

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

October 9, 2024

Sent via email

SUBJECT:Scoping Notice for the Proposed Acquisition of 10 Acres of Land Adjacent to the Fort Scott
National Cemetery Located in Fort Scott, Bourbon County, Kansas
[VA ID# EAXX-029-40-NCA-1727875568]

Dear Valued Stakeholder:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing to acquire approximately 10 acres of land adjacent to the Fort Scott National Cemetery (the Proposed Action) located at 900 East National Avenue, Fort Scott, Bourbon County, Kansas (Figures 1 and 2). The purpose of the Proposed Action is to ensure future interment capacity is available to serve the projected burial needs of Veterans in the region.

VA is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action. VA is seeking input from stakeholders as part of the scoping process in the development of this document. VA is preparing the EA in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S. Code [USC] § 4321- 4370), as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500-1508), and VA's NEPA regulations (38 CFR Part 26).

Through this notice, VA is providing the public with information about the Proposed Action and seeking public comment, and input, about the undertaking's effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, (54 USC § 306108), and its implementing regulations (36 CFR Part 800 – Protection of Historic Properties). VA is using its procedures for public involvement under NEPA in lieu of public involvement requirements in Subpart B of the Section 106 regulations per 36 CFR Part 800.2(d)(3). This notice does not serve as an invitation to consult under Section 106, it is solely to seek and consider the views of the public. VA is conducting its Section 106 review and consultation separately.

If you have comments on the scope of the EA, the range of alternatives, and environmental issues for in-depth analysis, please email your comments to vacoenvironment@va.gov with the subject line "Fort Scott National Cemetery 10-Acre Acquisition".

Additional VA will publish the Draft EA online at <u>https://www.cfm.va.gov/environmental/index.asp</u> for a 30-day public review and comment period. The Notice of Availability will be posted in the *Fort Scott Tribune*.

Respectfully,

Glenn Elliott Director, Project Development Services Division Office of Construction and Facilities Management

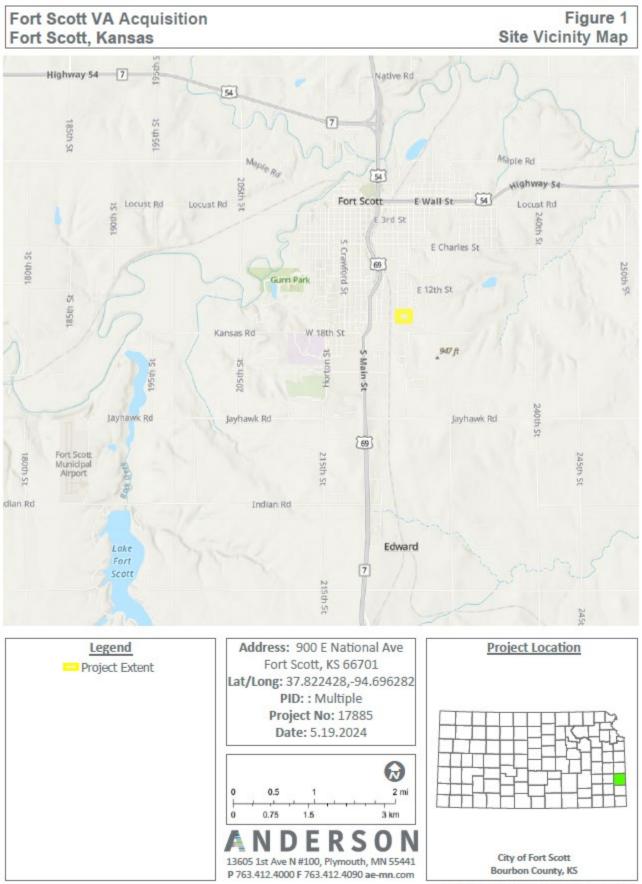


Figure 1. Site Vicinity Map

SOURCE: XX DNR, USDA, ISRI, TIGER, Bing, X000001 Co., Anderson Engineering

Figure 2. Site Location Map



SOURCE: XXXDNR, USDA, ESRI, TIGER, Bing, XXXXXXX Co., Anderson Engineering