



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**San Francisco VA Health Care System**  
**4150 Clement Street**  
**San Francisco, CA 94121**

October 30, 2020

Julianne Polanco  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Office of Historic Preservation  
Department of Parks & Recreation  
1725 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 100  
Sacramento, CA 85816

Cc: ACHP

**Subject: Notification of Emergency Situation: 36 CFR 800.12(b)(2)**  
**Outdoor Seating Additions on Entry Lawn for COVID-19 Response**  
**San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center (SFVAMC)**

Dear Ms. Polanco,

The San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center (SFVAMC) is notifying your office of its proposed undertaking to construct an outdoor seating area on the Entry Lawn of the campus to support additional social distanced seating as part of its COVID-19 response. This undertaking is in response to the COVID-19 crisis, a National Emergency declared by the White House on March 13, 2020. SFVAMC is acting pursuant to the provisions for emergency situations at 36 CFR § 800.12(b)(2) of the regulations at 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties" in order to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. § 306108 (NHPA). Pursuant to 36 CFR. 800.12(d), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) has extended, until December 31, 2020, the time period for all federal agencies regarding undertakings that respond to emergencies and disaster declarations on the outbreak of COVID-19.

Under this section of the emergency review regulations, SFVAMC's responsibility is to notify the ACHP the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and any federally recognized Indian tribe that may attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties likely to be affected by the proposed undertaking and afford them an opportunity to comment within seven (7) days of notification. SFVAMC is following the emergency procedures in 36 CFR 800.12 by providing the California SHPO and ACHP seven (7) days to comment on the proposed undertaking. SFVAMC has determined that there are no federally recognized Indian tribes that may attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties likely to be affected by the proposed undertaking.

The SFVAMC is located at 4150 Clement Street, San Francisco, CA 94121 on a 29-acre site in northwest San Francisco and is a major tertiary care facility that serves as a VA regional referral center for specialized medical and surgical programs. The 12-acre SFVAMC National Register Historic District lies within the boundaries of the SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus. The Entry Lawn is a contributor to the overall historic significance of the SFVAMC per SFVAMC Historic Landscape Study completed January 14, 2020.

