



# Maryland Military Installation Council

**Prepared By:**

The Maryland Department of Planning



The best way to ensure coordination between military, state, and local government planners is to establish regular and formal outreach and communication channels. This approach can help maintain an appropriate balance between community growth and development, environmental protection, and military operation goals. To accomplish this, the state of Maryland established the **Maryland Military Installation Council (MMIC)** as a forum for such discussions.

## Background

In 2003, the MMIC originated as the Maryland Military Installation Strategic Planning Council (Council) to ensure that Maryland was prepared for the Department of Defense (DoD) Efficient Facilities Initiative, which led to the 2005 federal Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC). BRAC, a process of strategically evaluating the nation's military operations and facilities, resulted in closing, realigning or consolidating military bases across the country. At the time, the Council was tasked with identifying the impacts of encroaching development on Maryland's military installations and potential state and community actions to mitigate them. The Council's findings were submitted to the Governor and General Assembly in 2003. As BRAC continued, the Council worked to create partnerships with installation alliances (i.e., local organization dedicated to promoting the operations of military base) and supported strategic economic development activities in communities that enhance the viability of the military installations. In 2006, the Council was restructured as the MMIC.

## Purpose & Benefits

The MMIC serves as a critical link to inform the Governor's Executive Council and state agencies about military installation concerns and priorities. The Council also:

- Is a public forum to discuss compatibility concerns, encroachment issues and other challenges with military installations, surrounding communities, state and local governments, citizen advocacy groups, and non-governmental organizations.
- Is focused on DoD budget impacts and BRAC actions that affect Maryland.
- Is dedicated to support Maryland defense communities.
- Identifies the infrastructure and support needed for Maryland military installations to develop and expand and examines how such changes could affect surrounding communities.
- Reviews state policies to support military installations and seeks to work toward maximizing economic benefits to surrounding communities and promoting a high quality of life for its residents.
- Shares opportunities for workforce development initiatives, upcoming industry day events, and base activities to establish a dialogue and build support in surrounding communities.



### At-A-Glance

#### Established: 2006

- Originated as the Maryland Military Installation Strategic Planning Council (2003)

**Facilitated By:** Maryland Department of Commerce, **Office of Military & Federal Affairs**

#### Members

- 5 State Agencies
- Adjutant General
- 7 Military Alliances
- 5 Governor Appointees
- 3 State Senate President Appointees
- 3 State House Speaker Appointees

#### Ex-officio Members

- Installation Garrison/Base Commanders

#### Contact:

- Lisa Swoboda, Senior Director, Office of Military and Federal Affairs ([lisa.swoboda@maryland.gov](mailto:lisa.swoboda@maryland.gov))

## MMIC Facilitation and Meetings

The Maryland Department of Commerce (Commerce) staffs and facilitates the MMIC through the [Maryland Office of Military and Federal Affairs \(OMFA\)](#).

The MMIC typically meets twice a year at the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development building in Crownsville. Meetings are chaired by the Commerce Secretary and directed by the MMIC Executive Director, Lisa Swoboda.

### Meeting Activities:

- Features speakers and panelists.
- Provides state agency updates on programs relevant to the health and well-being of Maryland's military installations and defense communities.
- Allows facility commanders or their representatives to discuss upcoming events and share local, state, and federal issues that may impact their installations and surrounding communities.
- Provides overviews of activities and discussions with military installations by military alliance representatives.
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**Lt. Gov. Rutherford addressing the MMIC**  
*Image Courtesy of MD Dept. of Commerce*



**BGen Mike Hayes addressing the MMIC**  
*Image Courtesy of MD Dept. of Commerce*

## MMIC In Action

The MMIC worked with Council stakeholders to ease the transition of DoD relocations to Maryland that resulted from BRAC 2005. The MMIC encouraged and helped facilitate employee relocations to Maryland from the Ft. Monmouth, NJ, based Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM), which employed over 7,000+ civilian DoD workers. MMIC was prepared to assist with the transition and kept base workers and the community informed during the process. MMIC participated in several employee relocation fairs and Ft. Monmouth townhall meetings, where relocation resources and information about Maryland and the APG community were presented and discussed. These efforts proved successful with over 80% of CECOM's workforce relocating to APG.

## Get Involved with the MMIC

Defense community representatives are encouraged to attend MMIC meetings and motivate government leaders and citizens to also attend; prepared with any questions or concerns. To support increased communication and collaboration, it is important to get to know local alliance members and surrounding base representatives. Information about upcoming meetings, meeting minutes, and annual reports can be found on the [MMIC webpage](#).



# Maryland

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