

TED W. LIEU
33RD DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON THE
JUDICIARY

COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0533

403 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3976

5055 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD, SUITE 310
LOS ANGELES, CA 90036
(310) 652-3095

1600 ROSECRANS AVENUE, 4TH FLOOR
MANHATTAN BEACH, CA 90266
(310) 321-7664

February 15, 2019

Mr. Michael Shores
Director
Office of Regulation Policy and Management
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont, Avenue, NW, Room 1063B
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Director Shores,

I am writing to submit comments to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) regarding the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for the redevelopment of the West Los Angeles VA campus.

As the representative for the California's 33rd Congressional District which includes the West Los Angeles VA campus and surrounding neighborhoods, the VA's Master Plan will be an important opportunity to develop affordable housing and critical services to serve our region's veteran population. As this plan is developed and implemented, it is important for the VA to collaborate and communicate with neighboring communities and to discuss mitigation measures and solutions to problems that may arise during the implementation of the West Los Angeles VA Master Plan.

It has been brought to my attention by community members that the PEIS traffic study had results that they believed were not in keeping with other traffic studies done for projects in the same area. I would like to encourage the VA to re-evaluate the findings and discuss concerns addressed in their comments to the PEIS. Traffic problems and gridlock in this area are well known throughout the community. It is important that in its implementation of the final Master Plan that the VA work to limit traffic impact on neighboring communities as much as possible.

Community members have also expressed concern about the potential noise created from construction during the future redevelopment of the West Los Angeles VA campus. I would encourage the VA and its Principal Developer to limit construction as much as possible to business hours in order to limit disruption by noise in surrounding communities. Likewise,

under the current proposal the VA may remove over 400 trees during the construction and I would ask that, whenever possible, they be replaced with trees of the same maturity.

Working together with veterans and community stakeholders, I believe we can accomplish our goal of redeveloping the West LA VA campus to house and serve our nation's heroes while building a strong relationship with our neighbors in the communities of West Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ted W. Lieu".

Ted W. Lieu

Member of Congress