

WELCOME

Public Comment Meeting

Draft

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



Meeting Overview

- **Purpose for this meeting**
- **Purpose and need for action**
- **Description of project**
- **Environmental impacts and mitigation**
- **Next steps**
- **Written and verbal comments**
- **Comments**



Meeting Purpose

- **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**
 - **Consider environmental impacts of federal action**
 - **Receive comments from public who may be interested or affected by action**



Purpose and Need for Action

- **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**

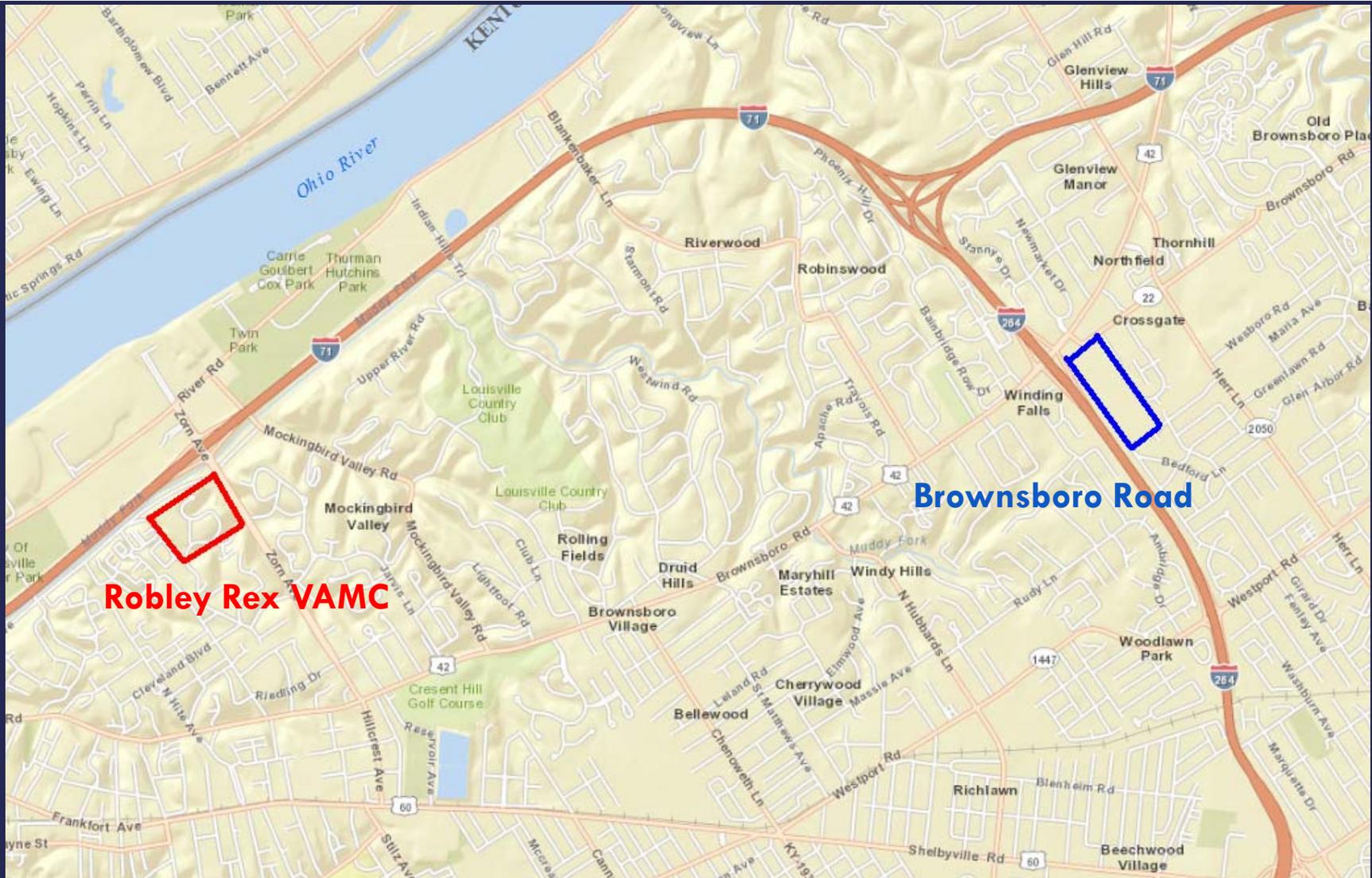


Alternatives

- **Proposed Action**
 - **New VA medical center campus at Brownsboro Road**
 - **Atrium design concept**
- **No Action**
 - **Continue health care services at Zorn Avenue facility**



Project Location



Project Description

- **104-bed inpatient hospital**
- **Outpatient clinic**
- **Diagnostics and treatment space**
- **Veterans Benefit Administration office**
- **Parking decks for 3,000 vehicles**
- **Central utility plant**
- **Laundry**



Project Description

- **Central atrium and courtyard**
- **Water tower**
- **Groundwater wells (emergency use only)**
- **Storm water controls**
- **Landscaping and site lighting**
- **Geothermal heating/cooling for VBA**
- **Access roads, sidewalks**



Site Plan



Environmental Impacts

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**



Aesthetics

- **Presence of construction equipment and unfinished stages of buildings**
- **Nighttime security lighting**
- **Building setbacks, landscape buffers, and exterior lighting generally consistent with Land Development Codes**
- **Building heights compatible with planned development**



Air Quality

- **Emissions from construction activities and equipment below threshold levels**
 - **Dust Control Plan**
- **Air quality standards not exceeded**
 - **Conforms to State Implementation Plan**
- **Stationary sources and gasoline dispensing equipment permitted by Louisville Metro APCD**



Cultural Resources

- **No direct or indirect adverse effects to any historic property in the vicinity of the Brownsboro Road site**



Geology and Soils

- **Low development risk of sinkhole activity**
 - **Construction monitored by geotechnical engineer**
 - **Well drillers will follow industry and VA standards**
- **Ground vibration – truck at 50-100 feet**
 - **Follow KY blasting standards to avoid vibration damage**
- **Prime farmland soil conversion not significant**



Hydrology and Water Quality

- **Implementation of erosion control plans would protect water quality**
- **Blasting, well drilling, and geothermal system would not fracture aquifer or contaminate groundwater**
 - **Implement Groundwater Protection Plans**
- **Groundwater withdrawal within KY limitations**
- **“Green dry” basins would retain stormwater on site**



Wildlife and Habitat

- **Urban wildlife displaced during construction**
 - Nesting birds would be avoided
- **No threatened or endangered animal or plant species are known to inhabit the site**



Noise

- **Construction noise adverse but temporary and within acceptable thresholds**
 - Limited to daylight hours
 - Advance notice of blasting schedule
- **Traffic noise on Old Brownsboro Road not likely noticeable**
- **Stationary noise sources within buildings or shielded**



Land Use

- **Medical center campus is conditional land use generally consistent with zoning and Comprehensive Plan**
- **Building heights exceed maximum zoning requirements which allows setbacks and landscaping to exceed minimum requirements because of smaller footprint**



Floodplains and Wetlands

- **Project site is not within a designated floodplain**
- **No regulated wetlands on project site**



Socioeconomics

- **Beneficial effects on local economy and construction employment**
- **Possible construction-related, short-term adverse effects to property values**
- **Possible increased property values from hospital as a desired land use**



Community Services

- **No change in use of or access to public or community services**



Solid or Hazardous Materials

- **Small amounts of hazardous materials used during construction**
- **Construction debris disposed according to regulations**
- **No substantial increase in use of hazardous materials or generation of solid waste**



Transportation and Parking

- **Offsite parking plan and shuttle service would reduce construction worker traffic**
- **Delivery and service traffic routed away from residential areas**
- **Two parking decks – no offsite or street parking**
- **Average daily traffic increases not attributable only to new VAMC**



Transportation and Parking

- **KYTC model shows acceptable levels of service at intersections with VAMC and I-264/US 42 interchange improvements**
 - **Exception at Brownsboro Road-Northfield Drive intersection – LOS F**
 - **Turning movements to/from VAMC are 9% (morning) and 13% (evening) of total movements at Brownsboro Road-Northfield Drive intersection**



Transportation and Parking

Intersection	2013		2040 - KYTC Interchange Improvement Alternatives							
	Existing		No Build		SPUI		DDI		Flyover	
	Morning/Evening Peak Hour									
	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay
US 42 at Rudy Lane	C/D	24/42	D/D	37/51	D/D	37/51	D/D	37/51	D/D	37/51
US 42 at I-264 southbound ramp	C/C	35/34	E/E	78/71	D/D	40/52	B/B	16/19	C/C	28/29
US 42 at I-264 northbound ramp	C/C	24/25	E/D	56/46			B/C	18/24	C/D	35/46
US 42 at KY 22 (Brownsboro Road/Northfield Drive)	D/C	48/35	F/F	160/213	F/F	86/193	F/F	86/149	F/F	86/193
KY 22 at I-264 slip ramp (Old Brownsboro Road/Northfield Drive)	B/C	20/32	D/F	48/96	C/D	26/50	C/D	26/50	C/D	26/50

Transportation and Parking

	2013		2040	
	Morning Peak Hour ¹	Evening Peak Hour ²	Morning Peak Hour ¹	Evening Peak Hour ²

US 42 at KY 22 (Brownsboro Road at Northfield Drive)

Total turning movements ³ (% increase)	3,231 (0%)	3,280 (0%)	4,790 (48%)	5,010 (53%)
To/from VAMC campus	0	0	420	645
Percent of total to/from VAMC campus	0	0	9%	13%

KY 22 at I-264 slip ramp (Old Brownsboro Road at Northfield Drive)

Total turning movements ³ (% increase)	1,229	1,158	2,410 (96%)	2,915 (152%)
To/from VAMC campus	0	0	935	900
Percent of total to/from VAMC campus	0	0	39%	31%

Utilities

- **Adequate capacity exists for water, electricity, natural gas, communications, and sewer service**
- **Utility connections can be extended to site with no significant environmental impacts**



Environmental Justice

- **No environmental justice population based on minority or low-income status present in vicinity of site**



Cumulative Impacts

- **Infill and Providence Point developments would have cumulative impacts to land use**
- **I-71 and I-264 interchange and lane additions, new bridges, and growth and development would have cumulative traffic impacts**
 - **Accounted for in Proposed Action analysis**



No Action Impacts

- **No impacts to aesthetics, cultural resources, geology, soils, hydrology, water quality, wildlife, habitat, land use, floodplains, wetlands, socioeconomic, community services, utilities, or environmental justice**
- **Continued operational air emissions and noise, solid waste generation, hazardous materials use, and traffic increases**



Next Steps

- **March/April 2015 – final site-specific EA available**
- **April/May 2015 – Finding of No Significant Impact (anticipated)**
- **Mid-2016 – design complete**
- **2017 (estimated) – phased construction begins (subject to budgets / appropriations)**
- **2023 (estimated) – new VAMC opens (subject to budgets / appropriations)**



Written Comments

- **Comment form: leave at table**
- **Mail comment form or letter to:**
Robley Rex VAMC
Attn: Replacement VAMC Activation Team Office
800 Zorn Avenue
Louisville, KY 40206
- **E-mail:**
LouisvilleReplacementHospitalComments@va.gov
- **Comments due February 1, 2015**



Verbal Comments

- **Use microphone**
 - **State name and representation (self or organization)**
- **Be considerate of others who want to speak – there may be time for a second opportunity to speak**
- **Provide speaker your full attention – refrain from side conversations, cell phone use**



Comments

- **Requesting your input on:**
 - **Project components and design**
 - **Environmental analysis and impacts**
 - **Mitigation measures**
 - **Permit requirements**
- **Comments and questions will be responded to in the Final EA**



Thank you for participating!

www.louisville.va.gov/newmedicalcenter/

