



PRESS RELEASE
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BLRA Executive Director Nancy Kist Asked to Speak at Conference on the Future of Fort Monmouth

Bayonne, NJ, January 6, 2006 — Nancy Kist, Executive Director of the Bayonne Local Redevelopment Authority (BLRA) discussed how to successfully build a broad base of consensus at “Fort Monmouth: Today, Tomorrow and in the Future,” a conference on the future of Fort Monmouth, held at Monmouth University.

Kist, who was honored as a national Community Leader by the National Association of Defense Communities (NAID) in 2005, outlined strategies employed by the BLRA in its ambitious plan to transform a 430-acre former military base into The Peninsula at Bayonne Harbor, a vibrant mixed-use community. “Redeveloping a military base is a unique process that takes a long, long time,” said Kist, regarding her address at the University. “In order to successfully proceed, you have to effectively build a broad base of consensus with citizens, local, state and federal officials and elected officials in every level of government.”

Acting Governor Richard Codey’s representative, Pat Brannigan, gave the keynote address at the daylong symposium; state and local officials addressed the impact of military base closings on local communities and how to prepare for the future.

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Kist was also tapped to mentor officials involved with the slated closing of Fort Monmouth by 2011, at a NAID conference held last fall. A Washington D.C. based member organization NAID supports the development of both active and closed military bases.

“Given the speed at which the BLRA has worked and the substantial progress made to date, it’s not surprising that other communities facing base closings are seeking out Nancy for her leadership and expertise,” said Mayor Joseph V. Doria, Jr. “Bayonne is clearly a model cities and towns in this situation can emulate.”

Since the U.S. Army transferred complete ownership of the former Military Ocean Terminal to the City of Bayonne in 2002, the BLRA has raised more than \$50 million in government grants and interim lease payments to make infrastructure improvements needed to attract development. These improvements include new bulkheads along the base’s south side and environmental remediation that was completed this year, ahead of schedule. Other projects include the installation of a new sewer system and planning for a new electrical grid and new roads.

The opening last year of the Cape Liberty Cruise Port last year — the first tangible step in the transformation of the 430-acre site — resulted in 67 cruise ship calls in its second season and the creation of 300 jobs.

In 2005 the BLRA designated Fidelco Bayonne Realty to build out the “Harbor Station District.” Construction will begin early 2006. The BLRA also expects to conditionally designate a developer for the “Bayonne Bay District” in early 2006.

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Redevelopment of The Peninsula is organized around the creation of six different, yet integrated districts: **Harbor Station**, which will consist of mid-rise housing, office space, commercial space and civic facilities; **Bayonne Bay**, which will feature low-and mid-rise housing with views of the South Cove and an adjacent golf course; **The Landing**, which will have a water transit docking facility surrounded by a commercial and entertainment area with shops, stores and restaurants as well as a residential section with mid-rise housing; **The Loft District**, which will be converted to hip loft-style housing units adjacent to the ferry landing with views of lower New York Harbor, the Verrazano Bridge and golf course; **Bayonne Point**, which will feature a cruise port, marinas for private boats to dock, seaside entertainment, cultural and retail venues and high-rise residential and office buildings, and **The Maritime Industrial District**, which will be transformed into a state-of-the-art deep-sea port with a design that is expected to rival the world's leading ports.

For more information about The Bayonne Local Redevelopment Authority, please visit www.bayonnenj.org/blra.