

CRATER PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

Monument Professional Building • 1964 Wakefield Street • Post Office Box 1808 • Petersburg, Virginia 23805
PHONE: (804) 861-1666 • FAX: 804-732-8972 • E-MAIL: craterpd@cpd.state.va.us • WEBSITE: www.craterpdc.state.va.us
Dennis K. Morris, Executive Director

June 27, 2005

Mr. Anthony Principi
Chairman
2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

The Fort Lee Area communities are pleased that the Secretary of Defense has recognized the high degree of military value of Fort Lee and has seen fit to capitalize on that military value by expanding Fort Lee's missions. According to the BRAC DOD Recommendations, Fort Lee ranks 96 out of 334 entities in regard to military value as determined by the major Administration Headquarters Military Value Model.

The six jurisdictions surrounding Fort Lee are the cities of Colonial Heights, Hopewell, and Petersburg and the counties of Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, and Prince George. The communities formed the Tri-Cities Area BRAC Policy Initiative over three years ago in order to ensure that the region would speak with one voice in regard to all BRAC-related issues.

Our concept all along has been to enhance the military value of Fort Lee by making it the "School House". The BRAC DOD Recommendations certainly support that concept by recommending that Fort Lee become:

1. **A Combat Service Support Center**
2. **The Joint Center for Consolidated Transportation Management Training**
3. **A Joint Center of Excellence for Culinary Training**
4. **The location for the consolidation of all components of the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA)**
5. **The location of the Defense Contract Management Agency Headquarters**

Mr. Anthony Principi
June 27, 2005
Page Two

Again, according to the BRAC DOD Recommendations, in all cases there are no significant issues regarding the ability of the infrastructure of the Fort Lee area communities to support Fort Lee's missions, forces, or personnel. In addition, there are no known community infrastructure impediments to implementation of all recommendations affecting Fort Lee.

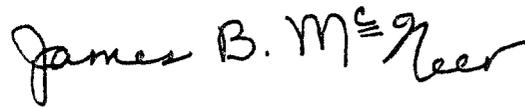
Fort Lee is an ideal platform for National Defense Logistics Training for the 21st Century.

We recognize that the decision-making process is not complete until the Base Realignment and Closure Commission completes its assessment and evaluation of the Secretary's recommendations. We are confident that his determination of the military value of Fort Lee and its potential to further contribute to our National Defense is well founded and will be upheld.

For those who may join the Fort Lee community, we welcome them and commit to assist in their transition.

On behalf of the Fort Lee area communities, we look forward to working with Fort Lee to see that all of the BRAC DOD Recommendations concerning Fort Lee are fully implemented.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James B. McNeer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "N".

Dr. James B. McNeer
Chairman
Tri-Cities Area BRAC Policy Initiative

President
Richard Bland College

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2000 Census Populations	
Chesterfield County	259,903
Colonial Heights	16,897
Dinwiddie County	24,533
Emporia	5,665
Greensville County	11,560
Hopewell	22,354
Petersburg	33,740
Prince George County	33,047
Surry County	6,829
Sussex County	12,504

The Crater Planning District is comprised of 10 local governments in south central Virginia. These are: the cities of Colonial Heights, Emporia, Hopewell and Petersburg, and the counties of Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Greensville, Prince George, Surry and Sussex.

The Commission was established in May, 1970, after the Virginia General Assembly adopted the Virginia Area Development Act and divided the state into 22 planning districts.

The policy board is comprised of twenty-six individuals representing the member local governments. Thirteen of those members are local elected officials. The other members are citizens, some of whom serve on the staffs of the local governments.

The Commission's purpose, as stated in the Charter, is to, "promote the orderly and efficient development of the physical, social and economic elements of the Planning District by planning, and encouraging and assisting governmental subdivisions to plan for the future."

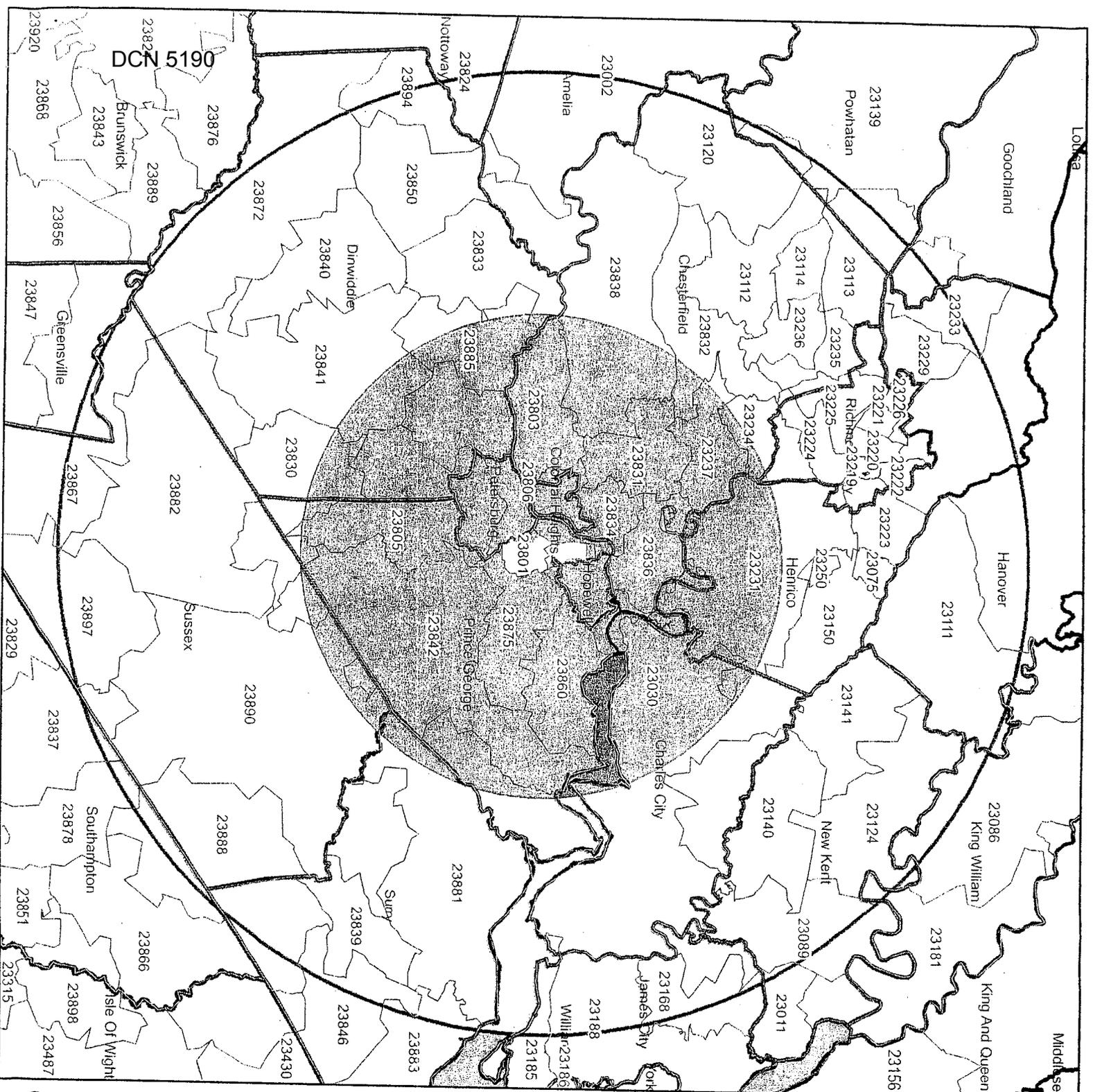
The major focus of the Commission's Work Program is economic, industrial and small business development, reflecting the priorities established by the member localities. Another important work area involves environmental issues, in response to local needs, as well as increasing state regulation. These include: Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act – local ramifications, air quality standards and solid waste management. The Commission also addresses regional transportation issues and assists localities in their transportation planning efforts.



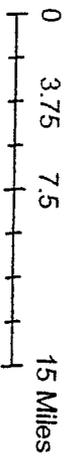
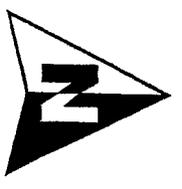
Day Care Centers and Family Day Homes
Licensed by the VA Department of Social Services

	<u>No. of Centers</u>	<u>No. of Slots</u>	<u>No. of Homes</u>	<u>No. of Slots</u>
Chesterfield Co.	66	6,652	57	635
Colonial Heights	7	632	0	0
Dinwiddie Co.	1	175	7	72
Hopewell	9	767	7	81
Petersburg	17	1,077	14	137
Prince George Co.	6	533	3	33
Surry Co.	4	136	1	12
Sussex Co.	2	60	1	10
Richmond	94	8,904	74	801
Henrico Co.	91	11,878	78	556
Hanover Co.	21	3,312	11	116
Amelia Co.	3	228	1	12
Nottoway Co.	3	184	2	20
Southampton Co.	2	228	0	0
New Kent Co.	4	392	1	12
Charles City Co.	3	247	0	0
James City Co.	3	340	1	8
TOTALS:				
30 Mile Radius	336	35,745	258	2,505
15 Mile Radius	60	5,231	55	603

Fort Lee 15 & 30 Mile Radius with Zip Code Boundaries



-  Buffer Distance
-  15.00
-  30.00
-  Zip Code Boundary
-  Fort Lee
-  Jurisdiction Boundary



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Dennis K. Morris, Executive Director

PRESS RELEASE

FROM: Dennis K. Morris
Executive Director
PHONE: (804) 861-1666
DATE: October 19, 2004

Tri-Cities Area Extends Financial Support to Fort Lee

At its meeting on October 14th, the Tri-Cities Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), the transportation planning arm of the Crater Planning District Commission, approved \$652,500 in regional surface transportation funds to assist Fort Lee with upgrades to State Route 36. These funds will provide the required access into the installation as Fort Lee's main entrance will be moved from Lee Avenue to Sisisky Boulevard. The chair of the MPO, Chesterfield Supervisor Renny Bush Humphrey, stated that "the six communities that comprise the Tri-Cities Area are making this major investment not only because Fort Lee is the economic engine of this region, but also because Fort Lee has a critical mission in the defense posture of our country. This action displays the great working relationship that exists between Fort Lee and the surrounding communities. We look forward to Fort Lee's successes as we approach the upcoming base closure round in 2005".

This priority project will enhance the Department of Defense Strategic Highway Network, as well as ensure Fort Lee's fire and emergency services access to surrounding communities as part of its cooperative services agreements. In addition, this project will aid Fort Lee in meeting Homeland Security requirements.

Members of the Tri-Cities Area MPO are: the cities of Colonial Heights, Hopewell and Petersburg; Chesterfield, Dinwiddie and Prince George Counties; plus representatives of the Virginia Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Crater Planning District Commission and Petersburg Area Transit.

The Progress-Index

SERVING THE TRI-CITIES FOR 140 YEARS

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M. WIGGINS

Staff Writer

ELL — Police a man suspected (ing armed robe Hampton Inn a 2 hours after he with a gun and money.

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NEXT STOP



JULIE BUCHANAN/STAFF PHOTO

Kingside Cr. a hat and W. Cr. on Sunday. Jul las. Their father onto a Petersburg Area Transit bus yesterday on fourth S. Commerce Street. Start ing in July, the buses will venture across the Appomattox River to the suburban outskirts of Colonial Heights.

... COLONIAL HEIGHTS

Transportation needs create PAT route expansion

BY JULIE BUCHANAN

Staff Writer

PETERSBURG — Starting in July, Petersburg buses will make some extra stops, and most of them will be in the retail-rich city of Colonial Heights.

The expanded bus routes are the result of three months of planning by Petersburg Area Transit and Fort Lee. With the post gaining an estimated 1,200 new soldiers this summer, the need for more transportation options has increased.

"We wanted to ensure that our soldiers' needs would be met," said Ann Harrison, community relations officer for Fort Lee. "So we called the city of Petersburg, and they've just jumped right on this."

The buses will take passengers from Fort Lee to Petersburg, across the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Bridge, and to several retail spots in Colonial Heights. Southpark Mall, Wal-Mart, Kmart and Target are a few of the major stops.

The buses are scheduled to run hourly from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., six days a week.

"This is primarily being

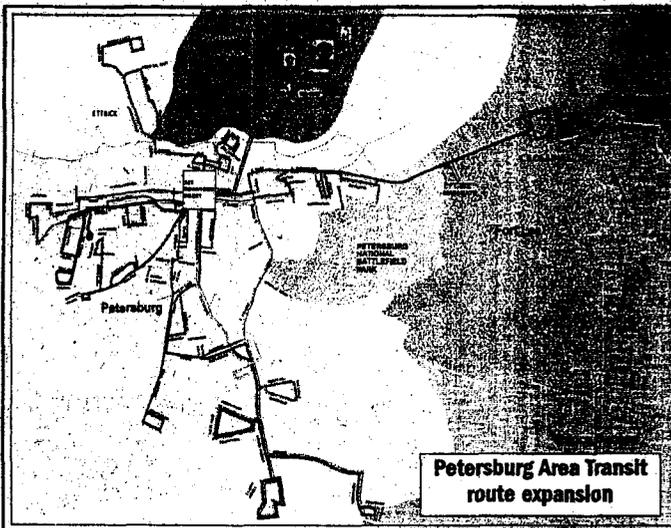
done for [military] families who have limited means or no means of transportation," said Ron Reekes, assistant director of public works for the city of Petersburg. "It's certainly a big step in transportation for the region."

Petersburg residents are also expected to benefit from the new routes. About 20 percent of households in the city have no private transportation, Reekes said. About 40 percent have access to only one vehicle. "Public transit is not a

choice or an option for cities," Reekes said. "It's a necessity, especially with gas prices the way they are."

Costs for the route expansion are estimated at

See BUSES, page A7



Petersburg Area Transit route expansion

CONTRIBUTED GRAPHIC

Robert E. King Sr., last of the founding brothe of King's Barbecue, dies

BY F.M. WIGGINS

Staff Writer

CARSON — It was the of a generation Friday w Robert E. King Sr., the las the three founding brot

of Ki Barbeq passed at He was 71 When he 18, he w to work his brot Joseph C ton King King's I becuc Ni on V several barbe. Washing Street cue restaurants. Petersb

In the late 1950s, fan members recalled that helped his brother, John, o King's Barbecue No. 2 Center Road.

"They saw that the Baf field Park area of the city-growing and expanding decided to open up out the said Judy King Crocl King's great-niece.

Robert King continued work there for a number years until 1984, when decided to expand and solo, opening Robert's Bae cue in Hopewell.

"For the first time, became known to people Mr. Robert there. Before he had just been known as King," said Crocker. He l closed that restaurant returned to his roots, Ki Barbecue, where he retire 2004. "He was in the bae cue business for more than years."

Crocker said that bea Mr. King's love of and making barbecue, he i ulytely loved to see pe happy and that he was pri bly the only person she c recall who never said a thing about anyone.

When Robert King w working in the restaur usually on Mondays, he w trus outdoorman and k to go fishing in the Ch peake Bay, and gener being in the great outdoo

Crocker said that she c remember working o school project about lei and asking Robert King his help. By the time i were done, they had idfied more than 30 type trees in his yard.

"He loved cooking loved seeing people hay said Crocker.

Robert King is survive his wife, Louise King; a Bobby King; a daugl Christine K. Hinton; stepchildren, James T. E Terry N. Britt, Michael Britt, Teresa M. Britt grandchildren; one g grandchild; and a hos nieces and nephews.

— F.M. Wiggins may reached at 732-3456, ext.

Bitter debate over proposed counterattack on street gang

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JULIE BUCHANAN STAFF PHOTO

Petersburg bus drivers like Patrick Barbour will have to learn some new routes come July 1. An additional 1,200 soldiers coming to Fort Lee has expanded Petersburg Area Transit routes to provide more transportation options for military families.

Buses: Cost is \$150,000, no increase on fares

Continued from A1

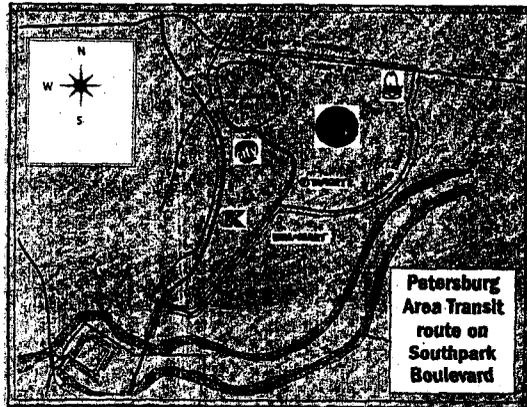
\$150,000. The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation is covering \$135,000 of that cost, and bus fares will pay for the rest. Fares will remain at \$1 per adult.

Colonial Heights city officials have already approved the new routes and look forward to partnering with Petersburg and Fort Lee, said Colonial Heights City Manager Richard A. Anzolut Jr.

"I think it's a win-win scenario," Anzolut said. "We're happy to accommodate the Petersburg transportation needs. And we certainly realize that military families have transportation needs. We're giving them those retail options [in Colonial Heights]."

Petersburg Mayor Annie M. Mickens expects positive changes out of the partnership. Petersburg buses once traveled to Colonial Heights, but that service ended in 1981 because of a lack of funding.

"We expected and hoped that approval would come



CONTRIBUTED GRAPHIC

from Colonial Heights," Mickens said. "It'll be a benefit to Petersburg even though we'll be providing transportation to soldiers. It will give us a networking connection with Fort Lee and Colonial Heights."

No legislative action was needed for Colonial Heights to approve the bus routes, Anzolut said.

Expanded transportation options and additional soldiers are expected to increase the value of Fort Lee, as it faces the Base

Realignment and Closure process. The BRAC, 10 years in the making, will cut \$7 billion from the Department of Defense budget with cutbacks and closings of military bases worldwide.

A list of bases on the BRAC hitlist will be released this week.

Fort Lee contributes about \$860 million to the economy of the Tri-Cities and surrounding areas.

Julie Buchanan may be reached at 722-5155.

Two second-grade girls found stabbed to death in Illinois park

ZION, Ill. (AP) — The two girls were best friends, sometimes crowding onto the same bicycle to ride around, visiting neighbors and schoolmates.

On Sunday, Laura Hobbs, 8, and Krystal Tobias, 9, disappeared after going on a bike ride on Mother's Day. Less than 12 hours after their parents reported them missing, the girls were found stabbed to death near a bike path in a heavily wooded area of a park. "They were best friends. When one left,

the other left. They were always together," said Laura Unrein, who lives near the park.

Police Chief Doug Malcolm said no weapons were found and there was no evidence of sexual assault. A girl's bicycle was found nearby. He said police had not identified any suspects and that there were "no solid leads that we're focusing on."

"This is a heinous crime. It was a crime not only against those kids but against all of us," Malcolm said.



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