

# Waco

## VISN 17 – Waco – Healthcare Delivery Study, General Capital and Reuse Plans

### Secretary's CARES Decision Document

- The Waco campus includes 123 acres of land and 36 main hospital buildings, many of which are vacant or underutilized.
- The CARES Commission and the Draft National CARES Plan proposals made several observations concerning the proposed Waco campus realignment:
- The potential benefits of co-locating inpatient psychiatric care with other acute inpatient care in Temple (35 miles away)
- Move of Blind Rehabilitation beds to another site close to population centers
- Nursing home beds moved to Temple and some placed in the community
- Maintain primary care and outpatient care either on campus or in Waco area
- A clear need to more effectively manage the substantial vacant space on the Waco campus.
- VA will conduct a further comprehensive study of the cost and continuity of care issues of such realignment.
- The study will evaluate the most appropriate means and site for providing care to veterans now treated at the Waco campus and will include an analysis of moving the VBA Regional Office onto the Waco VAMC campus.
- Irrespective of any realignment, it will also identify options for divesting or leasing a significant portion of the underutilized property in order to generate savings and revenues that could be applied to VA's health care mission.



# Specific Considerations/Requirements

The Waco study involves an analysis of the demand for health care services in the future and the development of options regarding the possible location of those services on the WACO campus, in the Waco area, or another nearby VAMC or a combination of these options. The Waco study should result in a clear understanding of the positive and any potentially negative impact on access for current and the expected number of future patients.

The capital and operating costs of potentially transferring all inpatient beds from Waco to a nearby VAMC will clearly identify the costs of each option and any potential savings as contrasted with options that retain services on the Waco campus as outlined in the General Scope of Work.

The options developed should include the development of a multi specialty outpatient clinic in the Waco area to ensure that primary care and mental health services are provided to the community residential care facilities that depend on Waco for outpatient psychiatric services as well as other veterans in the Waco area. In addition to exploring options on the VA campus in Waco, alternative sites in the Waco community will also be explored.