

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

December 10, 2024 (Sent via email)

SUBJECT: Environmental Assessment Scoping Notice for the Proposed Construction and Operation of a Community Living Center in Tampa, Florida [VA ID# EAXX-029-15-VHA-1733502295]

Dear Valued Stakeholder:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing to construct and operate a community living center (CLC) in Tampa, Florida (the Proposed Action). The purpose of the Proposed Action is to provide expanded and improved community living services utilizing the VA Small House model to serve Veterans in Tampa and the surrounding communities in a modern, state-of-the-art facility. The CLC will be constructed by a private entity for VA to lease and operate at one of the following sites (Figures 1 and 2):

- Site 1 109 Willow Bend Parkway, Lutz
- Site 2 1005 North Kingsway Road, Seffner
- Site 3 Exciting Idlewild Boulevard, Lutz

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 also providing the public with information about the undertaking and seeking 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§ 30610 8), 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 will conduct 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 <u>vacoenvironment@va.gov</u> with the subject line "Tampa CLC EA". Additionally, VA will publish the Draft EA online at <u>http://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 *Tampa Bay Times*.

Respectfully,

GLENN ELLIOTT Digitally signed by GLENN ELLIOTT Date: 2024.12.10 10:02:30 -05'00'

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

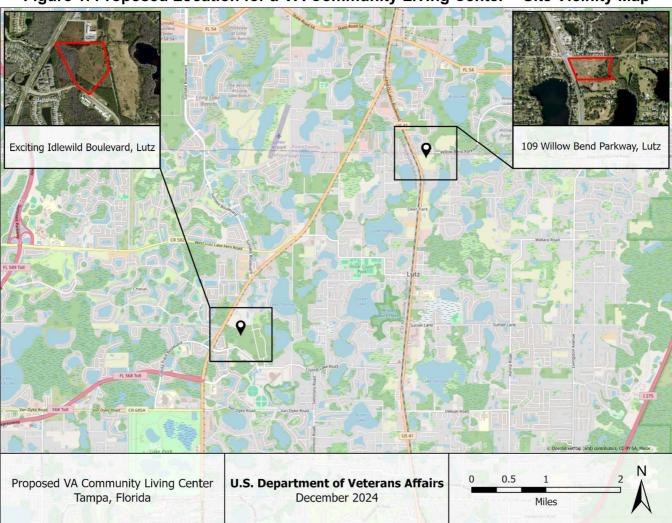


Figure 1. Proposed Location for a VA Community Living Center – Site Vicinity Map

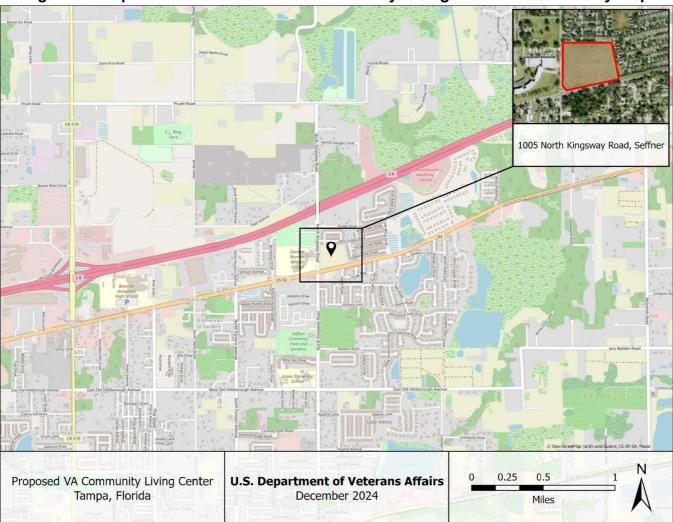


Figure 2. Proposed Location for a VA Community Living Center – Site Vicinity Map