

Transcript

June 17, 2025, 6:26PM

KW **Kelly Sellers Wittie** 0:12

Good afternoon, everyone.

I just wanted to run a quick mic check and make sure that everyone can see the chat box as well as the presentation on the screen.

● stopped transcription

● **Latz, Sophia (CFM)** started transcription

LS **Latz, Sophia (CFM)** 3:58

Hello all it is 2:30 I think I see some people coming in. So we will wait.

Give another minute or so, and then we'll get started. Thank you.

OK, before we get started.

This meeting is being recorded for those who are not able to participate.

V8 also is taking notes and will retain a summary for the administrative record. If you would prefer not to be recorded, please decide either to just listen today or sign out and e-mail the VA HPO office.

Please next slide.

At the address on the screen.

Thank you.

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

Va will meet with any tribal or native Hawaiian leader or their section 106 contacts that request a private or one-on-one meeting or discussion concerning the proposed NPA 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)** 5:53

Hi all.

So thank you for joining today's meeting to discuss B as proposed nationwide

programmatic agreement for its major leasing program.

I'm kicking it off with introductions.

My name is Angela McArdle.

I'm V as newly appointed Federal preservation officer. As of this month, you may recall, Hector Abru Cintron was leading the first round of consultation meetings for this initiative.

He was our former FPO.

He retired last month and is hopefully enjoying a well deserved break.

Enjoying his retirement on the beaches of Puerto Rico.

Sophia Lats you just heard from. She is our VA senior historic preservation specialist.

And she is going to be taking over as the lead for this major leasing consultation.

You're in good hands with her, so I'm gonna let her kick it off and and back to you.

LS Latz, Sophia (CFM) 6:39

Thank you, Angela.

Hi I realize this is my first time speaking with many of you so by way of introduction, as Angela stated, I'm Sophia Latz. In September of last year I transferred from the Department of the Navy Naval Facilities to Veterans Affairs and today I've got some big sandals to.

Fill I look forward to continuing this consultation.

And 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 specific. If you have a specific document or Web page reference so that 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.

Virginia asks that you provide recommendations and suggestions for 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 registration for tomorrow's round two meetings remains open and they can

register by sending an e-mail or visiting the.

Va HPO website.

Next slide please.

The purpose of today's meeting is to discuss the draft now, the revised draft nationwide programmatic agreement for VA 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 for.

Your e-mail, the document and comment matrix is also posted to the VA HPO website.

Next slide please.

Here's a brief overview of our consultation process thus far.

It was initiated in August of 2024.

We conducted round one meetings in October.

And released the draft NPA between December and 2024 and January 2025.

We've been working on the comments and we incorporated those into the revised draft, which was released June of 2025.

You're now or we are now in the round two meeting.

And then we request comments by July 7th, 2025.

In addition to the consultation process noted on the screen, several of you have commented on the proposed undertaking through V as associated NEPA 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, Tippos and the Advisory Council, through round one meetings and in writing. These comments are posted on the V8 HPO website in the form of a comment matrix. If you would like to see how the comments were Inc.

Into the revised draft.

Next slide please.

Va distributed a draft outline of the MPA in its consultation plan in August 2024 and followed that outline in the draft MPA following a review of the draft MPA, the Council recommended that VA keep the same steps and determinations, but reorganize the process by the steps.

The consultation process, rather than by lease action.

The Council requested additional information about Virginia's leasing process. Most

of that information will be included in the attachments.

They also requested more opportunities for public outreach.

Next slide please.

As Hector stated in round one it is challenging but not impossible for VA to regionalize historic buildings for medical use.

Va reviewed comments and discussed the matter internally.

We have proposed in the revised draft to follow standard consultation procedures when doing a build out lease action in a historic building.

Va is not committing to following the standards for rehabilitation in all cases, we cannot make that commitment because the mission of VA to provide medical care takes priority.

Next slide please.

We talked in round one about V as plan to notify.

Tribal representatives and our Native Hawaiian organizations of its identification of historic properties and findings of effect.

Va received several questions and comments on this topic.

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

You will see in stipulation six of the revised draft that VA has proposed to complete a form about historic properties identified and the means of identification to the relevant.

Shippo, Tipipo tribal representatives and or native Hawaiian organizations.

Then, following review by these parties and public outreach, VA will use the same form to assert its finding of effect.

That process is described in stipulation 7.

Please note that the comment Matrix mentions attachment documents, including the identification form. These attachment documents have not been dispersed to consulting parties. However, the documents will be released this week via e-mail and hopefully with the next week, via the HPL website.

All of the information is in one place throughout the process.

Shippo, Tipipo tribal representatives and or native Hawaiian organizations have the opportunity to provide comment and or comments on the identification of historic properties, and there are two opportunities for public comment within this notification process.

So.

Given the above, do we have any questions or comments on the process or on the

form?

At.

Yes, burgundy. Fletcher, please.

BF **Burgundy Fletcher** 13:03

Hi, yes, I'm bergenie butcher at the tip of for the Peoria tribe.

I I see in previous comments that you all have been encouraged to add an inadvertent discovery.

Is that in the post it's it's.

It is in there, but it's not called inadvertent discovery.

It's part of the let me get back to it.

I apologize.

It's in the post review discoveries section.

That that was the question.

Is that where you all have incorporated the inadvertent discovery?

Clauses or sections in post route under. I'm sorry, it's actually Roman numeral 8.

LS **Latz, Sophia (CFM)** 13:44

Oop.

Oh, yes, ma'am, that is correct.

That is where it has been included in the draft and I apologize.

I've got several screens coming up, so trying to get back to the the team screen, but yes ma'am, that is, that is where we're including the inverted. Excuse me in advertiser.

BF **Burgundy Fletcher** 14:05

And then just for my own clarification, what in all that you just said, did you note was in the Section 7?

Of the draft document.

It's the notification of determination of effect, but you you just mentioned.

And I apologize too.

It is difficult to move screens and and also track and take notes. So I just wanted to see if you could repeat what you just pointed out to all of us.

That is going to be found in Section 7 of the draft document that we have.

LS **Latz, Sophia (CFM)** 14:40

Yes, so.

The the assertion, the finding of effect.

That process is described in stipulation 7.

BF **Burgundy Fletcher** 14:52

Thank you.

LS **Latz, Sophia (CFM)** 14:53

Yes, ma'am.

Thank you.

No other questions.

Next slide please.

Ground disturbance and disturbed soils.

Va knew this was going to be a point of discussion, so we deliberately left the definitions open in the revised draft so the matter could be discussed again.

V as goal is for the definitions to be universally applicable, as the agreement is a nationwide initiative. We welcome recommendations and suggested text, and if you have any examples.

Current right now we're happy to take those in the in the chat.

So we can accurately record.

Your your suggestions.

M's Fletcher. Yes, ma'am.

BF **Burgundy Fletcher** 15:59

So I guess just for my own clarification, you're saying that this is a very general, even though Native Americans have specific issues and histories, this is kind of backed up to a more general language, and you all are not incorporating more specific Native American or language in this.

Document on purpose.

LS **Latz, Sophia (CFM)** 16:24

Yes, ma'am. We're trying to keep this as as broad and as I said, universally applicable.

As this is a nationwide.

Initiative.

BF **Burgundy Fletcher** 16:37

Thank you.

LS **Latz, Sophia (CFM)** 16:40

Thank you.

If no other questions, next slide please.

So now I'll put it to you.

Are there any other questions on the revised draft MPA?

Any other thoughts or comments that we can take down?

Oh M's flecher.

I see your hand is still raised.

Did you have another question?

BF **Burgundy Fletcher** 17:55

I did.

I wanted to know so this the comment matrix that was attached to this e-mail is every meeting thus far.

So we we're looking at, OK.

LS **Latz, Sophia (CFM)** 18:04

Yes, ma'am.

BF **Burgundy Fletcher** 18:07

And then you said that the comment period is open for another couple of weeks.

I'm sure it's in all this information, but can you just give me a date?

LS **Latz, Sophia (CFM)** 18:14

Absolutely so.

The comment period will end July 7th and then we are also forwarding.

You'll notice that there are three attachments to that are not included in the draft that we provided that attachments package, which includes the identification form and notification process that all is going out this week.

And our comment period for that will end 30 days after.

You receive those that that comment.

Packet or the excuse me, the attachment package. Thank you.

All right, let's move down to the next slide please.

Thank you.

The opportunity to provide comment on the draft NPA remains open through July 7th.

Va will continue to consult on leasing undertakings through the standard Section 106 until the MPA is executed.

Next slide please.

These are the VA websites related to this process plus our e-mail.

Va encourages all participants in this consultation process to review the draft environmental assessment.

Next slide please.

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

We really appreciate it and I'll hand it on over to Angela.

MB **McCardle, Angela B. (CFM)** 20:15

OK.

Thank you guys.

Just to reiterate what Miss Latz was saying, we welcome comments.

We also welcome any requests to meet one-on-one government to government consultation, so please don't hesitate to reach out and ask if you would like something like that for us to set up.

We can schedule that and as just reiterating those dates, again, we're looking for those comments on this revised draft by July 7th and hoping to get the attachments out that will accompany this within this week. So you'll be able to look at them at the same time, but.

We recognize that those are coming a little bit afterwards, so.

If you would like to reserve those comments on the attachments for a little bit later.

Do have a full 30 days to take a look at that.

But yeah, that historicpreservation@va.gov.

Please reach out to us there if you want to reach out to me directly.

That's that's completely fine too.

And and yeah, stay in touch.

And please, please don't hesitate to not only comments but suggestions. Like we

said earlier too, if there is language that you think would be good in a section, we are trying to make this universally applicable. But the way that, that. Works best is if we actually hear from everybody across the nation. So let us know what works in your your area, and we'll see if we can get it incorporated into this draft. So appreciate everyone's time and if there are no more questions, I think we'll we'll close this out.

BF **Burgundy Fletcher** 21:43

Sorry, this again is Burgundy.

I was just wondering are you can you all provide this slide deck to us or at least especially the slides that have contact information for you, all that kind of just blew by during this presentation if you can great if not, yeah, I will search through.

MB **Mcardle, Angela B. (CFM)** 22:00

Yes. Yeah.

Yeah, no worries.

And we we will be posting transcripts, recordings, all of this up on our our main website there that yeah, as you can see that cfn.va.gov if you start with just the back slash historic you'll see a link to the proposed program alternatives down down.

That way too, but.

But yes, we can definitely make these available.

So you've got that information.

Yes. Thank you Vanessa, for throwing it into the chat.

And Kelly?

Yeah. So that, that e-mail address. Yeah, there you go.

But yeah, we it usually takes us a few days to work with it to get it uploaded.

But we'll be doing that right after this meeting to to start that process.

So should be up pretty quick.

LS **Latz, Sophia (CFM)** 22:59

And just as an aside on that website as well, there are also there's the first draft of the consultation document or the PA and that's where we're going to be keeping all of our.

All these document all, all, all the documents that are that will go into the

consultation package.

So if you miss something, it should be there.

MB **Mcardle, Angela B. (CFM)** 23:31

OK.

Well, barn, any further questions?

Thank you all again.

We really appreciate you taking the time out of your day.

To be involved and participate and we look forward to any comments that you would like to provide.

● stopped transcription