PUBLIC NOTICE
U.S. DEPT. OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), in accordance with 38 U.S.C. Sec 8161, et seq., and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, hereby provides updated notice of VA’s proposal, and its request for views on an Enhanced-Use Lease (EUL) project at the Minneapolis, MN VA Medical Center campus. Since the project is a Federal undertaking, VA must consider the effects of the proposed project on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470 et seq.). The purpose of this notice is to invite public consultation on this project.

The Minneapolis VA Medical Center proposes to establish an EUL for an affordable housing facility of not less than 100 units on the Minneapolis VAMC property. The contemplated housing facility will be located on approximately 3 acres of VA land located across Minnehaha Avenue across from the Light Rail Station on the east side of the Minneapolis VAMC.

IDENTIFICATION OF PROPERTY: The contemplated EUL land parcel is located on the Minneapolis VAMC campus, south of 54th Street between Minnehaha Avenue and Highway 55. The new building is proposed to be constructed between the two existing Single Resident Occupancy units. The contemplated EUL land parcel is part of the Minneapolis VA Medical Center and is not on the National Register of Historic Places but is approximately 1,000 feet from the Coldwater Spring Historic Site.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED USE OF THE PROPERTY: VA is developing an Enhanced Use Lease (EUL) with CHDC Veterans Limited Partnership, to construct a new building and repurpose underutilized VA land in support of VA’s goal to end Veteran homelessness. The initiative will develop new housing opportunities for Veterans through public-private partnerships and VA’s EUL program. The proposed project is to construct an affordable housing facility of not less than 100 units on the Minneapolis VAMC property. The Enhanced Use Lessee will be required to finance, design, develop, maintain and operate the new VA housing facility in accordance with applicable Federal, State and local requirement. The Lessee’s leasehold interest will revert to VA upon the expiration of the lease.

The public is encouraged to submit comments on the proposed project in writing. Comments must be received by September 22, 2015. Comments should be addressed to:

Steve Challeen
Director, Facilities Engineering
Minneapolis VA Health Care System
One Veterans Drive
Minneapolis, MN 55417

or

Email: steven.challeen2@va.gov