

Appendix H – VBA and NCA Collaborations by VISN

VBA/VHA CARES Collaborative Initiatives by VISN

VISN 1 VA New England Healthcare System

- High Priority: At Newington CT, VBA and VHA are collaborating on retrofitting vacant space to be used as a co-located administration office for the Hartford VA Regional Office. Minor construction funds are being used for this initiative and the project is currently in the design stage.

VISN 3 VA NY/NJ Veterans Healthcare Network

- Medium Priority: VBA Newark, NJ and VA New Jersey Health Care System (Lyons Campus) are considering co-location of the Newark VA Regional Office to the Lyons Campus of the VA New Jersey Health Care System.

VISN 4 VA Stars & Stripes Healthcare Network

- Medium Priority: VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System and the VA Regional Office are collaborating on a possible co-location of the VARO with the Healthcare System. Unknowns about the adaptability of vacant space for claims processing function at Highland Drive. If Aspinwall consolidation alternative were funded, VBA would be receptive to new construction at Aspinwall. VBA and GSA are currently involved in prospectus modernization of the Moorhead Federal Building. CARES should be cognizant of taxpayer investment in VBA's assignment at the Federal Building before approving any co-location initiative. VBA data from a feasibility study of March 2000 supports VBA co-location at Aspinwall.

VISN 5 VA Capitol Healthcare Network

- Medium Priority-Washington, D.C. VAMC-VBA has relocated its Washington Regional Office to a new GSA leased facility in 2002. The lease expires on 2012. At that time the co-location issue will be addressed.

VISN 7 The Atlanta Network

- High Priority: Columbia VAMC and the Columbia VA Regional Office are in agreement to co-locate the RO onto the VA campus via an enhanced use Lease development project.

VISN 9 VA Mid-South Healthcare Network

- Medium Priority: Previous discussions involving VAMC and VARO Nashville along with Vanderbilt University Medical School had been focusing on an enhanced use lease development that would have benefited all three entities. However, the enhanced use lease would have been more expensive than remaining in GSA space.

VISN 9 VA Mid-South Healthcare Network

- Medium Priority: Discussions involving VAMC and VARO Louisville have been focusing on a co-located, single site service between VHA and VBA. Potential joint venture in conjunction with a build-lease arrangement for a new medical center along with the affiliated medical school.

VISN 11 Veterans In Partnership

- Medium Priority: VAMC Indianapolis and VARO Indianapolis are collaborating to co-locate VBA onto the VA's Indianapolis campus. Enhanced use was being pursued in Indianapolis but the initiative was postponed at the request of the medical center due to a site issue and coordination with another project. VBA supports enhanced use lease in Indianapolis assuming VBA Indianapolis operating expenses are offset with the \$2.5 million from the trust as offered by the Medical Center. Additionally, the enhanced use project will not be viable unless the parking issue on the Indianapolis campus is corrected before the project begins.

VISN 15 VA Heartland Network

- Medium Priority. St. Louis/ Jefferson Barracks VBA currently leases VBA space in downtown St. Louis, and their lease expiration is FY 2009. VBA will consider new construction for 2009 activation and this date coincides with expiring lease with GSA.

VISN 16 South Central VA Healthcare Network

- Medium Priority: VAMC and VARO in Little Rock have collaborated and identified new construction as the best alternative to replace the existing VBA office facilities on campus. VBA gives this initiative a medium priority, assuming VBA receives Major Construction appropriation for new construction.

VISN 18 VA Southwest Healthcare Network

- High Priority: VAMC and VARO in Albuquerque have been collaborating to co-locate the VA Regional Office onto the VAMC campus. Enhanced use was being pursued but did not receive high enough priority. As an alternative VBA is seeking major construction funding to design and build a new VA Regional Office on the VA campus in Albuquerque.

VISN 20 VA Northwest Network

- Medium Priority: VAMC Portland and VARO Portland have collaborated to co-locate VARO Portland to the Portland VA campus via new construction. There are questions about the availability of sufficient land on which to build at VA's Portland campus and how much this initiative would cost using Major Construction funds.

VISN 22 VA Desert Pacific Healthcare Network

- High Priority: VAMC Los Angeles and VARO Los Angeles are collaborating to co-locate VBA's Los Angeles Regional Office to VA's West LA Campus via enhanced use lease. In addition to VBA requirements, discussions indicate an administrative request from VHA in the amount of 36,000 gross square feet.

VISN 22 VA Desert Pacific Healthcare Network

- High Priority: VAMC Las Vegas and VARO Reno have collaborated to co-locate VBA’s Las Vegas Veterans Assistance Office at the new leased Ambulatory Care Center, currently being procured in Las Vegas.

VISN 23 VA Midwest Health CARE Network

- High Priority: VAMC Minneapolis and VARO St. Paul are collaborating to co-locate VBA’s St. Paul Regional Office and Debt Management Center to VA’s Minneapolis Campus via enhanced use lease or Major Construction. Enhanced use lease or Major Construction is the preferred methods for accomplishing this initiative.
- Medium Priority: VA Central Iowa Healthcare System and VARO Des Moines are collaborating to co-locate VBA’s Des Moines Regional Office to VA’s Des Moines Campus. Initiative proposes Major Construction.
- Medium Priority: VAMC Lincoln and VARO Lincoln are collaborating to co-locate VBA’s Lincoln Regional Office to VA’s Lincoln Campus. This initiative would utilize existing space that would be renovated and retrofitted via minor construction funds or a new enhanced use building built on the campus. Cost estimates and marketability studies are in progress. Unanswered questions exist concerning cost and site.

VBA Summary Matrix			
VISN	Facility	Initiative	Priority
1	Hartford VARO to co-locate admin office at Newington	CL/MC	High
3	Newark VARO co-locate to Lyons campus	CL	Medium
4	Pittsburgh HSC/VARO to co-locate to Aspinwall or Highland Drive	CL/MC	Medium
5	Washington DC VAMC and Washington VARO	CL	Medium
7	Columbia VARO co-locate to Columbia VAMC via enhanced use lease	CL, EU	High
9	VAMC & VARO Nashville and Vanderbilt University MC focused on enhanced use lease	Mc	Medium
	Louisville VAMC & VARO co-locate for single site VHA/VBA service	CL/JV	Medium
11	Indianapolis VAMC & VARO co-locate VBA onto Indianapolis campus	CL	Medium
15	VAMC St. Louis/Jefferson Barracks	MC	Medium

VISN	Facility	Initiative	Priority
16	Little Rock VAMC & VARO new construction to replace existing VBA facilities	CL/MC	Medium
18	Albuquerque VAMC & VARO to co-locate VARO to VAMC campus	CL	High
20	Portland VARO to co-locate to Portland	CL	Medium
22	VBA's VARO co-located to VA's West LA Campus via Enhanced Use Lease	CL, EU	High
	Las Vegas VAMC & Reno VARO collaborated to co-locate VBA's Las Vegas Veterans Assistance Office at the new leased Ambulatory Care Center -	CL	High
23	VBA's St. Paul RO & Debt Management Center to co-locate to VA's Minneapolis campus via Enhanced Use Lease or Major Construction	CL, EU, MC	High
	VBA's Des Moines RO to co-locate to VA's Des Moines campus - proposed Major Construction	CL/MC	Medium
	VBA's Lincoln RO to co-locate to VA's Lincoln Campus -- Minor Construction or enhanced use lease	CL, EU, Mc	Medium
	LEGEND		
	CL = Co-location		
	EU = Enhanced Use		
	F = Exploring Feasibility		
	MOU= Memorandum of Understanding/CWT		
	JV= Joint Venture		
	MC= Major Construction		
	MC= Minor Construction		
	High = (FY 2004-2010)		
	Medium = (FY 2011-2016)		
	Low =(FY2017-2022)		
	TOTAL NUMBER OF COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVES	TOTAL	
	High Priority Initiatives	6	
	Medium Priority Initiatives	11	
	Low Priority Initiatives	0	
	TOTAL	17	

NCA/VHA CARES Collaborative Initiatives by VISN

The planning horizon for high priority NCA CARES initiatives is from 2004-2010. The following sites are high priority based on the potential to continue to provide access to burial services to veterans, or to provide access to veterans not currently served by existing NCA or state veteran cemeteries:

VISN 3 VA NY/NJ Veterans Healthcare Network

- VA Hudson Valley HCS. A decision is pending as to the optimum plan for development of a National Cemetery, Columbaria-only facility, or state veterans cemetery at Castle Point and/or Montrose.

VISN 6 VA Mid-Atlantic Health Care Network

- Salem - Depending on land assessment an opportunity exists for development of a National Cemetery, Columbaria-only facility, or state veterans cemetery at Salem.
- Salisbury - Salisbury National Cemetery is co-located with the medical center. Additional acreage available from the medical facility will be made available to NCA to assist with meeting demand projections during 2017-2022.

VISN 8 VA Sunshine Healthcare Network

- Future co-location at Sabana Seca Naval Facility at San Juan - Future collaboration at Sabana Seca Naval Facility in San Juan Puerto Rico, for a national cemetery if VA is transferred the property.
- Future development in the Sarasota/Fort Myers area - NCA is interested in future collaboration if VHA pursues development of a VA-owned facility in the Sarasota/Fort Myers area to replace their current leased facility. (FY2012-2013).

VISN 9 VA Mid South Healthcare Network

- Mountain Home - Transfer of 50 acres at Mountain Home for use in future cemetery expansion (co-located). Mountain Home will need to expand their burial space by 2020.

VISN 10 VA Healthcare System of Ohio

- Chillicothe - Development of a national cemetery or state veterans cemetery at Chillicothe site will be pursued. This would provide additional existing service to veterans as well as new service to an area currently underserved. Discussions have been held with the State Director for Veterans Affairs.
- Dayton - Medical Center has already given 10 acres over the last 4 years. NCA is working with VHA to clarify if additional land is available for future expansion of the existing co-located Dayton National Cemetery.

VISN 11 Veterans in Partnership (VIP) Network

- Marion - The Marion facility is co-located and expansion at the existing national cemetery will be possible with 9 acres identified. Final approval by the National Historic Register Office to demolish 13 vacant buildings is required for development to proceed.

VISN 15 VA Heartland Network

- Leavenworth and St. Louis - Collaboration at Leavenworth and St. Louis is viable. Both Leavenworth and Jefferson Barracks National Cemeteries are co-located with the medical centers, and will allow for expansion of existing cemetery operations. Resolution of the current utility plant location at St. Louis will be required for future development.

VISN 16 South Central VA Health Care Network

- Biloxi - The Biloxi National Cemetery is co-located with the medical center. Future expansion of the existing cemetery is pending VHA decision regarding merger of VAMC Gulfport/Biloxi.

VISN 18 VA Southwest Health Care Network

- Prescott - Prescott National Cemetery, co-located with the medical center, currently has a minor construction project underway to develop a Columbarium (Pre-CARES process). In addition, the 200 acres of the former Fort Whipple site is being explored for future NCA expansion

VISN 20 VA Northwest Health Network

- Roseburg and Walla Walla - Roseburg site will provide for future expansion of burial operations at the Roseburg National Cemetery. Walla Walla site will provide access to a burial option for a currently un-served veteran population. Cremation statistics for the area will support a Columbaria-only facility. Walla Walla development may require demolition of some historic structures. Development would not occur until resolution of historic issues.

VISN 22 VA Desert Pacific Healthcare Network

- West LA - West Los Angeles identified 20 acres of available land. NCA is interested in a Columbaria-only facility to supplement burial operations at the Los Angeles National Cemetery. Additional discussions on four (4) other collaborative opportunities are ongoing. These initiatives are of a medium priority to NCA and span the years 2011-2016.

NCA Summary Matrix

VISN	Facility	Collaborative Opportunity	Priority
3	Hudson Valley HCS	NC, C, or SVC	High
6	Salem Salisbury	NC, C, or SVC NC	High Low
8	San Juan Sarasota/Fort Myers	T NC	High Medium
9	Mountain Home	NC	Low
10	Chillicothe Dayton	NC or SVC NC	High Medium
11	Marion	NC	Low
15	Leavenworth St. Louis	NC NC	High High
16	Biloxi	NC	Medium
18	Prescott	C and NC	Medium
20	Roseburg Walla Walla	NC C	High High
22	West LA	C	High

LEGEND			
	NC = National Cemetery		
	C = Columbaria		
	SVC = State Veterans Cemetery		
	T = Transfer of project to military		
	High =(FY 2004-2010)		
	Medium =FY (2011-2016)		
	Low = FY (2017-2022)		
	TOTAL NUMBER OF COLLOBORATIVE INITIATIVES	TOTAL	
	High Priority Initiatives	9	
	Medium Priority Initiatives	4	
	Low Priority Initiatives	3	
	TOTAL	16	