

have been considered and are included where relevant within the Draft EIS.

The VA BHHCS Reconfiguration Draft EIS is available for viewing on the VA BHHCS Web site www.blackhills.va.gov/vablackhillsfuture/ and at the Hot Springs, Rapid City Downtown, Sturgis, Chadron, Alliance, Lied Scottsbluff, and Pierre (Rawlins Municipal) public libraries; as well as in Pine Ridge at the Oglala Lakota College Pine Ridge Center library on the high school campus.

Information related to the EIS process is also available for viewing on the VA BHHCS Web site www.blackhills.va.gov/vablackhillsfuture/.

Meetings

Interested parties are invited to participate in any of six public meetings summarizing the results of the Draft EIS. These meetings will be held in Rapid City, SD; Hot Springs, SD; Pine Ridge, SD; Chadron, NE; Alliance, NE; and Scottsbluff, NE. The dates, times, and locations for these meetings will be published online at www.blackhills.va.gov/vablackhillsfuture/.

At the public meetings, interested parties will also have the opportunity to comment regarding the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 process, which has been integrated into this NEPA process.

Signing Authority

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or designee, approved this document and authorized the undersigned to sign and submit the document to the Office of the Federal Register for publication electronically as an official document of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Robert L. Nabors II, Chief of Staff, Department of Veterans Affairs, approved this document on October 26, 2015, for publication.

Dated: October 27, 2015.

Michael Shores,

Chief Impact Analyst, Office of Regulation Policy & Management, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

National Research Advisory Council; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C., App. 2, that the National Research Advisory Council will hold a meeting on Wednesday, December 9, 2015, at 810 Vermont Ave. NW., Conference Room

730, Washington, DC 20420. The meeting will convene at 9:00 a.m. and end at 4:00 p.m., and is open to the public. Anyone attending must show a valid photo ID to building security and be escorted to the meeting. Please allow 15 minutes before the meeting begins for this process.

The agenda will include a review of the Million Veteran Program and a joint meeting with the Association of American Medical Colleges.

No time will be allocated at this meeting for receiving oral presentations from the public. Members of the public wanting to attend, or needing further information may contact Pauline Cilladi-Rehrer, Designated Federal Officer, ORD (10P9), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420, at (202) 443-5607, or by email at pauline.cilladi-rehrer@va.gov, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: October 27, 2015.

Rebecca Schiller,

Advisory Committee Management Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for a Replacement Robley Rex Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Louisville, Kentucky

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321, *et seq.*), VA intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for constructing and operating a new campus to replace the existing VA Medical Center, Veterans Benefits Administration office, and three community-based outpatient clinics in Louisville, Kentucky. VA seeks public scoping input on the EIS.

DATES: Interested parties are invited to submit scoping comments for the Replacement Louisville VAMC EIS by Monday, November 30, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Submit scoping comments online through www.Louisville-EIS.com, by email to LouisvilleReplacementHospitalComments@va.gov, or by regular mail to Robley Rex VAMC, Attn: Replacement VAMC Activation Team Office, 800 Zorn Avenue, Louisville, KY 40206.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robley Rex VAMC, Attn: Replacement

VAMC Activation Team Office, 800 Zorn Avenue, Louisville, KY 40206 or by email to LouisvilleReplacementHospitalComments@va.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: VA proposes to construct and operate a new 104-bed hospital, which will include diagnostic and treatment facilities, a Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) regional office, and required site amenities and improvements on a new campus. This proposed project would replace the existing Robley Rex VA Medical Center (VAMC), three community-based outpatient clinics, and the existing VBA regional office with new facilities of sufficient capacity to meet the current and projected future healthcare needs of Veterans in the Louisville service area. The proposed project is needed because the existing Louisville VAMC facilities on Zorn Avenue have reached the end of their serviceable lives. The building conditions and site configuration at the existing 63-year old VAMC are inadequate to effectively and efficiently meet the expanding needs of VA's health care mission and VBA services in the region. Within the Louisville service area, 60,943 Veterans were enrolled to receive care in Fiscal Year 2014. Enrollment is expected to increase to more than 68,000 by FY 2024. During this same time period, outpatient clinic stops are expected to increase from 763,104 to over 963,000. The existing Louisville VAMC facility is insufficient to meet the current and the increasing future needs of VA's health care mission in the region. Therefore, VA conducted studies beginning in 2009 that recommended new facilities be constructed on a new site that would be better suited to meet future needs.

VA has identified two potential action alternatives to be analyzed in detail in this EIS: Construction and operation of a replacement VAMC campus at the "Brownsboro Site" at 4906 Brownsboro Road, Louisville; and construction and operation of a replacement VAMC campus at the "St. Joseph Site," on a parcel located east of I-265 and south of Factory Lane in Louisville. The Brownsboro and St. Joseph Sites were identified through a site selection process conducted by VA in 2011. The Brownsboro Site was acquired by VA in 2012 as the proposed location for the replacement VAMC. In addition to these two action alternatives, the EIS also will evaluate the impacts associated with No Action or "status quo" as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and its implementing regulations. The three community-based outpatient clinics and the existing VBA