



Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

ATCS was hired by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) to provide technical assistance in scoping work to incorporate Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) decisions into the Potomac Communities Revitalization Plan in Prince William County as part of the Transportation/Land-Use Connections (TLC) Pilot Program.

The Potomac Communities, located in eastern Prince William County, is strategically placed between the Marine Corps Base of Quantico and Fort Belvoir. Given its location, changes made to employment and population within the bases will impact transportation and land use for current and future residents of the Potomac Communities area of Prince William County, Virginia. With the BRAC decision, established in 2005, the projected relocation of up to 21,000 defense workers at Fort Belvoir and 3,000 defense workers at Quantico in the next several years will significantly impact surrounding land uses and transportation facilities and require mitigation to maintain acceptable traffic flow.

In order to plan for and alleviate such impacts resulting from the BRAC decision, ATCS provided assistance in defining the questions to be asked as part of larger planning efforts the County hopes to undertake with assistance from the Department of Defense (DoD). ATCS provided the following services as a part of the scoping assistance:

- Participated in a project initiation meeting with Transportation Planning Board (TPB) staff and Prince William County transportation and land use planning staff, at which the direction of research and end product development was further defined.
- Determined which transportation corridors need to be analyzed, including determination of measures by which to evaluate multimodal corridor performance.

Analyzed land use changes through the following methods:

- Survey of project land use changes in the short- and long-term, including changes indicated in recent environmental impact studies conducted by the federal government;
- Development of a process for determining potential land use changes as a result of BRAC implementation;
- Development of a scope for needed sub-area studies within the Potomac Communities area;
- Determination of feasibility and desirability of a scenario-based planning process for the area; and
- Development of a scope for land use changes oriented to create walkable and mixed-use communities and provide quality residential and employment opportunities in the area.

Analyzed necessary transportation improvements to accommodate future growth, particularly from BRAC implementation, through the following methods:

- Identification of the types of transportation improvements that should be investigated in concert with DoD;
- Development of measures of effectiveness to be used in analyzing potential transportation improvements;
- Development of a plan for using a travel demand model for more detailed area study;
- Proposal of detailed uses for travel modeling or micro-simulation in further study;