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

Robley Rex VAMC

Brownsboro Road
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
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intersection</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2040 - KYTC Interchange Improvement Alternatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Existing</td>
<td>No Build</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US 42 at I-264 southbound ramp</td>
<td>C/C</td>
<td>35/34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US 42 at KY 22</td>
<td>D/C</td>
<td>48/35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Brownsboro Road/Northfield Drive)</td>
<td>B/C</td>
<td>20/32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KY 22 at I-264 slip ramp (Old Brownsboro Road/Northfield Drive)</td>
<td>B/C</td>
<td>20/32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Transportation and Parking

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2040</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total turning movements</strong> (% increase)</td>
<td>3,231 (0%)</td>
<td>3,280 (0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To/from VAMC campus</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of total to/from VAMC campus</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2040</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total turning movements</strong> (% increase)</td>
<td>1,229</td>
<td>1,158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To/from VAMC campus</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of total to/from VAMC campus</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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, socioeconomics, 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/