apg-cssc.com](http://www.apg-cssc.com) for a new look, more info, and **the** place to click for a one-stop shop for BRAC news and information. Share your feedback in the comment section- we want to hear from you!