

# Transcript

June 16, 2025, 6:25PM

**KW Kelly Sellers Wittie 0:19**

Good afternoon, everyone.

I just wanted to run a quick mic check. Make sure that everyone could hear. Make sure everyone can see the chat and that my screen is sharing appropriately.

**VH Vanessa Hanvey 0:31**

Yes to everything. Hello.

**KW Kelly Sellers Wittie 0:33**

Thank you, Vanessa.

**LS Latz, Sophia (CFM) 5:07**

Hello all it is 2:30 PM and I see some more people are coming in. So we'll just give it another minute and then we'll get started. Our 230 E Eastern.

231 Eastern Kelly if you don't mind getting to the next slide, we'll get started.

It's all rolling.

Before we get started, this meeting is being recorded. For those who are not able to participate, VA is also taking notes and will retain a summary for the administrative record. If you would prefer not to be recorded, please decide either just to listen today or sign out and.

E-mail the VA HPO office at the address on the screen.

Ba acknowledges that consultation is A2 way government to government exchange.

EA will meet with any tribal or native Hawaiian leader or their section 106 contacts that requests a private or one-on-one meeting or discussion concerning the proposed MPA or any leasing undertaking, please use.

The e-mail on the screen or respond to the e-mail meeting invitation to arrange next slide please.

**MB Mcardle, Angela B. (CFM) 6:54**

Thank you for joining today's meeting to discuss V as proposed nationwide programmatic agreement for its major leasing programs. I'm Angela McArdle.

I'm the Federal preservation officer for the Department of Veterans Affairs. As of this month, Hector Abruzantrone, who was our former FBO retired last month and is enjoying his well deserved time on the beach in Puerto Rico.

Sophia Latz, who you just heard from, is our VA senior historic preservation specialist.

And we are going to leave you all and her capable hands.

She is taking over as lead for the major leasing consultation initiative. Thanks, Kim.

Back to you, Sophia.

**LS** **Latz, Sophia (CFM)** 7:36

Thanks Angela.

Hi I realized this is my first time speaking with many of you so by way of introduction, as Angela stated, I'm Sophia Latz.

I graduated with my master's in historic preservation from the University of Georgia and over my career I've worked for local preservation nonprofit.

I've stopped.

Excuse me, staffed as cities Architectural Review board and I manage cultural resources at the region level for the Department of the Navy's Naval Facilities.

Roughly 9 months ago or so.

So I transferred to Veterans Affairs and today I've got big sandals to fill.

I look forward to continuing this consultation in addition to Angela from the HPO office and our FPO, we are joined by Becky Lopez of V as Environmental Program Office.

At some webinar housekeeping before we begin, the chat feature is live.

You can ask questions or post comments in the chat. We ask that you please use the chat feature. If you have a specific document.

Or web page reference so we can record the link correctly.

These notes will be included in the admin record.

We will pause the presentation at various points for questions and take questions at the end. Please use the hand raised feature if you would like to ask a question or provide a comment.

The comment period on the draft MPA remains open for several more weeks.

Ba asks.

That you provide recommendations and suggestions via e-mail.

Those comments will be collated, summarized and posted.

To the VA HPO website.

This is the second round of meetings about the proposed leasing NPA. If you have a colleague or know of someone who could not attend today, please let them know that the registration for round two meetings remains open.

They can register by sending an e-mail or visiting the VA HPO website. Next slide please.

So the purpose of today's meeting is to discuss the draft now revised draft nationwide programmatic agreement for Virginia's major leasing program.

We are not going to review every comment if you have not yet done so, I recommend that everyone review the revised draft MPA that you received via e-mail.

The document and comment matrix are also posted to the VA HPO website.

Next steps please next slide.

So this is just a brief overview of our consultation we started in August 2024 with initiation.

We had round one meetings in October of 2024.

Excuse me, I said August before.

December 2024 to January 2025, we released the draft NPA. Then we worked on incorporating those comments and you received the revised draft early June of this year mid June.

Now we're having round two meetings and then we're requesting comments July 7th.

Next month. So in addition to the consultation process noted.

Several of you have commented on the proposed undertaking through V as associated nipa process.

Your comments are being reviewed and considered in development of the draft MPA.

Your comments will be addressed in the final environmental assessment. Next slide please.

Va received comments on the draft MPA from several shippers to pose in the Advisory Council through the round one meetings and in writing.

These comments are posted on the VA HPO website in the form of a comment matrix. If you'd like to see how the comments were incorporated into the revised draft.

Next slide please.

So VA distributed a draft outline of the NPA in its consultation plan in August 2024 and followed that outline in the draft NPA following review of the draft NPA, the

Council recommended that the VA keep the same steps and determinations but reorganize the process by the.

Steps of the consultation process rather than by lease action.

Council request additional information about the V as leasing process and most of that information will be included in the attachments. They also requested more opportunities for public outreach.

Next slide please.

And as Hector stated in round one it is challenging but not impossible for VA to reutilize historic buildings for medical use.

Va reviewed comments and discussed the matter internally.

We have proposed that in the revised draft to follow standard consultation procedures when doing a build out lease action in the historic building, VA is not committing to following the standards for rehabilitation in all cases, as we cannot make that commitment due to the mission of V8.

To provide medical care taking priority.

Next slide please.

We talked in round one about Bas plan to notify Shippo Tipppo tribal representatives and or Native Hawaiian organizations of its identification of historic properties and findings of effect.

Va received several questions and comments on this topic.

Va also received several questions about this notification and how it would work.

You will see in stipulation six of the revised draft that the VA has proposed to complete a form about historic properties identified and the means of identification to the shippo relevant shippo, tipppo tribal representatives and or Native Hawaiian organizations.

Then, following a review by these parties and public outreach, VA will use the same form to assert its findings of effect. That process is described in stipulation 7.

Please note that the comment Matrix mentions attachment documents including the above described identification form.

These attachment documents have not been dispersed to the consulting parties.

However, the documents will soon be released via e-mail and on the the HPO website.

With this form all information is in one place throughout the process.

Shippo, Tipppo tribal representatives and or native Hawaiian organizations have opportunity to provide information and or comments on the identification of historic

properties, and there are at least two opportunities for public comment.

So I know we kind of went through that pretty quickly, but are there any questions or comments on the process or the form?

Next slide please.

So ground disturbance and disturbed soils, VA knew this was going to be a point of discussion.

So we've deliberately left the definitions open in the revised draft so that we could discuss it again.

V as goal is for the definitions to be universally applicable as the agreement as a nationwide initiative, and we welcome recommendations and suggested text.

Next slide please.

So any additional discussion, any questions on the revised draft or on ground disturbance disturb soils, anything that we've discussed here?

See Vanessa's hand.

**VH** **Vanessa Hanvey** 15:34

Sophia, thank you for the presentation. I had a quick question about the attachments being made available for review.

Does the VA anticipate warning comments on them by July 7th, or will there be a larger time frame in which to provide comment and review of those? Thanks.

**LS** **Latz, Sophia (CFM)** 15:54

That'll be a month from the from one of those go out. So hopefully we're hoping to get this out either next week or the following, certainly by the end of the month.

So you will have adequate time to respond.

**VH** **Vanessa Hanvey** 16:10

Appreciate it.

**LS** **Latz, Sophia (CFM)** 16:23

Well, OK.

Next, next slide please. Thank you.

So as we just discussed, the opportunity to provide comment on the draft MPA remains open through July 7th.

Va will continue to consult on leasing undertakings through the standard 106 until

the MPA is executed.

And as I just mentioned that we expect the attachment documents to go out by the end of the month. And so 30 days from that, we'll make sure all of those deadlines are posted.

It on the HBO website and in the emails that you receive from me.

Next slide please.

So these are the VA websites related to the process plus our e-mail. Va encourages all participants in this consultation process to review the draft environmental assessment.

I believe there's one more slide maybe.

Ah, thank you.

Thank you to everybody who attended today for your time and consideration.

As I've mentioned before, VA really appreciates all the comments and if you have any questions, comments, concerns.

Please reach out and we'll get back to you shortly.

Thank you.

**MB**

**McCardle, Angela B. (CFM)** 17:45

Last one, so if nobody wants to provide comments here, understand. We've got it's a 16 page document right now without the attachments. We're really looking forward to input from all of you.

So if you haven't had a chance to look at it yet, or if once you start getting into, if you do have follow up questions, please, please don't hesitate to reach out to either Sophia or myself, directly or via the historic preservation at VA Gov.

E-mail address there.

We're happy to take comments.

And like Sofia said, kind of on the rolling status there with the agreement document that you've got right now with the revised draft through July 7th and we can extend that as well an additional 30 days from when we get those attachments out, which we're hoping to do.

Pretty shortly after this, but if there are no other comments or questions, Oh yes, Vanessa, go ahead.

**VH**

**Vanessa Hanvey** 18:40

OK.

Just one kind of future looking. What is V as kind of hopeful timeline for potentially having this agreement executed?

**MB Mcardle, Angela B. (CFM)** 18:51

So Thea, I'm not sure if you've got an internal timeline that you're kind of working on here, but I I would say just in general terms, once our consultation we've we've kind of addressed all the comments that we are getting.

Thankfully, so far on this round, the comments that have come in, we're getting a lot of no additional comments from people that commented the first round. And so trying to winnow those down and and that will help us determine when we're gonna conclude.

But Sophia, if you've got a more specific tracking.

Feel free to hop in.

**LS Latz, Sophia (CFM)** 19:22

No, I think generally it's just prior by September 30th, I think is when we're looking at that at getting this all signed and executed.

**MB Mcardle, Angela B. (CFM)** 19:23

OK.

**VH Vanessa Hanvey** 19:35

Great. Thank you.

**LS Latz, Sophia (CFM)** 19:45

Well, thank you all for attending.

And I I think that's it from us Angeles.

You had something else, but I think we're good here. Thank y'all.

**MB Mcardle, Angela B. (CFM)** 19:57

Thank you all for coming and Oh yes, yeah.

**LS Latz, Sophia (CFM)** 19:58

Oop.

**K** **Kim Ryan - AZ SHPO** 20:00

Yep, sorry. Just a quick one. Is Nath Po participating in this agreement as a signatory or not?

**LS** **Latz, Sophia (CFM)** 20:09

No, it's Nick Schippo and Ach PR signatories.

**K** **Kim Ryan - AZ SHPO** 20:13

Is there a reason why Nath Po isn't participating?

**LS** **Latz, Sophia (CFM)** 20:19

I unfortunately I don't know.

Oop Kelly. Yes please.

**KW** **Kelly Sellers Wittie** 20:25

Hi, good afternoon.

In this particular case, because Nafpo does not represent all tribes, they did not feel that it was appropriate.

However, Nafpo has been an active participant in the consultation process both before VA entered formal consultation and then after.

And as you see in the agreement document if.

Leasing actions were to occur on tribal lands, then those relevant tribes would be invited.

To become signatories themselves to the agreement document, and if they chose not to, then VA would follow a standard section 106 consultation process.

So Navpo has been intimately involved in the process, but has chosen not to become a signatory.

**K** **Kim Ryan - AZ SHPO** 21:11

OK.

Great. Thank you.

**MB** **Mcardle, Angela B. (CFM)** 21:24

Go ahead and close this one out.



Thank you all for your participation. And as Sophia said, if there are other colleagues that would like to hop into later calls where we're going to do the same presentation. That opportunity still remains available we're doing.

Tribal session tomorrow and then open to public or anyone else that was unable to attend.

Today and tomorrow.

So appreciate the participation and look forward to more comments coming in.

Thank you all.

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