

Walla Walla

VISN 20 – Walla Walla – Healthcare Delivery Study, General Capital and Reuse Plans

Secretary's CARES Decision Document

- Develop a comprehensive study to determine how to improve the environment of care in Walla Walla, while maximizing use of VA resources.
- The study will evaluate the demand for health care and the availability of care in the community, patient safety concerns, and consider the limitations and substantial costs of maintaining an aging and expensive medical center campus for a current total inpatient and nursing home average daily census of 53.
- The study will include the potential for partnership with community and private sector organizations to provide nursing home and psychiatric inpatient care to veterans in the community.
- VA will consider options for moving into a more modern and efficient infrastructure designed to provide quality patient care.
- The study will identify the appropriate physical resources needed for VA's mission and identify options to divest or lease excess property to generate revenues that could be applied to VA's health care mission.
- Before taking actions to alter existing VA services, VA will ensure that there are viable alternatives in the community.

Specific Considerations/Requirements

- The Walla Walla study consists of two major components, the Healthcare Delivery Study, and the proposed General Capital and Reuse Plans for the Walla Walla campus. General Capital and Reuse Plans would be developed for the campus to assist in decision making of proposals.
- Healthcare Delivery Study - The study will examine the options to be able to provide quality health care in a modern, quality care setting. Using forecasted health services utilization data, the study will evaluate the demand for health care against the availability of care in the community. Particular attention should be given to patient origin data to determine the communities in which accessible care should be provided.
- General Capital and Reuse Plans - General Capital and Reuse Plans for the current campus would include the proposed capital infrastructure if services would continue to be delivered on campus or reuse if the campus will no longer deliver VA health care services. These will be developed complementary to the Healthcare Delivery Studies.