

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT SITE-SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
FOR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE PHASE 2 EXPANSION AT THE
JACKSONVILLE NATIONAL CEMETERY
JACKSONVILLE, DUVAL COUNTY, FLORIDA

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Cemetery Administration (NCA) has prepared a Draft Site-Specific Environmental Assessment (SEA) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to assess the potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action to construct and operate an approximately 50-acre cemetery expansion ("Phase 2 expansion") within the existing 526-acre Jacksonville National Cemetery, located at 4083 Lannie Road, Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida. The proposed Phase 2 expansion would be constructed within the expansion boundary specified in the VA's 2007 Master Plan and outside of habitat enhancement and preservation areas identified in existing federal and state permits. The Phase 2 expansion would extend the longevity of the Jacksonville National Cemetery by providing new approximately 18,000 new interment sites within the north central portion of the existing property boundary. Construction of the Phase 2 expansion would last approximately 18 months and require land grading, extension of roadways, and expansion of the stormwater retention pond system used for irrigation water. Construction would not disrupt or interfere with on-going memorial services.

The VA prepared the Draft SEA in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), (Public Law 91-190, 42 USC 4321-4347 January 1, 1970), amendments, and VA's Implementing Regulations (38 CFR Part 26).

The VA invites the public to review the Draft SEA and provide comments within 30 days of the publication of this notice. A printed copy of the Draft SEA is available for review at the Jacksonville National Cemetery and the Jacksonville Public Main Library at 303 North Laura Street, Jacksonville, Florida, 32202, and can be electronically downloaded from the VA website at <http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/EA.asp>.

Comments received during the 30-day review period will be addressed and documented in the Final SEA. Please address all comments to: Mr. Glenn Elliott, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Construction & Facilities Management Office, 425 I (eye) Street, NW, Room 6W417a, Washington, D.C., 20001; by email to glenn.elliott@va.gov; or by telephone at (202) 632-5879. Please reference "Jacksonville National Cemetery Expansion" in all correspondence.