Office of Construction & Facilities Management
425 I Street, NW, Ste. 2E.250
Washington DC 20420
www.cfm.va.gov

September 16, 2025

Subject: Environmental Assessment Scoping Notice for the Proposed Willamette National Cemetery Development Project located in Marion County, Oregon; VA NEPA ID # EAXX-029-40-NCA-1756327369

Dear Valued Stakeholder:

To fulfill its mission to honor Veterans and ensure continued interment availability, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has determined that there is a need to expand Veteran burial options within the Willamette Valley region (Figure 1). VA's Proposed Action is to acquire approximately 300 acres of land located at 3515 Howell Prairie Road Southeast, Salem, Oregon to replace the existing Willamette National Cemetery (Figure 2). The additional land will support the development of future gravesites and facilities to meet the National Cemetery Administration's goal of providing eligible Veterans and their family members with reasonable access to VA interment options. These benefits are provided by VA under the National Cemetery Act of 1973 and Chapter 24 of Title 38, United States Code.

VA is preparing an environmental assessment (EA) to assess the potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action. VA is seeking input from stakeholders as part of the scoping process in the development of this document. VA is preparing the EA in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 U.S.C. § 4321- 4370) and VA's NEPA regulations (38 C.F.R. Part 26).

Through this notice, VA is also providing the public with information about the undertaking and seeking public comment and input about the undertaking's effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (54 U.S.C. § 306108), and its implementing regulations (36 C.F.R. Part 800 – Protection of Historic Properties). VA is using its procedures for public involvement under NEPA in lieu of public involvement requirements in Subpart B of the Section 106 regulations per 36 C.F.R. 800.2(d)(3). This notice does not serve as an invitation to consult under Section 106; it is solely to seek and consider the views of the public. VA will initiate its Section 106 review and send invitations to consulting parties separately.

If you have comments on the scope of the EA, the range of alternatives, and environmental issues for in-depth analysis, please email your comments to vacoenvironment@va.gov with the subject line, "Willamette National Cemetery Project EA Scoping.VA will publish the Draft EA online at http://www.cfm.va.gov/environmental/index.asp for a 30-day public review and comment period. The Notice of Availability of the Draft EA will be published in the Salem Reporter.

Respectfully,

GLENN ELLIOTT

Digitally signed by GLENN ELLIOTT
Date: 2025.09.16 08:52:05 -04'00'

Glenn Elliott
Director, Project Development Services Division
Office of Construction and Facilities Management

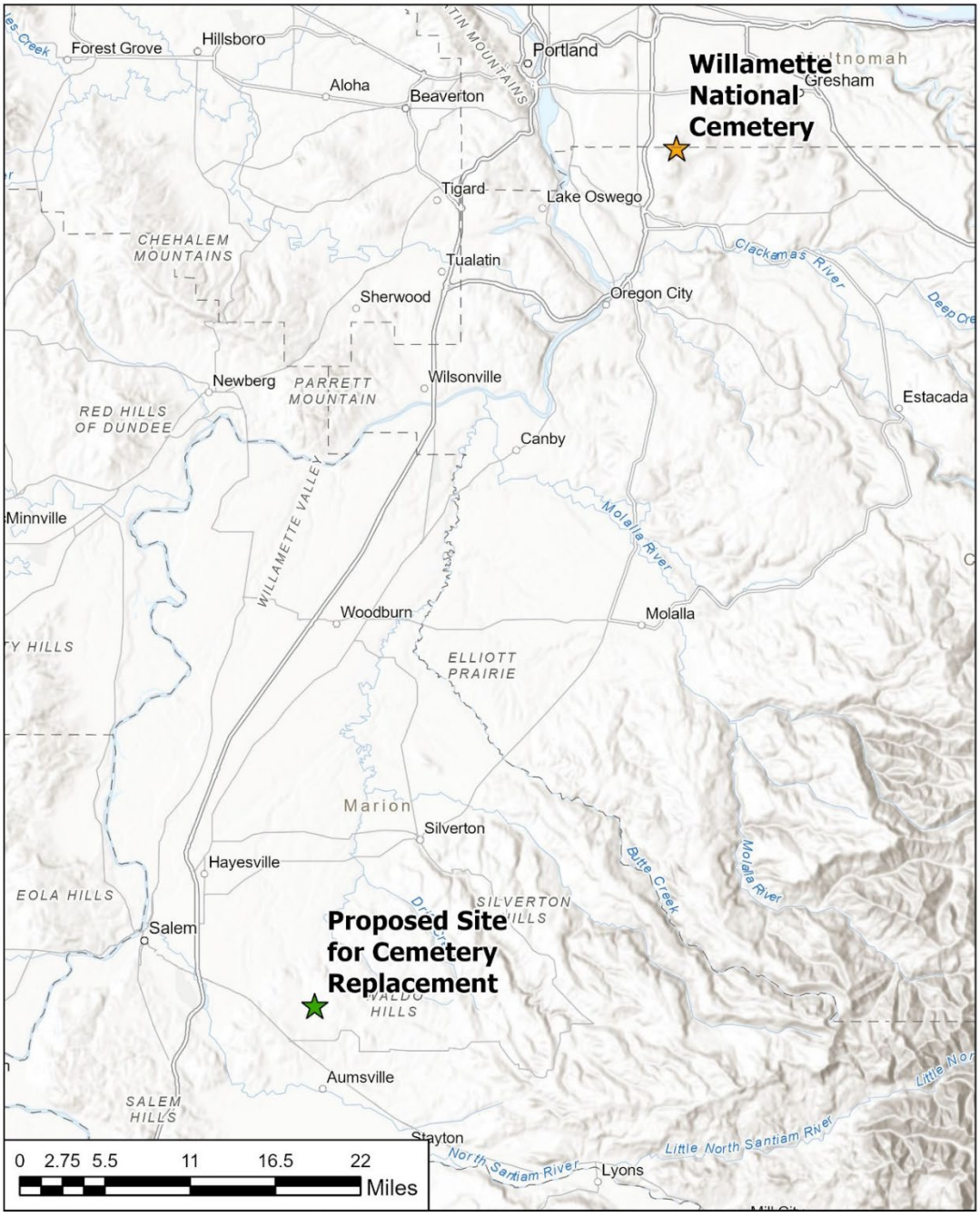

Figure 1. Project Location Map

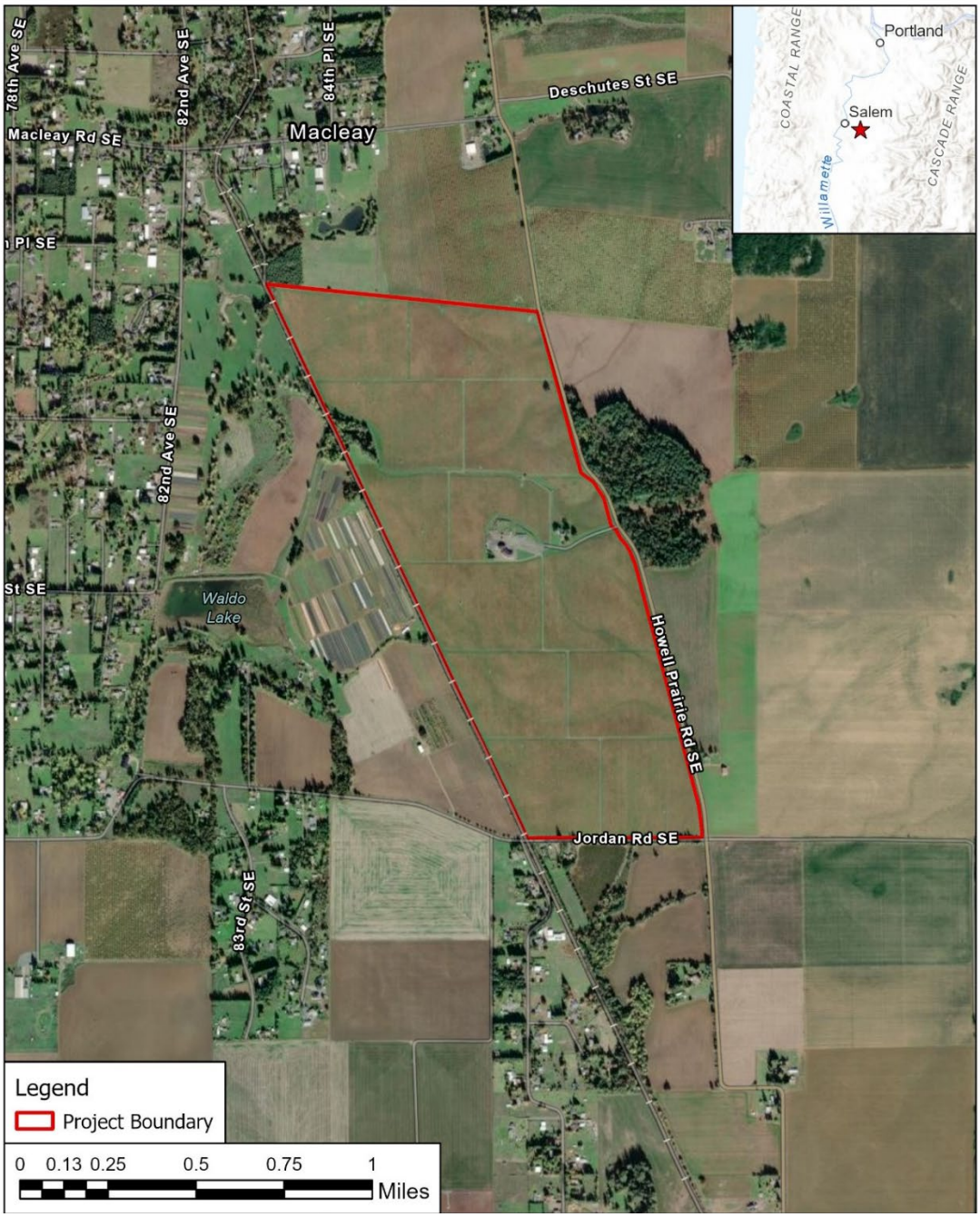

Figure 2. Site Vicinity Map