Prospectus Number: PTN-02-VA25 Congressional District: 02

#### **Executive Summary**

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) proposes an outpatient clinic lease of approximately 316,595 net usable square feet (NUSF) for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in the vicinity of Knoxville, TN.

The lease will be delegated to VA, provide continued services for the Knoxville veteran community, and provide the necessary expansion services to meet current and projected service delivery gaps for healthcare in the local market.

## Description

Occupant: Veterans Affairs

Current NUSF 76,349 (William C. Tallent Knoxville

Outpatient Clinic, Downtown West VA Clinic, Knoxville Annex I, Knoxville

Specialty Care)

Estimated Maximum NUSF: 316,595

Expansion/Reduction NUSF: 240,246 (expansion)

Estimated Maximum Rentable Square Feet: 427,403 Expiration Dates of Current Lease(s): 09/16/2029

01/31/2027 06/30/2032 09/30/2028 20 years

Proposed Maximum Leasing Authority:

Delineated Area: North: E on Lovell Rd, E on Ball Camp

Pike, NE on Schaad Rd, E on Clinton Hwy, E on I-640, E on US-11W/Rutledge Pike, NE on Old Rutledge Pike, E on

Mascot Rd

East: SW on Andrew Johnson Hwy, S on Kitts Rd, W on Strawberry Plains Pike, W

on TN-168, S on US-129

South: W on I-140 West: N on I-140

Parking Spaces:  $\overline{2,150}$ 

Scoring: Operating Lease

Current Total Annual Cost: \$2,679,629 (leases effective 09/17/2009;

02/01/2017; 07/01/2022; 10/01/2018)

Current Total Unserviced Annual Cost: \$2,271,097

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Estimated Unserviced Rental Rate:1

\$43.27 per NUSF

Estimated Total Unserviced Annual Cost:<sup>2</sup>

\$13,700,000

## **Justification**

A new 316,595 NUSF lease in Knoxville, TN, will allow for the replacement and expansion of the existing William C. Tallent Knoxville Outpatient Clinic, Downtown West VA Clinic, Knoxville Annex I, and Knoxville Specialty Care Lease.

The current mental health, primary care, specialty care, ambulatory surgery, and ancillary spaces at the four existing clinics and the James H. Quillen VA Medical Center are inadequate and undersized for the current and projected veteran workload demand for services. Specifically, workload for ambulatory services and procedures and mental health services is projected to increase over the next 20 years. Additionally, the consolidation of services from multiple existing leases would create operational efficiencies.

The new facility will enhance VA outpatient services by closing space gaps identified in VA's Strategic Capital Investment Planning process. This new lease will allow VA to provide comprehensive primary care, mental health, specialty care, ambulatory surgery, and ancillary services to the veteran population in the Knoxville area in a rightsized and state-of-the-art healthcare facility in a timely manner. Being housed in a rightsized, Patient-Aligned Care Team-designed,<sup>3</sup> and more accessible facility will allow better optimized VA care delivery, improved veteran satisfaction, increased team coordination, improved workflows, and improved recruitment and retention for VA staff.

The proposed project aligns with the following VA Departmental Strategic Goals:

- 1. Deliver Timely, Accessible, High-Quality Benefits, Care and Services
  - VA delivers timely, accessible, high-quality benefits, care and services to meet the unique needs of veterans and all eligible beneficiaries.
- 2. Improve Experiences, Satisfaction, Accountability and Security
  - VA ensures governance, systems, data, and management best practices improve experiences, satisfaction, accountability and security.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This estimate is for fiscal year 2025 and may be escalated by 2.2 percent annually to the effective date of the lease to account for inflation. The proposed rental rate is unserviced (taxes, insurance, management, and maintenance and repair reserves included); however, the lease contract may include operating expenses paid by the lessor.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> New leases may contain an escalation clause to provide for annual changes in real estate taxes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Patient-Aligned Care Team design focuses on open office work environments, separation of patient and staff flows, and modular adaptable design.

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#### **Summary of Energy Compliance**

The Government will incorporate energy efficiency and sustainability requirements into the Request for Lease Proposal and other documents related to the procurement of space based on the approved prospectus. The Government encourages offerors to exceed minimum requirements set forth in the procurement, and to the maximum extent practicable requires offerors to comply with the Energy Star requirement and other statutory and regulatory requirements.

#### Resolutions of Approval

Resolutions adopted by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works approving this prospectus will constitute approval to make appropriations to lease space in a facility that will yield the required net usable area.

## **Interim Leasing**

The Government will execute such interim leasing actions as are necessary to ensure continued housing prior to the effective date of the new lease. It is in the best interest of the Government to avert the financial risk of holdover tenancy.

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Certification of Need
The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.
Submitted at Washington, DC, on 9/16/2024
Recommended: Elliot Doomes  Commissioner, Public Buildings Service
Approved: Administrator General Services Administration