

REPLACEMENT ROBLEY REX VA MEDICAL CENTER CAMPUS

SITE-SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT



SCOPING REPORT

May 2014

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
EA	Environmental Assessment
I-264	Interstate Highway 264 (Watterson Expressway)
KYTC	Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
VA	Department of Veterans Affairs
VAMC	Veterans Affairs Medical Center
VBA	Veterans Benefits Administration
U.S.	United States
U.S.C.	United States Code

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The United States (U.S.) Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is preparing a site-specific environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed construction and operation of a new Robley Rex VA Medical Center (VAMC) campus at 4906 Brownsboro Road in Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky (the “Proposed Action”). The new location would be southeast of the intersection of Watterson Expressway (Interstate [I]-264) and Brownsboro Road. The Proposed Action includes new inpatient, outpatient, and support facilities and a new regional Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) office. The new campus would replace existing facilities in Louisville including the VAMC at 800 Zorn Avenue; community-based outpatient clinics at 4010 Dupont Circle, 3430 Newburg Road, and 3934 North Dixie Highway; and the Louisville Regional Benefit Office at 321 West Main Street.

The site-specific analysis for the Proposed Action is in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 United States Code [U.S.C.] 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) “Regulations Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA” (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508), VA’s NEPA regulations titled “Environmental Effects of the Department of Veterans Affairs Actions” (38 CFR Part 26), and VA’s “NEPA Interim Guidance for Projects”.

This report documents the results of the public scoping process for the site-specific EA for the Proposed Action.

2.0 SCOPING PROCESS

“Scoping” is the term used in the CEQ regulations implementing NEPA to define the process for determining the scope of issues to address during the environmental analysis of a proposed action. Scoping provides an avenue to involve the public with identifying potentially significant issues and concerns of public importance related to a proposed action, and possible alternatives to a proposed action. Scoping also helps identify any issues that are not significant or are unrelated to a proposed action, or alternatives that are not feasible, thereby eliminating these issues or alternatives from detailed analysis.

The scoping process for the Proposed Action involved the activities described in the following sections.

2.1 Notice of Public Scoping

The VA prepared a notice announcing the schedule for a public meeting and inviting comments on the Proposed Action from Veterans, government agencies, elected officials, and members of the public – all are commonly referred to as “stakeholders”. The scoping notice, in the form of a postcard, was mailed on April 3, 2014, to 213 addresses. The mailing list was compiled by the Robley Rex VAMC Public Affairs Office. The list included current elected officials (local, state, and federal) and stakeholders that participated in the NEPA process during the preparation of the Programmatic EA (VA 2012) for the site selection for a new VAMC campus.

The VA also published the scoping notice in the legal section of the Louisville Courier-Journal, the newspaper of general circulation in the area of the Proposed Action. The notice was published for three consecutive days on April 4, 5, and 6, 2014.

The postcard scoping notice and the newspaper affidavit of publication for the scoping notice are included in Appendix A.

2.2 News Release

The VA prepared a news release dated April 1, 2014, announcing the schedule for the public meeting for the Proposed Action. The Robley Rex VAMC Public Affairs Office posted the news release on their webpage for the proposed new VAMC (<http://www.louisville.va.gov/newmedicalcenter/index.asp>), and sent it to the broadcast and print media outlets that cover the Louisville area and to websites that host community event calendars (listed in Table 1). The news release is included in Appendix A.

Table 1. Media Outlets and Websites

Print	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courier-Journal (Louisville) • Courier-Times (Southern Indiana) 	
Radio	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WFPL • WFPK • WUOL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WBDC • Clear Channel stations
Television	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WAVE 3 • WHAS 11 • WLKY 32 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WDRB 41 • WNIN (Southern Indiana)
Websites	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insider Louisville (http://insiderlouisville.com/) • Local View Louisville (http://www.localview.co/louisville-ky) • TriState Homepage-Southern Indiana (http://www.tristatehomepage.com/home) 	

2.3 Scoping Meeting

The VA hosted a scoping meeting to provide the public an opportunity to learn about and provide comments on the construction and operation of the proposed new Robley Rex VAMC at the Brownsboro Road location. The meeting was held from 6:30-9:00 p.m. on April 16, 2014, at the Clifton Center at 2117 Payne Street in Louisville.

Scoping meeting attendees were invited to add their name to the mailing list and to view display boards prior to the start of the meeting. The display boards included information on the NEPA process, purpose and need for the Proposed Action, alternatives and environmental resources to be analyzed in the site-specific EA, and proposed design and site plan for the new VAMC campus. The attendees were also provided two handouts – a fact sheet on the NEPA process and Proposed Action, and a comment form.

The interim Medical Director of the Robley Rex VAMC welcomed the attendees to the scoping meeting, followed by a PowerPoint® presentation by the VA's consultant, Labat Environmental, Inc. The presentation explained the purpose of public scoping, the NEPA process, and the public's role in contributing to the NEPA process. The purpose and need for the Proposed Action, information on the design and construction of the new VAMC, and a list of the environmental resources to be addressed in the site-specific EA were presented. Upon completion of the presentation, the attendees were invited to

provide verbal comments. The presentation and verbal comments were transcribed by a court reporter and also translated by a sign language interpreter.

There were approximately 85 people in attendance at the scoping meeting, including representatives from the VA. There were 19 people that provided verbal comments.

The display boards, handouts, and presentation are included in Appendix B.

3.0 SCOPING SUMMARY

The scoping period officially closed on April 25, 2014. The public scoping process provided sufficient opportunity for stakeholders to express their comments and provide meaningful input to the NEPA process for the Proposed Action. The VA provided adequate notice of the scoping process and offered sufficient opportunity for the public to learn about the Proposed Action and to provide their input. Verbal and written comments were received at the scoping meetings, and written comments were also received via electronic mail at LouisvilleReplacementHospitalComments@va.gov, and through postal mail service addressed to the Robley Rex VAMC at 800 Zorn Avenue in Louisville.

There were 23 written comment letters received from individuals; no letters were received from any elected official or agency. All but 2 of the letters were from the 40222 zip code, which encompasses the project site. The comment letters in their entirety and the scoping meeting transcript are available upon request for public review at the Robley Rex Public Affairs Office during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, except federal holidays.

3.1 Comment Categories

The written letters and scoping meeting transcript were read to identify substantive issues and to define issues and comments by the categories listed in Table 2. These categories are used to verify that the comments and issues identified during the scoping process are appropriately addressed in the site-specific EA. The categories applicable to or mentioned in the comments that were received are indicated in the table by a checkmark (✓). Certain comments were applicable to more than one category.

Table 2. Comment Categories

Category		Category	
Purpose and Need	✓	Land Use	✓
Proposed Action	✓	Floodplains and Wetlands	
Alternatives	✓	Socioeconomics	✓
Aesthetics	✓	Community Services	✓
Air Quality	✓	Solid and Hazardous Materials	
Cultural Resources		Transportation and Parking	✓
Geology and Soils	✓	Utilities	✓
Hydrology and Water Quality	✓	Environmental Justice	✓
Wildlife and Habitat		Cumulative Impacts	✓
Noise	✓	Other	
NEPA Process	✓	Outside Scope of NEPA or Proposed Action	✓
✓ Category applicable to or mentioned in a comment			

3.2 Summary of Comments and Issues

The comments are summarized in this section by the assigned categories. Scoping is not a vote-counting process; the emphasis is on content of the comments rather than the number of times a particular comment was stated. All comments are given equal weight regardless of whether they were mentioned once or mentioned several times. The categories are not prioritized and the number of comments in each category is not counted.

3.2.1 Purpose and Need

- Quality of health care for Veterans should be the major consideration.
- Explain how the project site was selected.

3.2.2 Proposed Action

- Compare size (square footage) of proposed new facilities to existing facilities.
- Provide estimated number of patients, visitors, and staff and number of deliveries entering the new VAMC campus.
- Provide estimated cost to construct and operate a new VAMC.
- Size of the project site is too small for the planned buildings.
- Size of the project site limits future expansion.
- Explain how the project site was selected.
- Purpose for and use of emergency gate at Carlimar Lane.

3.2.3 Alternatives

- Use project site as a cemetery.

3.2.4 Aesthetics

- Obstruction of views from adjacent neighborhoods.
- Visual appearance of buildings.
- Security lights and illumination of VAMC campus at night.

3.2.5 Air Quality

- Effects to local air quality from additional traffic.
- Dust and pollutants from construction equipment and activities.

3.2.6 Geology and Soils

- Potential damage to houses from blasting activities.

3.2.7 Hydrology and Water Quality

- Surface drainage from adjacent properties.
- Stormwater management ponds increasing amount of groundwater infiltration.
- Stormwater management ponds as a source of mosquito breeding habitat.

3.2.8 Noise

- Increased noise levels from additional traffic.
- Noise from construction and blasting activities.
- Reduce noise to adjacent properties by installing a concrete security wall (fence).

3.2.9 Land Use

- Compatibility with adjacent land uses.

3.2.10 Socioeconomics

- Lower property values from changed land use and visual appearance.
- Maintain property values and security to adjacent properties with concrete security wall (fence).
- Potential damage to houses from blasting activities.

3.2.11 Community Services

- Hinder movement of emergency vehicles through the area with additional traffic.
- Security of adjacent neighborhoods.
- Capacity and availability of emergency response services (fire, police).

3.2.12 Transportation and Parking

- Existing and future traffic congestion in vicinity of Watterson Expressway (I-264) and U.S. Highway 42/Kentucky Road 22 (Brownsboro Road).
- Access to the project site and adjacent businesses and neighborhoods.
- Availability of public transportation.
- Adequate parking.
- Synchronize traffic signals to improve traffic flow.
- Farther distance for most Veterans to travel.
- Farther distance for most VAMC staff to travel.
- Capacity of Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) proposed improvements at Watterson Expressway (I-264) and U.S. Highway 42/Kentucky Road 22 (Brownsboro Road) to adequately handle additional traffic.

3.2.13 Utilities

- Availability and capacity of water, sewer, gas, and electric services.

3.2.14 Environmental Justice

- Travel distance for minority Veterans.

3.2.15 Cumulative Impacts

- Future development (restaurants, hotels, housing) in the area to support out-patients, visitors, and staff.

3.2.16 NEPA Process

- Finding of No Significant Impact is inappropriate because of estimated traffic volume increases.
- Prepare an environmental impact statement because traffic is projected to increase by more than 20 percent.
- Consideration of comments that had been submitted in response to the Programmatic EA.

3.2.17 Outside Scope of NEPA or Proposed Action

- Select a different location for the new VAMC.
- The new VAMC should be in close proximity to University of Louisville Medical Center and other regional hospitals to provide specific medical services.
- Remodel existing VAMC at Zorn Avenue location.
- Prepare an environmental impact statement because the project site acquisition was more than 10 acres.
- Hire 4,000 motorists to simulate the traffic conditions anticipated at full operational status of the new VAMC.
- Acquisition cost of project site.
- Availability of funding for KYTC to complete interchange improvements.

3.3 Incorporation of Comments and Issues in Site-Specific EA

Comments pertaining to the NEPA process category are considered and addressed in the site-specific EA if relevant and appropriate. Comments considered outside the scope of the NEPA process or the Proposed Action are not addressed or incorporated into the site-specific EA. The CEQ regulations implementing NEPA provide guidance as to content of NEPA documents and impact analysis. Specifically, 40 CFR 1501.7(a)(2) allows for issues to be identified and eliminated from detailed study which are not considered significant, and 40 CFR 1501.7(a)(3) allows for the elimination from detailed study the issues which have been covered by prior environmental review. Additionally, 40 CFR 1502.22 requires agencies to identify issues that can be addressed provided that the analysis is not based on conjecture.

The remaining substantive comments are incorporated in the site-specific EA as appropriate and based on best available data to conduct a reasonable analysis.

4.0 REFERENCES

VA 2012. Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment of the Proposed Site Selection, Construction, and Operation of a Replacement Louisville VA Medical Center, Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 811 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20005. Prepared by TTL Associates, Inc. 8 June 2012.

Appendix A: Scoping Notice and News Release



NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING

Environmental Assessment New Robley Rex VA Medical Center Louisville, Kentucky

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will host a public scoping meeting to invite comments from Veterans, stakeholders, government agencies, and members of the public for a site-specific environmental assessment (EA) for constructing and operating the new Robley Rex VA Medical Center (VAMC). The proposed new VAMC would be located at 4906 Brownsboro Road and the intersection of I-264 (Watterson Expressway). The VA requests input on potential environmental impacts from the proposed VAMC and suggestions to mitigate any impacts.

Wednesday, April 16, 2014, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Clifton Center – Eifler Theatre, 2117 Payne Street, Louisville, KY 40206

Doors will open at 6:30 pm to review displays and obtain handouts and forms for written comments. A brief presentation will begin at 7:00, after which the public will have the opportunity to provide oral comments. Comments may also be submitted to **LouisvilleReplacementHospitalComments@va.gov** by April 25, 2014.



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Robley Rex VA Medical Center
800 Zorn Avenue
Louisville, KY 40206
www.louisville.va.gov

Address

THE COURIER-JOURNAL - A GANNETT COMPANY

STATE OF KENTUCKY

County of Jefferson

Affidavit of Publication

I, *Christine Manning*, of COURIER-JOURNAL, Inbound Special Services Representative, general circulation printed and published at 525 West Broadway, Louisville, Kentucky, do solemnly swear that from my own personal knowledge, and reference to the files of said publication, the advertisement of:

Title: Public Scoping Meeting Lines: 47

Date(s): 4/4, 4/5, 4/6/2014 Inches: 2x4.55

Christine Manning, Inbound Special Services Representative

Signature of person making proof

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of April 2014

Janice C. Richardson, Notary Public

Notary Public, State at Large, KY

My commission expires June 14, 2014

**Public Scoping Meeting:
Environmental Assessment for
New Robley Rex
VA Medical Center**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will host a public scoping meeting to invite comments from Veterans, stakeholders, government agencies, and members of the public for a site-specific environmental assessment (EA) regarding the construction and operation of the proposed new Robley Rex VA Medical Center (VAMC). The proposed new VAMC would be located at 4906 Brownsboro Road and the intersection of I-264 (Watterson Expressway). The VA requests input on potential environmental impacts from this proposed VAMC and suggestions to mitigate any impacts. This meeting complies with the VA's procedures for preparing an EA under the National Environmental Policy Act.

WHEN: Wednesday, April 16, 2014, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

WHERE: Clifton Center - Effler Theatre
2117 Payne Street,
Louisville, KY 40206

Doors will open at 6:30 pm to review displays and obtain handouts and forms for written comments. A brief presentation will begin at 7:00 pm, after which the public will have the opportunity to provide oral comments regarding construction and operation impacts. Comments may also be submitted to LouisvilleReplacementHospitalComments@va.gov by April 25, 2014.



Robley Rex VA Medical Center (VAMC)

800 Zorn Avenue
Louisville, Kentucky 40206
www.louisville.va.gov

News Release

Contact: Judy Williams/Laura Schafsnitz
Robley Rex VAMC Public Affairs Office
(502) 287-5502/287-4227
judy.williams@va.gov / laura.schafsnitz@va.gov

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: April 1, 2014

Public Scoping Meeting: Environmental Assessment for New Robley Rex VA Medical Center

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) hosts a public scoping meeting inviting comments from Veterans, stakeholders, government agencies, and members of the public for a site-specific environmental assessment (EA) regarding the construction and operation of the proposed new Robley Rex VA Medical Center (VAMC). The proposed new VAMC would be located at 4906 Brownsboro Road, and the intersection of I-264 (Watterson Expressway). The VA requests input on potential environmental impacts from this proposed VAMC action, and suggestions to mitigate any impacts. This meeting complies with the VA's procedures for preparing an environmental assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act.

- WHAT:** VA Public Meeting – “Environmental Assessment of Proposed Construction and Operation”
- WHEN:** Wednesday, April 16, 2014
7:00 – 9:00 pm
- WHERE:** Clifton Center – Eifler Theatre
2117 Payne Street
Louisville, KY 40206

Doors open at 6:30 pm to review displays and obtain handouts and forms for written comments. A brief presentation begins at 7:00 pm, after which the public has the opportunity to provide oral or written comments regarding construction and operation impacts. Comments may also be submitted to LouisvilleReplacementHospitalComments@va.gov by April 25, 2014.

##

Appendix B: Scoping Meeting Displays, Handouts, and Presentation



The *National Environmental Policy Act* requires federal agencies to evaluate the environmental impacts of their actions.

This EA will:

- State the purpose and need for the new VAMC
- Describe the proposed VAMC
- Analyze its potential for environmental impacts
- Identify possible mitigation

The Draft EA will be available for public review and comment.

The VA will then:

- Consider and address the public comments
- Publish a Final EA
- Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact or determine that an EIS is required



Environmental Assessment for Replacement Robley Rex VA Medical Center Campus 4906 Brownsboro Road, Louisville, Kentucky

Scoping is your opportunity to provide comments to help us improve our analysis

2004	The VA's CARES (Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services) Decision identified the need to replace the Louisville VA Medical Center (VAMC).	April – public scoping July – Draft EA for public review, public meetings October – Final EA and decision document (Finding of No Significant Impact anticipated) Design complete.
2005–2010	Further CARES analysis, feasibility study, siting alternatives, site surveys.	
2012	Programmatic environmental assessment (EA) for site selection—decision to select 4906 Brownsboro Road as location for the replacement VAMC.	
2014	Site-specific EA evaluates the VA's proposed action to construct and operate the new VAMC campus and a Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) Regional Office at 4906 Brownsboro Road.	
2016		
2017*		Phased construction of replacement Robley Rex VAMC and VBA Regional Office.
2023*		Facility operation begins.

*Estimated. To be determined, based on budgets / appropriations.



Alternatives and Impact Analysis

Replacement Robley Rex VA Medical Center Campus

Purpose and Need for Replacement Robley Rex VAMC Campus

- Provide full-service medical center of sufficient capacity to serve current and projected future health care needs of Veterans
- Replace aging medical facilities that are inadequate to effectively and efficiently meet the VA healthcare mission



The EA will evaluate the impacts of two alternatives:

Proposed Action Construct and operate a replacement VA Medical Center and VBA Regional Office at 4906 Brownsboro Road, Louisville, Kentucky.

No Action Continue to operate from the existing Zorn Avenue VAMC. Do not construct a replacement VAMC and VBA Regional Office.
♦ NEPA regulations require agencies to evaluate the “no action” alternative. ♦

Environmental Resources to be Assessed

Aesthetics	Floodplains and wetlands
Air quality	Socioeconomics
Cultural resources	Community services
Geology and soils	Solid and hazardous materials
Hydrology and water quality	Transportation and parking
Wildlife and habitat	Utilities
Noise	Environmental justice
Land use	



Replacement Robley Rex VA Medical Center Campus Design

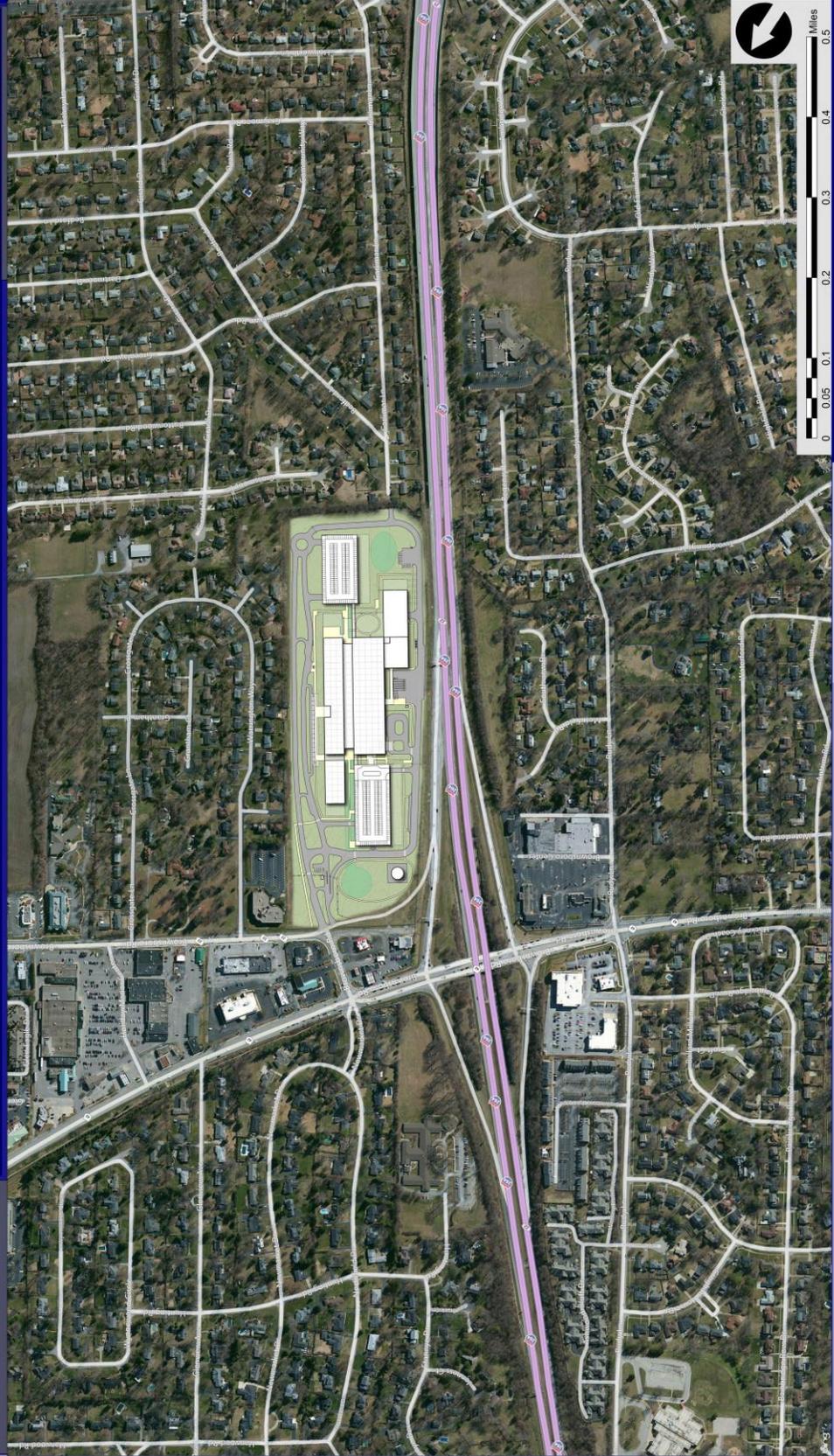


CUP = Central Utility Plant
 D&T = Diagnostic and Treatment Areas
 VBA = Veterans Benefits Administration

- 34 acres
- Fenced
- VA Medical Center – approximately 898,500 square feet
- VBA Regional Office – approximately 132,000 square feet
- Two parking structures for 3,000 cars total
- 4-story east bar and 5-story west bar, with central atrium and courtyard



Replacement Robley Rex VA Medical Center Campus Area View





FACT SHEET



Site-Specific Environmental Assessment for Replacement Robley Rex VA Medical Center Campus

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

April 16, 2014

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- Requires a federal agency to consider the environmental impacts of their proposed project in deciding what action to take.
- Prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) to determine if the proposed project has potential to significantly impact the natural and human (social, economic) environment.
- Identify reasonable measures to avoid or minimize environmental harm.

Scoping Process

- Involve public with identifying the issues and resources to evaluate in the EA.
- Receive comments on proposed project, potential impacts, and mitigation options.
- Use comments in preparing EA.

Purpose and Need for Replacement VAMC Campus

- Provide full-service Medical Center of sufficient capacity to serve current and projected future healthcare needs of Veterans.
- Replace aging medical facilities that are inadequate to effectively and efficiently meet the VA healthcare mission.

Site-specific Environmental Assessment (SEA)

- Purpose and Need
- Alternatives
 - Proposed Action – construct and operate replacement VAMC campus at 4906 Brownsboro Road
 - No Action – no replacement VAMC campus, continue services at existing location
- Description of Affected Environment (baseline for impact analysis)
- Analysis of Impacts – direct, indirect, and cumulative
- Mitigation Measures

Resources that will be Evaluated for Potential Impacts

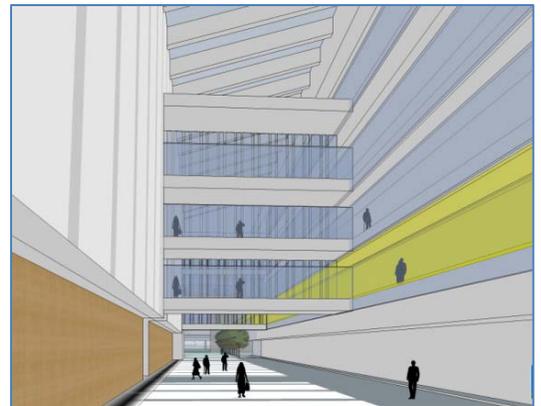
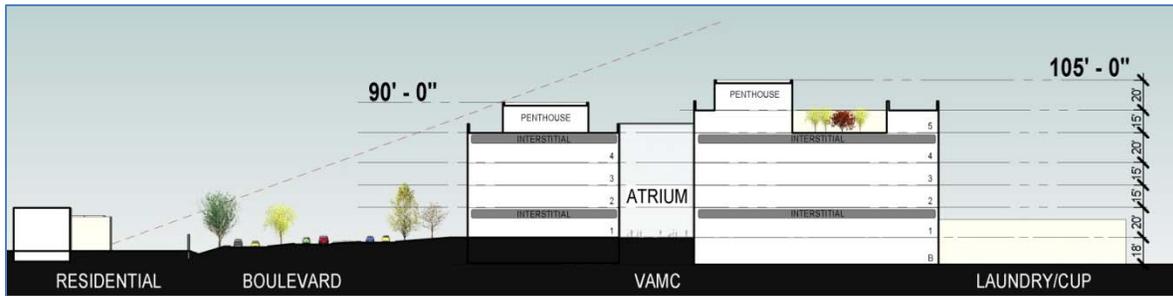
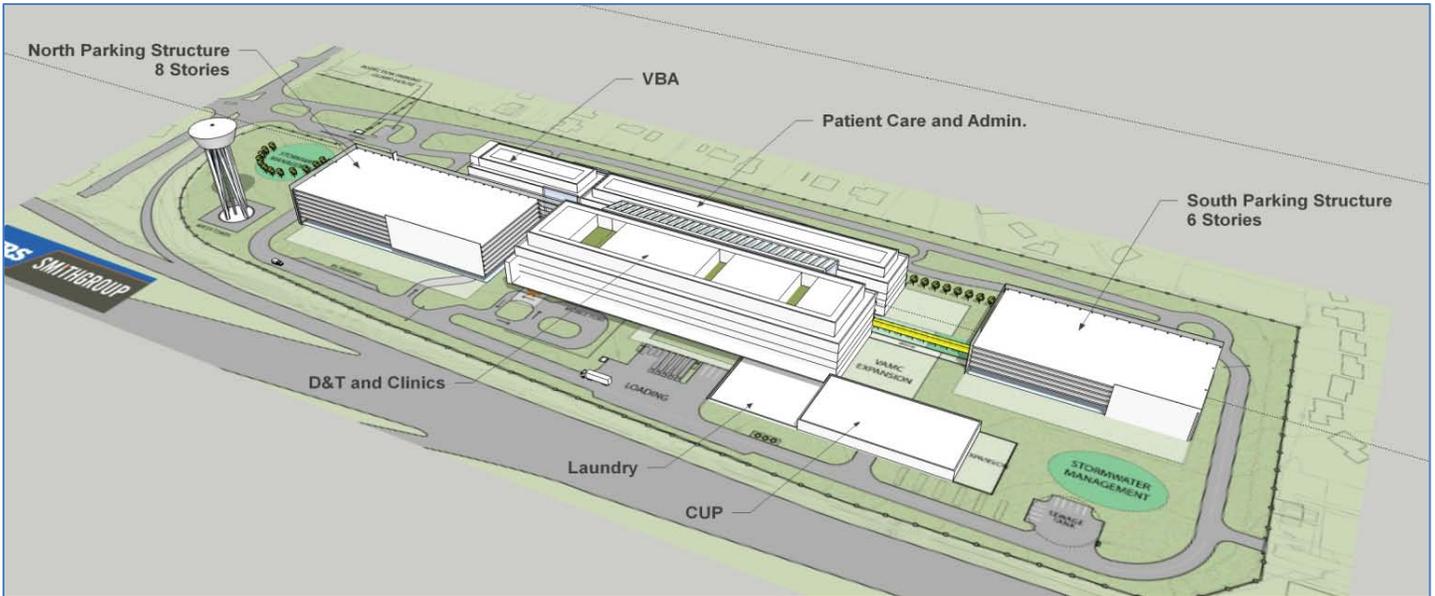
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|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Aesthetics | • Noise | • Floodplain / wetlands |
| • Air quality | • Land use | • Hydrology / water quality |
| • Cultural resources | • Socioeconomics | • Solid / hazardous materials |
| • Geology / soils | • Utilities | • Transportation / parking |
| • Wildlife / habitat | • Community services | • Environmental justice |

Schedule

- | | |
|---|---|
| • April 25, 2014 – receive public comments | • 2017 (estimated) - phased construction begins (subject to budgets / appropriations) |
| • July 2014 – Draft EA available, public meetings | • 2023 (estimated) - new VAMC campus opens (subject to budgets / appropriations) |
| • October 2014 – Final EA available | |
| • Mid-2016 – final design complete | |

Proposed Action – Project Description

- East bar: in-patient care, VAMC administration and support, Veterans Benefit Administration (VBA), 4 stories
- West bar: out-patient clinic, diagnostic and treatment units, 5 stories
- Central atrium and outdoor courtyard
- Parking: 3,000 vehicles, north structure – 8 stories, south structure – 6 stories
- Central utility plant, laundry facility, water tower
- Ingress – egress
 - Patients, visitors, and staff – east side
 - Ambulance, trucks, and deliveries – north and west sides



FOLD AND TAPE – DO NOT STAPLE

From:

First
Class
Stamp

Robley Rex VAMC
Attn: Public Affairs Office
800 Zorn Avenue
Louisville, KY 40206

FOLD AND TAPE – DO NOT STAPLE

Comments must be postmarked by **April 25, 2014** or send via email to
LouisvilleReplacementHospitalComments@va.gov.

WELCOME

Public Scoping Meeting

Site-Specific Environmental Assessment: Replacement Robley Rex VA Medical Center Campus

- **Presentation begins at 7:00 p.m.**
- **Comment form and handout at welcome table**
- **Add name to mailing list for future notices**



Public Scoping Meeting

Site-specific Environmental Assessment

**Replacement Robley Rex
VA Medical Center Campus**



Meeting Overview

- **Purpose for this meeting**
- **Background of new VAMC campus**
- **Project description and site plan**
- **Content of site-specific Environmental Assessment (EA)**
- **Schedule**
- **Comment Procedure**
- **Comments**



Meeting Purpose

- **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**
 - **Federal agency action or project**
 - **Consider environmental effects of that action or project**



Meeting Purpose

- **Scoping**
 - **Initial step in the environmental assessment process**
 - **Gather information on resources to be analyzed**
 - **Receive comments on project details, impacts, and mitigation**
 - **Use comments to prepare site-specific EA**

Background

- **Purpose and need for new VAMC campus**
 - **Provide full-service Medical Center of sufficient capacity to serve current and projected future healthcare needs of Veterans**
 - **Replace aging medical facilities that are inadequate to effectively and efficiently meet the VA healthcare mission**

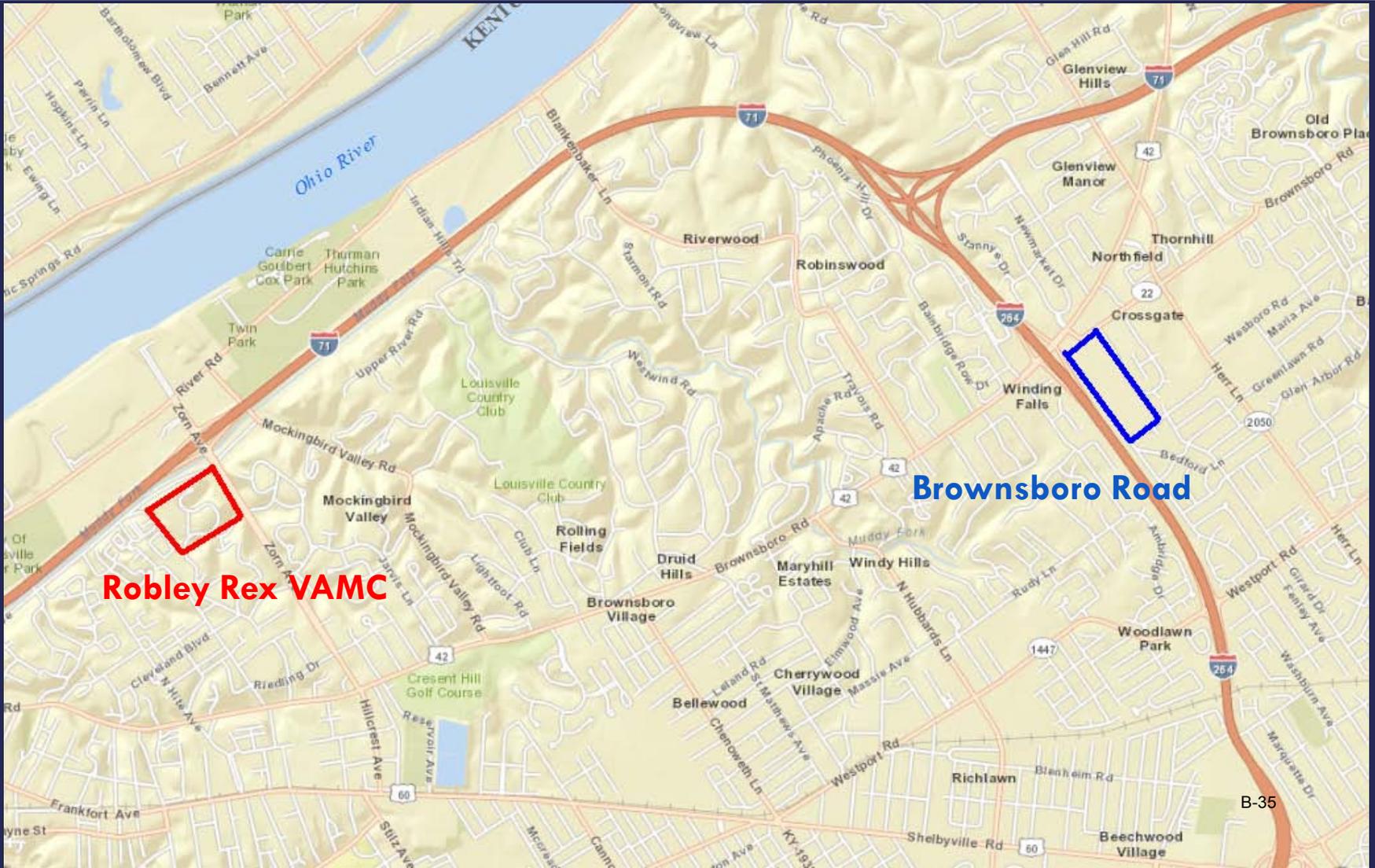


Background

- **Site selection and acquisition process**
 - **Economic, environmental, and logistical screening – completed 2010**
 - **Programmatic EA to assess impacts of different sites – completed 2012**
 - **Brownsboro Road site determined most feasible – acquired 2012**



Brownsboro Road Location



Background

- **Facility master-planning and site design process for new VAMC campus**
 - Atrium design
- **Site-specific EA**
 - Construction and operation of new VAMC campus at Brownsboro Road site

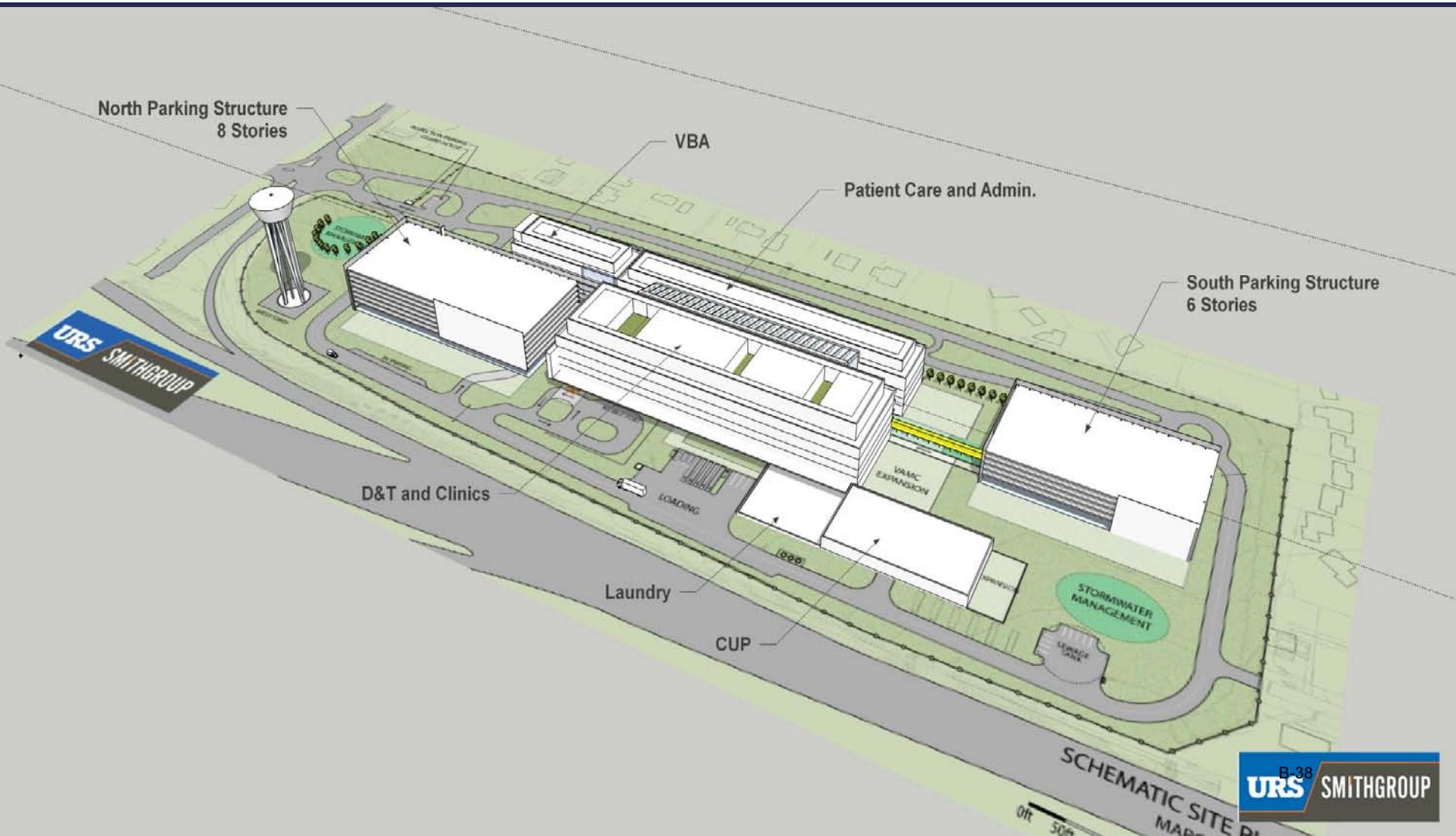


Project Description

- **West bar – outpatient, treatment**
- **East bar – inpatient, administration**
- **Central atrium and courtyard**
- **Parking structures – 3,000 vehicles**
- **Central utility plant**
- **Laundry**
- **Water tower**
- **Storm water control, landscaping**



Site Plan



Central Atrium



Courtyard

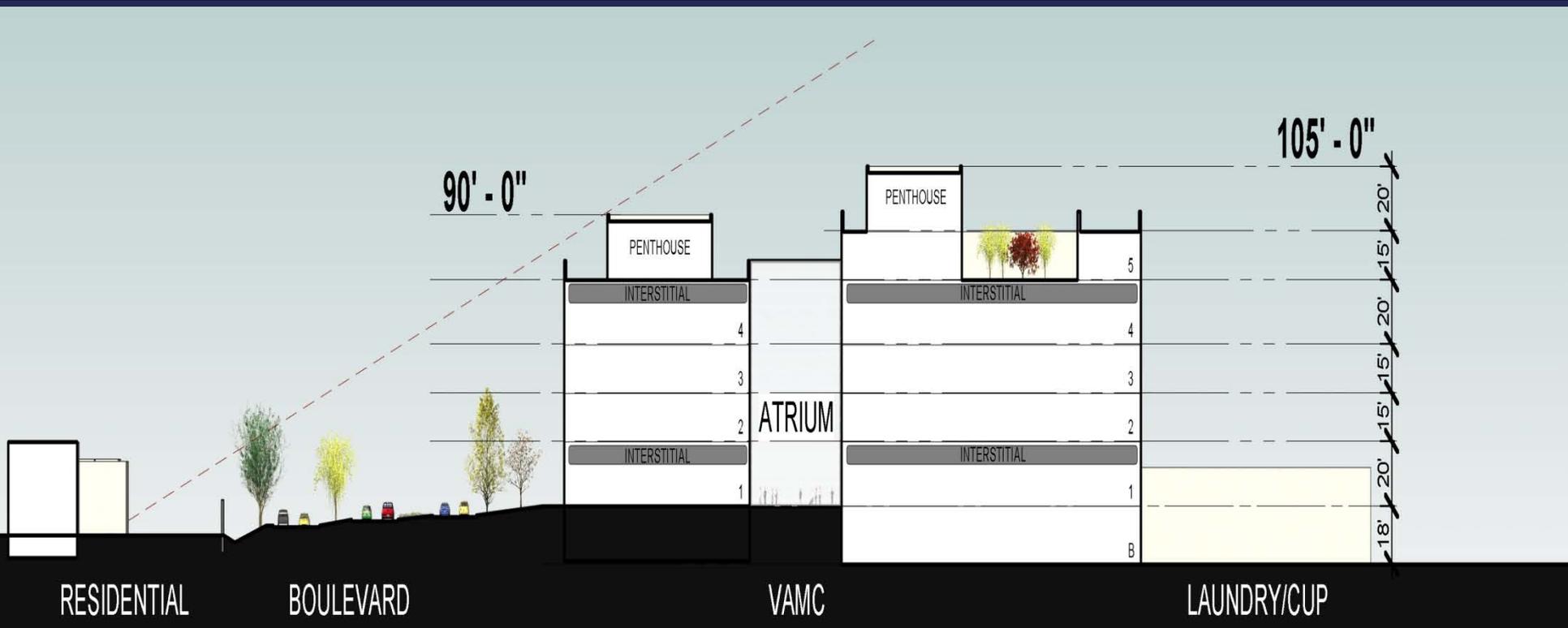


Project Description

- **West bar – 5 stories**
- **East bar – 4 stories**
- **North parking structure – 8 stories**
- **South parking structure – 6 stories**
- **Exterior materials and landscaping**
 - **Under design**
 - **Light/heat reduction strategies**
 - **Compatible with environs**



Facility Design



OPTION
4/5 STORY
VBA NORTH

B-42

Project Description

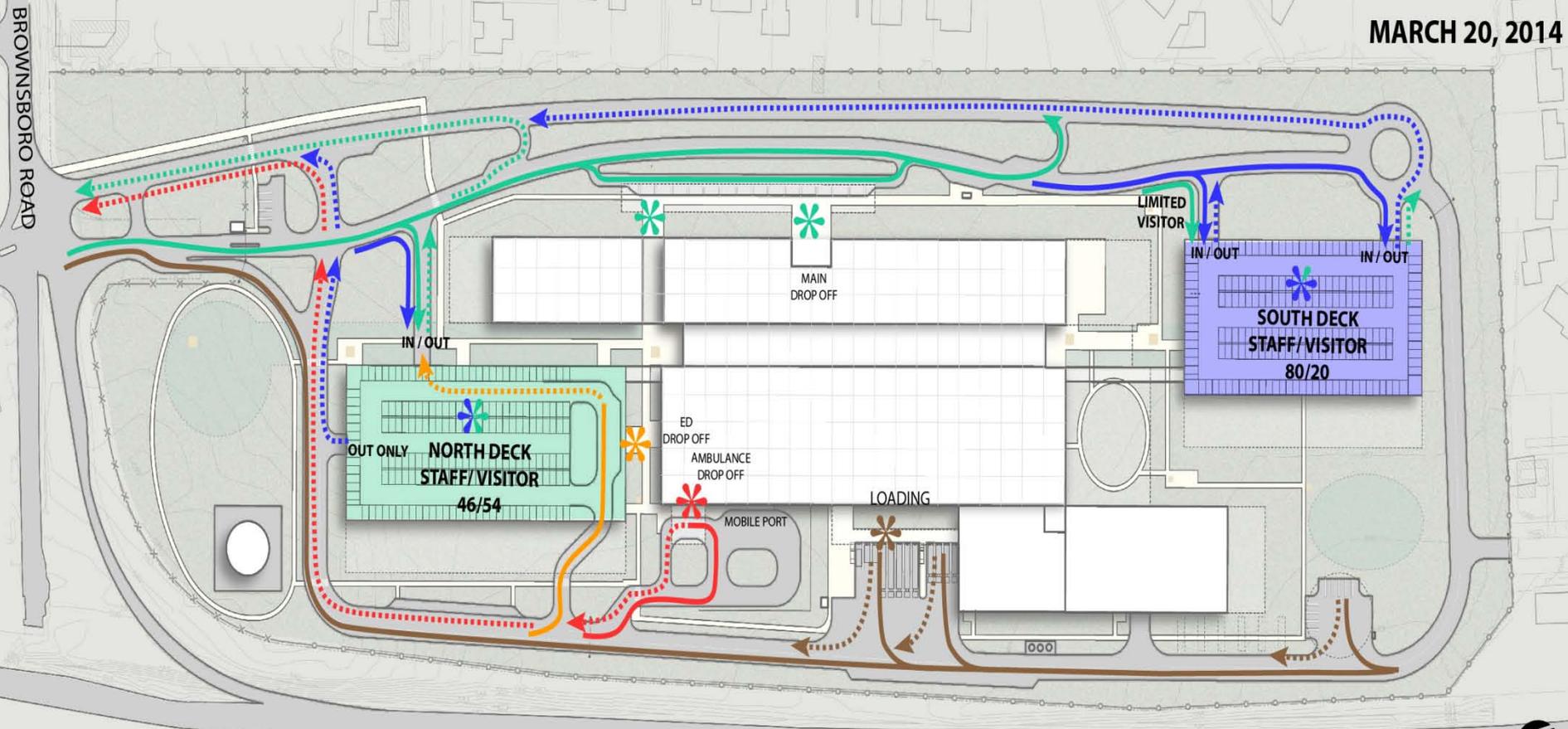
- **Entry, exit, and traffic circulation**
 - **Main entrance – north**
 - **Patients and employees – east**
 - **Trucks and deliveries – north and west**
 - **Ambulance – north and west**
 - **Alternate entrance (controlled, locked)**
- **Traffic management coordination with KYTC**



Traffic Circulation

DRAFT - For Planning Purposes Only

SITE CIRCULATION DIAGRAM
MARCH 20, 2014



BROWNSBORO ROAD

WATTERSON EXPRESSWAY (I - 264)

LEGEND

- | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| EMPLOYEE / STAFF IN | PATIENT / VISITOR IN | SERVICE IN | EMERGENCY IN | AMBULANCE IN |
| EMPLOYEE / STAFF OUT | PATIENT / VISITOR OUT | SERVICE OUT | EMERGENCY OUT | AMBULANCE OUT |



Content of EA

- **Purpose and need**
- **Alternatives**
 - **Proposed Action – construct and operate replacement VAMC campus at 4906 Brownsboro Road**
 - **No Action – no replacement VAMC, continue services at existing location**
- **Baseline environment – resources**
- **Impacts – direct, indirect, cumulative**
- **Mitigation**



Resources

- **Aesthetics**
- **Air quality**
- **Cultural resources**
- **Geology / soils**
- **Hydrology / water quality**
- **Wildlife / habitat**
- **Noise**
- **Land use**
- **Floodplain / wetlands**
- **Socioeconomics**
- **Community services**
- **Solid / hazardous materials**
- **Transportation / parking**
- **Utilities**
- **Environmental justice**



Schedule

- **April 25, 2014 – receive public comments**
- **July 2014 – Draft EA available**
- **July 2014 – public meeting on Draft EA**
- **October 2014 – Final EA available**
- **Mid-2016 – final design complete**
- **2017 (estimated) – phased construction begins (subject to budgets / appropriations)**
- **2023 (estimated) – new VAMC opens (subject to budgets / appropriations)**



Comment Procedure

- **Written comments**
 - **Comment form – leave at welcome table**
 - **Mail – comment form or letter to address on form**
 - **E-mail –**
LouisvilleReplacementHospitalComments@va.gov
 - **Submit comments by April 25, 2014**
- **Check for updates**
www.louisville.va.gov/newmedicalcenter/



Comment Procedure

- **Verbal comments**
 - **Use microphone**
 - **State name, address, and representation (self or organization)**
 - **Limit comments to 3 minutes to accommodate all speakers**
 - **Be respectful of all who want to speak – may speak again if time allows**
 - **Minimize side conversations**



Comment Procedure

- **Useful comments or questions**
 - Improve analysis, provide clear information for EA
 - Resource information for Brownsboro site
 - Site layout and operation
 - Construction activities
- **Not so useful comments (out of scope for this site-specific EA)**
 - Site location alternatives
 - Unrelated issues



Comment Period

- **State name, address, and representation**

- **Email**

LouisvilleReplacementHospitalComments@va.gov

- **Mail**

Robley Rex VAMC

Attn: Public Affairs Office

800 Zorn Avenue

Louisville, KY 40206



Thank you for participating!

www.louisville.va.gov/newmedicalcenter/

