

## WEST LOS ANGELES VA MEDICAL CENTER

### Local Advisory Panel – Public Meeting

September 6, 2007

Wadsworth Theater

Start Time: 5:02 PM

➤ **Participants:**

- **LAP Members Present:** Steve Peck, MSW, Site Director, US VETS Village at Cabrillo; Barbara Tenzer, Commercial Real Estate Broker; Cindy Miscikowski, Westside Resident; Dean Stordahl, Director, VA Loma Linda Healthcare System; Flora Gil Krisiloff, Senior Field Deputy for Los Angeles County Board Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky; Roger Brautigan, Under Secretary CA Dept. of Veteran Affairs; Dean Norman, MD Chief of Staff, VA Greater LA Healthcare System; Bill Rosendahl, Los Angeles City Councilman 11th District; Harry Corre Ex-POW California Department Commander; Alan Robinson, MD UCLA Vice Provost UCLA School of Medicine
- **LAP Members Not Present:** Kerrie Witty, Veterans Benefit Administration
- **PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC):** Scott Burns, Melissa Glynn, Michael Bobbin, Kristin Porter, Sarah Lloyd-Kolkin
- **Perkins + Will:** Russell Triplett, Steven Powell
- **VA:** Jay Halpern, Special Assistant to the Secretary; Jim Johnson, Capital Consultant VSCC; Ralph Tillman, Director, Asset Management, VA GLA; Barbara Fallen, Operations Officer, VISN 22; Shoshana Boehm, GLA Asset Management; Orin Hatton, MSN V Coordinator, Field Programs, National Cemetery Administration
- **Members of the Public:** Approximately 400

I. **Welcome** - Dean Stordahl

- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Introductions of Panel members.
- Provided a background on the process to appoint the LAP members.
- The previous meeting was in September of 2005.

II. **Review of Administrative Meeting** - Dean Stordahl

- Provided an overview of the administrative meeting that occurred during the morning starting at 9:00am and ending at 12:41pm, including the administrative meeting agenda.
- There were no deliberations on the Business Plan Options (BPOs) during the administrative meeting.
- Reviewed the procedure for the public comment period that was agreed upon by the LAP members during the administrative meeting. Members of

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the public will receive 2 minutes to speak, those representing an organization will receive 3 minutes, and elected officials or their representatives will receive 4 minutes.

### III. **CARES Process Next Steps** - Jay Halpern

- Discussed the purpose of the LAP meeting: Indicated that it was critical for VA to move forward on plans to modernize the campus. To just keep the campus running could cost up to 250 million dollars without any modernization. That is why VA must move forward with its capital plan although reuse issues are not fully resolved. The capital plan and the uses proposed for VBA, NCA columbarium, State Nursing Home, Fisher House, Veterans Memorial Park and buildings for transitional housing for homeless veterans represent significant steps to completing a Master Plan. It is critical to move forward with housing for homeless veterans,
  - To discuss the provision of healthcare at the West LA VAMC.
  - To convey the status of reuse on campus.
  - To obtain the LAP's recommendations and the public's opinion on the BPOs to provide to the Secretary.
- Provided a background of the CARES process including an overview of the Stage I decision that determined which BPOs should continue for Stage II analysis.
- During the previous meeting the LAP decided that reuse on this campus should only include housing for VA clinical staff, long-term therapeutic services, residential treatment, the Fisher House, vocational services, open space and the LAP gave a recommendation to continue the current leases that are in place today. The Secretary's Decisions on reuse in the capital planning proposals are consistent with those recommendations. The Secretary also considered the 6 principals articulated for reuse by the LAP.
- The West LA campus decisions that have already been made are:
  - A California State Veterans Home will be built on campus
  - A Fisher House will be built on campus
  - There will be a Veterans Memorial Park on campus
  - There is a designated area on campus for a National Cemetery Administration columbarium
  - Veterans Benefit Administration VBA regional facilities will be located on campus, and
  - Three buildings are designated for homeless veterans transitional housing
- At this time there are no plans to move forward with any other reuse on campus. The VA is committed to a public reuse process as part of the Master Planning process. Since the last public meeting in September 2005 no reuse has been studied on this campus by the VA contractor.
- The next steps in the process are to provide the Secretary with the public testimony and LAP recommendations to advise him in decision making

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and develop the process for the continuation of this Master Planning process.

- Discussed the cause of the delay in the CARES study. The complexity of the issues on the campus caused the lengthened timeframe and took additional time to consider the best options for the site. VA had been criticized for moving too quickly. Delays were also complicated by the Shalala Commission as well as the radiation issue. There was a Phase One Report, however, a Phase Two Report is pending completion that is expected to provide a more detailed analysis so we can clear the issue entirely.
  - Dean Stordahl - We are here tonight to discuss the BPOs, not reuse, because, as Mr. Halpern noted, the reuse options on the West LA campus are on hold.

#### IV. **Review of Stage II Study Findings** - Scott Burns

- Provided an overview of Team PwC. Team PwC is led by PwC, which is a healthcare consulting firm hired by VA to conduct this study along with the subcontractor, Perkins+Will, an architectural-engineering firm.
- Provided a background of the West LA CARES study and the process for selecting BPOs for further study in Stage II. BPOs 2, 3 and 5 were selected by the Secretary for further study in Stage II.
- Provided briefing on the Stage II Study Findings.

#### V. **Public Comment Period:**

*(All testimony has been paraphrased and names are used only if written testimony was submitted or if testimony was provided on behalf of state or local official)*

- **Testimony 1: Zev Yaroslavsky, County Board of Supervisors**
- Supports the proposition that the VA properties should be used for veterans. To the extent that the services are consistent with that proposition and are environmentally sensible is not the issue, and to ignore reuse is to ignore the elephant in the room. Despite what has been said this issue is on the table. Referenced Senator DeMint from South Carolina's response in opposition to Senator Feinstein's Bill. Senator Feinstein says that the land should not be commercialized or sold to the highest bidder. The land was deeded in the 1880s for the purposes of serving veterans, and the land should continue to serve our nation's veterans.
- **Testimony 2: Bobby Shriver, Santa Monica City Councilman**
- Suggested the LAP members allow the public to speak before the detailed presentation. This will enable more veterans and officials to voice their opinions at these important public meetings. Thanked the VA and all those who support homeless veteran programs. It is urgent to begin the homeless veterans' services on campus as soon as possible.
- **Testimony 3: Local Veteran Resident**

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- The Senate approved Feinstein's legislation by a vote of 92 to 1 and the President will not veto the Waxman-Feinstein legislation. This is not about profits, it is about veterans. It is about turning this property into the most beautiful property for veterans in the whole country. We need to come up with a big picture for the future of the campus. The local residents and veterans need to determine the big picture.
- **Testimony 4: Local Veteran Resident, President of the Local Veterans Homeowners Association**
- Proposed an alternate BPO to the LAP that involves short-term care, physical therapy, women's services, and a facility where veterans can decompress after being in Iraq and Afghanistan. We need to stop using the campus for commercial and charity ventures. The VA's only job is to take care of and focus on veterans. The Fishers should not have to build the houses, the VA should. The veterans deserve the care promised to them. This campus is for veterans not for public uses.
- Barbara Tenzer - The list provided by the local veteran resident is the same list that is already provided except for a few additional services. Is this correct?
- Response local veteran resident - Correct. Would like to make it clear to Washington that these are not the only facilities and services needed at West LA.
- Dean Stordahl - Clarified that the charge for tonight is to get the stakeholders' input on the capital options. Jay Halpern previously indicated that the reuse study on this campus has been put on hold because of concerns raised by stakeholders. When there is progress on reuse there will be another public process to comment on those options. Dean Stordahl noted that the LAP did not want to lose the opportunity to focus on the very important purpose of determining the mix of construction and renovation and location of the healthcare facilities.
- **Testimony 5: Representative of Senator Diane Feinstein**
- Senator Feinstein has concern for the potential commercialization of the WLA campus. Senator Feinstein included language in the recent Bill to extend the Cranston Act. Last night the Senate was defeated on an attempt to strike that language. The Senator will closely monitor the progress of the process and will remain steadfastly opposed to any commercialization of the campus. Providing top quality care for the regions veterans is the number one priority.
- **Testimony 6: Representative of Congressman Henry Waxman**
- Thanked the LAP for their careful deliberations from the previous LAP meeting. Senator Waxman believes the land must be dedicated for the benefit of veterans. No commercial sale or development will be tolerated. Read the six guiding principles from the previous LAP meeting. Supports

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the projects for the homeless veterans' services on campus. Events in Washington have demonstrated why protecting the land is essential. The administration will be persistent in its pursuit of revenue from this campus. It is important for the administration to know the depth of public opposition to commercialization. The LAP should vote against commercialization, and key stakeholders should be involved in the process.

- Bill Rosendahl - Supports no commercialization or reuse of the campus.
- Dean Stordahl - Read the 6 guiding principles of the LAP.
- Bill Rosendahl - Motion that no enhanced use lease for commercialized uses of the campus be permitted.
- Flora Gil Krisiloff - Proposed to amend the motion to include no sale of property. Motion seconded.
- Bill Rosendahl - The provisions of each option will carry forward but would like to also propose that no commercialization be added to each of the BPOs. With that provision prefers BPO 3.
- Steve Peck - Would like to clarify that this motion does not preclude future uses for veterans including nonprofit organizations that support veterans.
- Alan Robinson - We voted on these issues in the previous LAP meeting. We stated unequivocally that there is no excess land to sell. We voted before and we should vote again. Discussion occurred.
- Dean Stordahl - Called a vote on the proposed motion.
  - Motion passed. Unanimous vote in favor of the motion.
- Alan Robinson - BPO 6 brings out a valid point. It is good to create places on the campus for homeless veterans, but the tragedy is that there are homeless veterans. In the new facilities proposed today we will be able to take care of the physical needs of veterans. What we really need is preventative care so that when veterans return from war they do not become homeless.
- Bill Rosendahl - This is critical and this is a great opportunity for preventive and intervention strategies to move forward before more veterans end up on the street.
- Alan Robinson - Motion to add a more complete evaluation of preventative care be incorporated into each BPO. Discussion occurred.
- Dean Stordahl - Called a vote on the proposed motion.
  - Motion passed. Unanimous vote in favor of motion.
- **Testimony 7: President of Citizens for Veterans Rights**
- Thanked the panel members for their time. Thanked the Panel for their motions to ensure the public's word gets to Secretary Nicholson. There has been no talk of the current use of property for commercial uses. This includes the Wadsworth Theatre. There are rental car services, storage facilities, and oil drilling on campus. Are veterans really seeing the money from these services? There is no way to tell how much of the proceeds are going to veterans because VA will not release the records. Alcohol is being served on this campus. This is in front of the veterans, many of whom are receiving treatment. These same veterans are excluded from

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these events. The campus should be for veteran use only. Once this campus is protected through federal legislation we have to tackle the issues surrounding the misuse of the property.

- **Testimony 8: Representative of State Senator Sheila Kuehl**
- Overwhelmed that all of the elected officials are on the same page tonight. Read a letter from Senator Kuehl to Congressman Waxman and submitted the letter for official record. Senator Kuehl strongly supports proposed legislation from Senator Feinstein. The campus should be preserved for the service and enjoyment of LA veterans. Supports the need for a master plan to serve the veterans. Supports the involvement of the community in developing the master plan.
  
- **Testimony 9: Representative of the West LA Chamber of Commerce and the Co-President of the Coalition for Veterans' Land**
- Thanked the LAP, Senator Waxman, and Senator Feinstein. One of the flaws of the report is that it indicated there is a decline in the number of veteran enrollees. This cannot be true considering the current conflict. Need to accommodate the multi-dimensional needs of current veterans. Will the CARES process really go forward because a master plan was mandated by Congress in 1988? Many of the buildings included for demolition or reuse are eligible for historic designation. These buildings need to be protected.
  
- **Testimony 10: Representative for Assemblyman Mike Fuer**
- Read letter from Mike Fuer that was submitted for the public record. Support Congressman Waxman and Senator Feinstein's efforts. Only 109 acres of the site is protected by the Cranston Act and therefore it is critical that the remainder of the campus is protected. VA must fulfill the mandate by Congress in 1998 for a master plan.
  
- **Testimony 11: Dick Riordan, Former Mayor**
- Shares the concerns of those speaking out for veterans. Is working with Santa Monica to deal with the homeless veterans issues. Read a portion of the Stage II report regarding the enrollment projections. Asks that these numbers be revisited again. How can there be a decline in enrollment and demand of veteran services with the current conflict? This facility is unique and needs to be preserved. Once the land is sold off or leased it is gone forever. The taxpayers have an obligation to support veterans.
- Steve Peck - The demand and enrollment projections were brought up this morning and the LAP clarified that those number will be revisited.
- Dean Stordahl - The VA data is updated yearly.
  
- **Testimony 12: Representative of the Coalition for Veteran's Land and president of local homeowners association**

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- We must deliver the message that there is no such thing as a surplus and excess land until every veteran is cared for. Thanked Congressman Waxman and Senator Feinstein and the veterans here.
- **Testimony 13: Representative for Assembly Majority Leader Karen Bass**
- Paraphrased a letter from the Majority Leader that was submitted for the public record. Supports the legislation of Congressman Waxman and Senator Feinstein. Concerned that there should be a comprehensive master plan for the property. We are in debt to veterans who have made an honorable contribution to the country. The land use should focus on the needs of veterans.
- **Testimony 14: Representative of AMVets Post 2 and local homeowners association**
- Thanks the LAP for the motions passed today. The report is severely flawed. Veterans do not want their land converted to highest and best use. We need to retrain homeless veterans and returning veterans for reorientation into society. The Secretary is resigning at the end of September. A decision must be made by then.
- **Testimony 15: Veteran**
- Thanked Bill Rosendahl for his stance. There are issues concerning funding for staff at West LA. Previously West LA VAMC was his sole source of healthcare. Frequently he had to wait well over an hour for healthcare. There should be more funding for staff at West LA so veterans will not have to wait as long for care.
- **Testimony 16: Representative of City Councilman Jack Weiss**
- Read a letter from Jack Weiss that was submitted for the public record. Supports Congressman Waxman and other officials concerned about the use of the West LA campus. Encourages VA to begin developing a master plan. Must remember that this land is deeded to the federal government with the sole purpose of serving veterans. Supports the legislation from Senator Waxman and Feinstein.
- **Testimony 17: Steve Rosmarin, Member of LA Advisory Commission on Veterans Affairs**
- Thanked Bill Rosendahl and the panel members. This property should be dedicated for veterans use only. The veteran population that needs services cannot be declining due to the current war. This facility needs to be here to serve the current and future veterans.
- **Testimony 18: Veteran**
- Belongs to 10 veterans' organizations. Has three basic points. First, we need to look at the assumptions. Second, we need to look at the process.

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Third, we need to have a sense of urgency. We are at war and we should be doing something which has been advocated by the VA mental health advisory council on this campus.

- **Testimony 19: Terry Tracy, Representative of the American Legion**
- Recognizes that the objective is to promote healthcare. Endorses the columbarium. Why have three buildings been designated for homeless veterans when there is already a domiciliary and homeless facilities here? Where are other homeless veterans from other Southern California VA medical centers staying?
- **Testimony 20: Veteran**
- Thanked the LAP for their service. Participated in a 14 day hunger strike because there weren't enough services provided for veterans. Supports enforcing the original intent of the deed and providing compassionate services for veterans. Planning, coordinating, buildings, money and political will. We should have a welcome center, a women's clinic apart from building 500, recreation and wellness center, job training and placement center, senior day care center, family integration center, supportive housing for disabled veterans. Supports the efforts of Congressman Waxman and Senator Feinstein.
- **Testimony 21: Representative of the West LA Fisher House, Executive Director of Brentwood Village Business District**
- Never forget the contributions of veterans. Need to protect this property which belongs to the veterans. Need to look to Chuck Dorman and Ralph Tillman for advice of what is needed here. Thanked Congressman Waxman but how does he know the specific needs if he has not been here to visit the campus in years?
- **Testimony 22: Brentwood Community Council Chair**
- Represents 35,000 stakeholders in the community. Position of the Council that no portion of the campus should be sold, transferred or otherwise disposed of and should serve veterans. Cumulative impacts of the projects need to be analyzed. Statistics for 2003 are not appropriate for 20-year forecasts. The project is being piece-mealed to avoid transparency. Reuse should be addressed through a master plan. The LAP should not be disbanded because there is much work to do.

### BREAK

- Dean Stordahl - Proposed to extend the public comment period for one hour and take the next 30 people limited to 2 minutes each. He added that much had been heard on reuse, which was not intended to be the emphasis of public comment. He asked that comments be provided specifically on the capital planning options.



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- **Testimony 23: Veteran**
- Are we still looking at the amended BPOs or is there going to be a master plan?
  - Dean Stordahl - We are charged with gathering stakeholder input on this capital planning process.
- Cindy Miscikowski - This process must finish before the detailed master plan can move forward. A master plan is not in conflict with the BPOs.
  
- **Testimony 24: President Veterans Coalition for WWII Veterans**
- Capital assets mean profits and realignment means cutbacks. What is it that we don't understand about commercialization? Why has it not changed? I know about promises made and promises broken. Capital assets do more harm than good. The CARES process should be renamed "SHAFT the veterans."
  
- **Testimony 25: Veteran**
- There is no excess or surplus land here at West LA. It is the opinion of local veteran advocates that the 388 acres should serve veterans. There is a need for PTSD services and services for aging veterans. There is a misconception that the creation of public parks benefits veterans. Secretary Nicholson has allowed public access to this land. Federal land is being disproportionately divided out to special interest groups.
  
- **Testimony 26: Veteran**
- How does a park contribute to world class service for veterans? Asks that the panel consider the amendment to establish "CFDR." This CARES project should be put on the back burner and a master plan should be instituted. The funding for this master plan has to come from the federal government and should not come out of the pockets of veterans. Veterans should not have to pay interest if they miss a payment.
  
- **Testimony 27: Veteran**
- Supports Congressman Waxman and Senator Feinstein but would like to see the legislation called the Veterans Bill. There is no protection in the Bill from nonprofit organizations including the public community park. Those 16 acres should not be a public park. If there is excess land, use it for a cemetery.
  
- **Testimony 28: National Chair of Veterans United for Truth**
- Is currently engaged in a lawsuit with VA. The land was provided for services for veterans. The VA should not give off the land to nonprofit organizations.
- Dean Stordahl - Reminds stakeholders that we are here to comment on the capital planning options.

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- **Testimony 29: Veteran**
- Veterans need and want changes. Here tonight on behalf of UCLA and himself. Not only should improvements be made but as a blind person would like to get a computer and appointments for care. Would like to thank the media for alerting us as to this important town hall meeting. UCLA needs this hospital.
  
- **Testimony 30: Veteran**
- Five or six days is not enough to review a 177-page report. Thirty days to comment is not enough time. Secretary Principi promised veterans that there would be no commercial use on this campus so why does it keep coming up? The process and report are fatally flawed.
  
- **Testimony 31: Veteran**
- BPOs 3 and 5 are the best options. This neighborhood is the poster child for gridlock. Whichever option is chosen, it should be done with congestion and traffic in mind. Money should not be the deciding factor when choosing between options. Therefore BPOs 3 and 5 should be the only ones under consideration.
  
- **Testimony 32: Veteran**
- There will be an influx of veterans from the current war. We need to initiate the process. Start with one or two projects and get some results and build confidence in the community. This will change the attitude of the public.
  
- **Testimony 33: Veteran**
- Appreciates the efforts of the panel. There should be a third amendment. The third amendment will state that this whole study should be scrapped. There has been no study on the impact to traffic and no environmental study. All the BPOs are flawed. The plan calls for 13 years of building and yet there is a 30-year plan to pay for it.
  
- **Testimony 34: Veteran**
- There is a lot of bias against nonprofits and charitable organizations. When he became homeless he had to turn to a service organization. There are 26,000 homeless veterans on the streets of LA. Four percent of every billion dollars spent on Iraq should be used to serve veterans.
  
- **Testimony 35: Veteran**
- It is not possible to make an informed decision tonight. The numbers are not exact. The panel should not go forward with this analysis and it should be based on the correct assumptions.
  
- **Testimony 36: County Representative**

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- Will submit written testimony for the public record. There should be no development to the West LA campus. The VA must comply with the National Historic Preservation Act. The VA should produce a master plan for land use on this campus.
- **Testimony 37: Tim Cantwell, US Vets Representative**
- There are 2,100 homeless veterans housed in 6 states. Delighted to see these facilities are being set aside for homeless veterans. There is a dearth of long-term affordable housing for homeless veterans. Nonprofits are having trouble finding funding to provide their services to our veterans.
- **Testimony 38: Adult Day Healthcare Center Representative**
- Thanked the LAP for being present and for their commitment to the process. Not enough veterans were given the opportunity to voice their opinion. Adult Day Healthcare Centers are valuable to veterans. Has been told that veterans are seen as a problem and that is a disgrace. CARES allowed us to provide this service for veterans but we are being forced out because commitments are not being fulfilled.
- **Testimony 39: Representative of the American Legion**
- What would it say about a government that accepts assets under conditions and then disregards those conditions? Anything less than adherence to those conditions is unconscionable. The facilities needed by the veterans of today should be available 40 to 50 years from now. Thirteen years is a very long time to build new facilities. Is the VA really going to listen to what the advisory panel tells them? You should have the muscle to insist that we will provide services for future veterans.
- Alan Robinson - The VA will continue to provide services over the 13 years of construction. We need to prioritize what services to provide first during that 13 year period.
- Dean Stordahl - Two years ago there were public comments that did not favor reuse. It shows that the public's comments were considered because two years later reuse isn't even being considered.
- **Testimony 40: Veteran**
- The armory could be used now instead of building a new one. The armory should not be given to a developer in exchange for a construction job.
- **Testimony 41: Veteran Family Member**
- Finds it disheartening to stand today debating on resources for veterans. The options presented are carefully crafted but there is no master plan. There needs to be a master plan that puts these options into the context of the needs of our veterans.
- **Testimony 42: Veteran**

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- Served for 32 years. Thanked the West LA campus for great service. The large increase in veterans from the current conflict will be substantial. There is a war going on now with an indeterminate future. The veterans will come home with mental health and PTSD issues.
- **Testimony 43: Local Resident**
- Why is the government wasting money when they should give our veterans priority? Money should be given now to upgrade existing buildings. What about the veterans on the street? Happy to pay more taxes if they are spent efficiently on improving care for our veterans.
- **Testimony 44: Veteran**
- There is not enough space in the outpatient clinics. More space is needed.
- **Testimony 45: Local Resident**
- Directed comments to Jay Halpern. One October 2004 report that was not given to the contractor reported low level radioactive waste on the field. There was so much waste that the construction of the field was halted. As you deliberate on the future of this property you do have to consider this issue.
- **Testimony 46: Local Resident**
- Urges the LAP to listen to the voice of the people. Need ongoing confirmation from the beneficiaries of these facilities.
- **Testimony 47: Veteran**
- Has many friends with PTSD. Please take the time to look at the demand model and re-analyze the number of veterans from the current war.
- **Testimony 48: Brentwood Park Representative**
- Voted unanimously to support the need for a master plan before anything else is done at the Old Soldiers Home. We keep seeing business plans, but they are not a master plan. Proud of the elected officials.

### VI. Local Advisory Panel Deliberations

- Dean Norman - Motion to accept BPO 3.
  - Motion seconded.
- Cindy Miscikowski - We should explain to the public why we prefer BPO 3. BPO 3 is preferred because it separates the VBA facility from Building 500 and provides new facilities. There should be prioritization on campus as to which facilities are retrofitted or built first. A master plan is important but we must get started building some [new] structures for the veterans. West LA needs to get in line for construction dollars to build new state-of-the-art facilities for veterans to attract high quality staff.

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- Bill Rosendahl - Prefers BPO 3 of all the options that were presented. If we recommend BPO 3 what are the next steps?
- Dean Stordahl - Cannot speak for the Secretary and his timeline but the recommendation would go forward to the Secretary's office or his successor.
- Bill Rosendahl - Will the LAP continue to have a relationship with CARES following this meeting?
- Jay Halpern - The contract with the contractor is ending, and this part of the CARES process ends. If VA goes ahead with any reuse planning that will have to be a public process. Even if we go ahead with the enhanced use lease for homeless facilities, that will be a public process.
- Bill Rosendahl - Where does the money from the leasing agreements go?
- Jay Halpern - You can question those contracts and the information can be retrieved from VA.
- Flora Gil Krisiloff - Propose to vote on BPO 3.
- Barbara Tenzer - Propose to change BPO 3 to include a mental health facility and a women's clinic.
- Flora Gil Krisiloff - A National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) review process period should be built into the timeline for implementation.
- Dean Stordahl - There is a motion to vote in favor of BPO 3.
  - Motion seconded. Unanimous vote in favor of the motion.
- Alan Robinson - Within BPO 3 VA should examine the needs for medical services in relation to the speed at which facilities can be built to provide those services. VA should make a prioritized list of services and the speed at which then can provide them.
  - Dean Norman - The greatest need is to consolidate mental health services.
- Dean Stordahl - There is a motion that within BPO 3 the highest need will move forward first.
  - Russ Triplett - The implementation phasing of the options was based on physical constraints, not the local VA priorities in the terms of clinical need.
  - Jay Halpern - VA will view this as a draft implementation plan and will reassess the best way to implement
  - Motion seconded.
  - Motion passed. Unanimous vote in favor of the motion.
- Cindy Miscikowski - Motion that BPO 3 focuses on more defined services that are needed.
- Jay Halpern - When the Secretary picks a high level option VA would look at the list of services and where they should go. VA will refine as we move forward.
- Flora Gil Krisiloff - Motion that the Panel urges the Secretary to consider the suggestions made about services.
- Dean Stordahl - The motion should be clear that the list of services provided is not an all inclusive list.
  - Motion seconded.

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- Motion passed. Unanimous vote in favor of the motion.
- Barbara Tenzer - Concerned about the lack of staffing. Motion to immediately increase staffing.
  - Harry Corre - The VA and West LA received a 3% increase in budget over last year.
  - Dean Norman - We are moving away from the LAPs charge. West LA is having difficulty recruiting staff and there is sufficient budget.
  - Barbara Tenzer - Motion that we bring the staffing problem to VA's attention.
  - Dean Norman - The VA monitors wait times and this is not our current charge. This dilutes our message. If we rephrase that we provide capital development large enough to meet demand and reduce wait times that would be part of our charge.
  - Dean Norman - Motion that the capital planning option should be expedited with proper resources.
  - Motion passed. Unanimous vote in favor of the motion.
- Flora Gil Krisiloff - Moves that the plan will abide by NEPA.
  - Motion passed. Unanimous vote in favor of the motion.
- Barbara Tenzer - Some of the numbers presented during the meeting are in question.
- Jay Halpern - The numbers have not been developed at the level of detail required to take to Congress. The purpose of the study is to compare high-level differentials between options.
- Dean Stordahl - Stakeholders would like to have assurance that Phase II of the radiation waste issue will be resolved before building around that area.
  - Bill Rosendahl - Can we make a motion that we will cooperate and provide information to those who request information about the radiation waste issue?
  - Dean Stordahl - That motion would be beyond the charge of the LAP.
- Flora Gil Krisiloff - Only 12 enhanced sharing agreements were called out in the presentation. There seem to be another 7 that have not been mentioned. Propose a motion that the list of shared use agreements is brought up to date.
  - Bill Rosendahl - The facts about all the leasing agreements should be disclosed.
  - Dean Stordahl - Motion is amended to update the enhanced sharing agreements list and provide the revenue for each.
  - Motion passed. Unanimous vote in favor of the motion.
- Dean Stordahl - Hearing there was no other or new business to be addressed, Stordahl thanked the LAP members and public for their involvement in the process and called for the meeting to be adjourned.

**Adjourn - 10:08pm**