

Council Agenda Report

Date: June 13, 2016

Submitted by: Odie Wheeler, Director of Public Works *ow*

Prepared by: Pat Escher, A.I.C.P, City Planner

SUBJECT: A letter of support for the Naval Air Station, Patuxent River (NAS PAX) Joint Land Use Study (JLUS)

Recommendation: That Council approve and sign a letter of support for Naval Air Station, Patuxent River (NAS PAX) Joint Land Use Study (JLUS)

Discussion: The Naval Air Station, Patuxent River (NAS PAX) Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) began in the fall of 2013 with a series of public meetings, concluding in the winter of 2014. The City's former mayor, Victoria Jackson Stanley was on the Policy Committee and Anne Roane, the former City Planner was on the Technical Advisory Group.

The goals of the task force were "a planning process accomplished through the collaborative efforts of stakeholders in a defined study area to identify compatible land uses and growth management guidelines within, and adjacent to, active military installations. These stakeholders include local community, state and federal officials, residents, business owners, local tribal governments, nongovernmental organizations and the military."

The purpose of this study is to ensure that as the City continues to develop, that proposed development is compatible with the Naval use at the Patuxent River Station. The three primary goals of this study are (1) to understand compatibility issue and concerns and to provide a cohesive outreach program, (2) to enter into a collaborative arrangement to ensure compatible development while reducing operational impacts on land to the study area and (3) to provide a set of mutually supported tools, activities and procedures from which local jurisdictions, agencies and NAS PAX can select prepare and approve/adopt in order to implement recommendations.

The study looked at the eastern shore and southern Maryland communities and met several times during 2015. While the City of Cambridge is located in the area, its role is fairly minor in nature of the implementation strategies. The City has mostly a supporting role in this study, with the majority of tasks being facilitation of communication to the community and the Naval station.

The study has 15 implementation strategies listed below;

1. ENERGY DEVELOPMENT, ANTI-TERRORISM/FORCE PROTECTION, BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES, ENERGY DEVELOPMENT, FREQUENCY SPECTRUM CAPACITY, LAND USE, LAND/AIR/SPACE COMPETITION,

LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES, LIGHT AND GLARE, NOISE AND VIBRATION,
ROADWAY CAPACITY, SAFETY, VERTICAL OBSTRUCTIONS

The City's participation is limited to the areas listed below:

- INTERAGENCY COORDINATION/COMMUNICATION
 - a. Cooperate with Navy to expand communication efforts with all jurisdictions within the study area.
 - i. *Supporting role, but not responsible for implementation*
 - b. Develop an Enhanced Real Estate Disclosure Statement
 - i. *Supporting role, but not responsible for implementation*
 - c. Expand outreach to the boating community.
 - i. *Responsible for implementation strategy*
 - d. Increase public understanding of noise sources.
 - i. *Responsible for implementation strategy*
 - e. Educate the public and local leaders about NAS PAX HRAIZ and potential safety hazards.
 - i. *Responsible for implementation strategy*
 - f. Expand communication efforts with all jurisdictions within the study area.
 - i. *Responsible for implementation strategy*
 - g. Establish internal informational liaisons.
 - i. *Responsible for implementation strategy*
 - h. Include an NAS PAX in an advisory capacity to local planning commissions and organizations.
 - i. *Responsible for implementation strategy*
 - i. Seek regular input from Navy representatives for technical assistance.
 - i. *Responsible for implementation strategy*
- WATER QUALITY QUANTITY
 - j. Continue to monitor groundwater levels.
 - i. *Supporting role, but not responsible for implementation*

These are strategies that City staff can work on and implement in the future in conjunction with Dorchester County. Staff is recommending that the City Council support this regional collaboration effort and submit to the JLUS a letter of support for their ongoing efforts in the region. A Draft letter is enclosed.

Fiscal Impact: None

Approved by:





Donald J. Sydnor
Acting Mayor

City of Cambridge

City Hall

410 Academy Street - P O Box 255
Cambridge, Maryland 21613
Phone: 410-228-1020 Fax: 410-228-1554
MD Relay (V/TTY) 711 or 1-800-735-2258
E-Mail mayor@choosecambridge.com

June 14, 2016

George Clark, Project Manager
NAX PAX JLUS
Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland
POB 754
15045 Burnt Store Road
Hughesville, Maryland 20367

RE: JLUS Letter of Support

Mr. Clark;

The City of Cambridge participated in the Naval Air Station Patuxent River Joint Land Use Study with our neighboring cities, towns and counties. The purpose of the study was to identify, confirm and understand compatibility issues and concerns that the Naval Station may have with respect to their operations and impacts to neighboring jurisdictions.

The study has been completed and recommendations have been proposed. While the role of the City of Cambridge is fairly minor, the City would like to support your efforts and will work together with our neighboring jurisdictions to implement the recommendations of the study to ensure that development is compatible with the Naval Station's functions and that there is good communication between the City and the Naval Air Station and with the general community.

Sincerely,

Donald J. Sydnor
Acting Mayor