
The Vermont Veterans' Home

Memorandum

To: House Committee on Appropriations, House Committee on Corrections and Institutions, Senate Committee on Appropriations, Senate Institutions Committee
From: Melissa A. Jackson, BSW, LNHA, CEO Vermont Veterans Home
CC: Kelly Murphy, Budget Analyst

Below is an overview of our Capital Budget Request and the importance of the state match in securing VA funding. Also included is information regarding project timelines, which you will see are very fluid at this time.

Provided as a separate attachment is a document entitled "Veterans Administration State Veterans Home Construction Grant Regulations" This document provides you with the requirements for applying for and receiving VA grant funding.

Security and Access Control Project:

1. Total Project Cost (including \$100,000 in FY 19 Capital Bill for design work) \$2,725,000
2. ***IF*** the state provides the 35% match of \$918,750. The VA will provide \$1,706,250
3. Design work is almost complete. From this we will develop an RFP for the project.
4. VA will release what projects will be receiving Grant Funding for Federal Fiscal Year 20 in October. If the safety project is on this

list, we will then release the RFP for the project. This RFP will determine the project time line.

5. **VA is required by regulation to fund safety projects first, as long as there is state matching dollar. No state match no federal money.**

Biomass Project:

1. Total project cost: \$1,820,000 State 35% is \$637,000, VA 65% is \$1,183,000.
2. As this is not a safety project it may or may not be funded in Federal Fiscal Year 20, it **won't making the funding list at all without the state match.** Based on where the project falls on the weight list determines when the project is funded. Holding off until the VA funds the project to have state matching funds available will result in this project **not being funded at all.**
3. An RFP is ready to go for this project and will be released once we know we have secured VA funding. This RFP will determine project time lines.

Medicaid Settlement Money:

1. As stated in my testimony and in the power point presentation for both House and Senate Institutions Committees; the Vermont Veterans' Home received \$1,996,998 in Medicaid Settlement Funds. Of this, \$908,949 needed to be returned to Human Services
2. The Vermont Veterans' Home was requesting in our Budget Adjustment Request that we use the remaining Medicaid Settlement Funds of \$1,058,049 and the \$500,000 in the FY 20 Capital Bill to cover the two projects listed above.
3. **Our reasoning for this is that it would decrease the amount of funds the State would have to bond for our projects.**

Other Comments:

1. The Vermont Veterans' Home has always attempted to access VA funds for our Capital Projects whenever possible.
2. We returned \$855,000 to the State when VA funds were finally made available for the mold remediation project that the State had originally paid for in its entirety.
3. As I said in my testimony if funding is only going to be granted for one project the Security and Access Control Project is our number one priority.