



**Department of  
Veterans Affairs**

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# **News Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 27, 2007

## **VA Selects Modernization Plan for West Los Angeles Campus and Continues Master Planning Process for Unused Portions of the Campus**

LOS ANGELES – To ensure the future needs of Los Angeles veterans are met the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announces a Master Plan for modernization of inpatient and outpatient mental health services and a new state-of-the-art acute care patient tower and nursing home.

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jim Nicholson announced today the current acute inpatient facility will be completely modernized for outpatient services, according to the strategic plan for the West Los Angeles campus. Additionally, a new VA columbarium and a new facility for the Veterans Benefits Administration Regional Office will be housed on campus.

“I have accepted the planning option #3 recommended by the Local Advisory Panel (LAP). This concludes the work of the panel. I want to thank the Panel for its guidance in making this decision. These new facilities and programs demonstrate VA’s commitment to provide world-class care and other benefits for Los Angeles area veterans,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jim Nicholson.

Nicholson’s announcement came after the Panel, appointed by VA to help the Department with its Capital Master Plan, met on September 6 on the campus of the West Los Angeles VA Medical Center. “In implementing these modernizations the community can be assured VA will follow all National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements as recommended by the LAP” Nicholson said.

As part of the plan, Nicholson also indicated VA will move as quickly as possible to develop three buildings, previously designated on campus, available for homeless veterans programs.

“Our goal is to help these veterans return to their communities as solid citizens, gainfully employed, living independently with restored dignity,” Nicholson said.

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**West Los Angeles 2/2/2/2**

These VA facility modernization decisions along with the agreement with the Veterans Park Conservancy to designate 16 acres of land for the Veterans Memorial Park, the Fisher House, and the buildings designated for transitional housing for the homeless represent a major portion of the Master Plan for the VA campus. VA is committed to a public process with community input to complete the Master Plan for the VA campus as soon as possible.

This decision concludes the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) review process for West Los Angeles, which began in 2004 as part of an effort to upgrade VA health care facilities across the country.

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