U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Office of Construction & Facilities Management
Washington DC 20420

April 28, 2025

SUBJECT: Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment, Notice of Availability, for the Build-to-Suit Lease Program

Dear Valued Stakeholder:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announces the availability of the Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for the Build-to-Suit Lease Program. The Draft PEA analyzes lease actions which include construction, renovation, repair, and operation of outpatient clinics, community living centers, and other similar leased medical facilities identified under the VA Office of Real Property build-to-suit program. VA is requesting comments on the Draft PEA.

VA has prepared the PEA in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 et seq.).

The purpose of the proposed action is to provide eligible Veterans medical services, assisted living care, and related services. The proposed action is needed to address current and future projected health care gaps and operational inefficiencies, especially in rural areas where access to common medical services offered by Veterans Affairs Medical Centers is not an easily accessible option.

The PEA proposes to provide a streamlined NEPA compliance process for those recurring, predictable, and low-impact construction, renovation, or repair projects that would result in less than significant impacts. Use of the PEA would expedite the NEPA analysis and documentation process for those build-to-suit lease projects that meet the conditions identified within the PEA. VA will complete additional NEPA compliance as required on projects outside the parameters of the PEA. The geographic scope of the PEA is all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Tribal Lands, and the Territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

The Draft PEA is available for review via the VA website: https://www.cfm.va.gov/environmental/. Comments must be submitted through www.regulations.gov. Comments received before the close of the comment period will be available at www.regulations.gov for public viewing, inspection, or copying, including any personally identifiable or confidential business information that is included in a comment. The Draft PEA will be available for public review and comment for a period of 30 days from the publication of the notice of availability in the Federal Register.

Respectfully,

GLENN ELLIOTT Digitally signed by GLENN ELLIOTT
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Glenn Elliott
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Office of Construction & Facilities Management