



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Office of Construction & Facilities Management
Washington DC 20420

November 18, 2021

SUBJECT: Notice of Availability of Capital Grants Under the Grant and Per Diem Program Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment

Dear Valued Stakeholder,

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announces the availability of the Capital Grants Under the Grant and Per Diem Program Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA). The PEA analyzes the proposed action of providing capital grants to public or nonprofit private entities so they can assist Veterans experiencing homelessness by helping to ensure the availability of supportive housing and service centers to furnish outreach rehabilitative services, and vocational counseling and training.

VA provides capital grants for the cost to construct structures and purchase land for new supportive housing facilities or service centers, acquire structures to establish supportive housing facilities or service centers, renovate existing structures to establish or expand supportive housing or service centers, and to procure a van for transportation.

The proposed action is needed to increase safety and reduce risk to Veterans in GPD transitional housing who otherwise would be experiencing homelessness. The grants would allow GPD grantees to improve the transitional housing they offer to Veterans resulting in less congregate housing and more individual unit style housing.

The Draft PEA examines the potential environmental effects from implementing the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative. VA prepared the Draft PEA in accordance with the regulations implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S. Code 4321-4370h), as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508), and VA Implementing Regulations (38 CFR Part 26).

The Draft PEA is available for public review on the VA website at https://www.cfm.va.gov/environmental/Draft_GPD_Programmatic_EA_for_Public_Comment.pdf. The 30-day public review and comment period ends on December 18, 2021. Comments on the Draft PEA should be sent to vacoenvironment@va.gov with the subject line "GPD PEA" no later than December 18, 2021.

VA will prepare and publish a Final PEA following the 30-day comment period. The Final EA will summarize and address comments on the Draft EA.

For additional information or questions, please contact Mr. Jason Sturm, VA Environmental Engineer, at Jason.Sturm@va.gov or (224) 628-1946. Reference "GPD PEA" in your correspondence.

Respectfully,

Glenn Elliott
Director, Environmental Program Office
Office of Construction & Facilities Management