

The NC Eastern Region's Military Growth Task Force (MGTF) is excited to announce a new addition to their team. One of eastern Carolina's most well-known television news anchors has accepted a position with the Task Force. Colleen Maloney will take on the role of Director of Communications and be integral in the Task Force's ongoing efforts to implement the recently completed Regional Growth Management Plan. Colleen currently anchors the evening newscasts on WCTI News Channel 12. "All of us in the Eastern Region and Task Force are excited that Colleen will be joining our team. Among the sixty applicants we considered, she stood out as the most able to hit the ground running and contribute to the work we're doing in support of our seven member counties" said Mark Sutherland, Executive Director. "Colleen's commitment to eastern Carolina is evident to all who know her – on television and in the community."

The MGTF is in the implementation phase of a growth management plan that addresses the impacts of the influx of approximately 40,000 new residents that were not anticipated by state and local leaders until the formal announcement by the Marine Corps in October, 2007. Eastern North Carolina's share of the Marine Corps' "Grow the Force" Initiative is 11,477 new jobs on the three area Bases. Other growth comes from the arrival of military dependents and a corresponding expansion of service industries in the area. The MGTF mission is to assess the impacts of and coordinate responses to this growth in order to minimize negative effects on the region.

Colleen will ensure that everyone knows what role the MGTF plays in the community and how it contributes to the regional response to rapid, massive and unanticipated growth.