

OUR DUTY · OUR HONOR

Vision for a Joint Effort In Support of Our Veterans **Oregon Veterans Center**

A credible group of leaders from both public and private sectors have formed an advisory committee whose purpose is to develop an *Oregon Veterans Center* in Wilsonville. This group shares a vision to offer a central location for several groups to combine resources and optimize public and private dollars to care for Veterans and become a focal site for gatherings of Veterans from around the state. We see the need for a permanent, dynamic facility – an *Oregon Veterans Center* – designed for the combined purposes of veterans’ care, public education, appreciation of our heritage, and the preservation of freedom. We propose the development of a one-stop "center" which can house an array of services for veterans in the southern metro area of Portland.

What an Oregon Veterans Center Offers

Veterans Benefits Offices

The Center would provide an accessible location for Veterans and their families to go for applications and inquiries regarding benefits at all agency levels, as well as job placement and other support. State and Federal entities would establish satellite offices for VA Service Officers.

Veterans Health - Outpatient Clinic

A U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC), would providing outpatient medical care, diagnosis and medical management for veterans, mental health and social work services, and a variety of specialty clinics.

Care for Aging Veterans

An Oregon Veterans Home located at the Center would provide flexible options that include both nursing home care and in-home care. Services at the Medicaid-certified facility could include dementia care, assisted living, and inpatient and outpatient rehabilitative care.

Living Facilities

One of the needs expressed by Veterans groups is affordable housing options for returning Veterans and their families. The Center could provide an ideal location for affordable living facilities for Veterans in need of a home.

Pharmacy

A pharmacy would be available to all Veterans, not just those who are residents at the Center. This pharmacy, south of the major Portland

metropolitan area, could serve Veterans throughout the mid-Willamette valley.

Public Meeting Space

The center would include an auditorium for large public gatherings and events, as well as conferences/meetings for community and business organizations. A “Fireside Room” allows Veterans to meet together for support, fellowship, and informal gatherings.

Veterans Service Organizations

The Center would provide office space for Veterans Service Organizations and Veteran-supporting volunteer and charitable entities.

Oregon Veterans Museum

The Oregon Veterans Museum would be a world-class facility, built and maintained for the purposes of commemorating, acknowledging, and affirming the role of Oregon veterans in America’s military past by means of instructive exhibits and other educational programs.

Park & Outdoor Areas

The buildings would dwell amid an arboretum-style park setting with statues and memorials, seating areas, nature pathways, and an outdoor amphitheater.

Sports & Recreation

The Center would house an indoor weight room, cardio exercise room, lap pool, sports field and outdoor track.

We believe an ideal location for the Oregon Veterans Center is Wilsonville, as it is close to the Portland metro area and offers easy access, less congestion, public transportation, and is conveniently located for Veterans coming from a broad range of Oregon cities. Several thousand Veterans and their families from further distances can easily utilize a Center located in Wilsonville.

Additionally, Wilsonville is a "Veteran-friendly" city, which hosts an existing Korean War memorial and the Oregon American Legion headquarters. The annual Veterans Convoy down I-205 concludes at Wilsonville at the Korean War Memorial.

Participating Groups

The Oregon Veterans Center can only be successful if public agencies and private groups come together in support of Veterans. This partnership involves each entity developing facilities that will operate in harmony with each other.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration is considering building a "one-stop" Community Based Outpatient Clinic in Wilsonville at the Center that would include both medical and mental health facilities. Veterans Benefits Administration would staff a satellite office to its Portland facility to provide assistance to Veterans in the South Portland Metro area.

Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs

ODVA is currently considering siting a second Oregon Veterans' Home, with a pharmacy, within the Oregon Veterans Center.

United Veterans Groups of Oregon

UVGO recently voted unanimously to support the efforts of the Oregon Veterans Foundation in furthering the development of the Oregon

Veterans Center in Wilsonville. This group will play a key role in development of the museum and other public educational programs

Oregon Veterans Foundation

Created to support Veterans beyond the capabilities of Federal and/or state programs, the Foundation communicates the needs of Veterans and their families to church and community groups and coordinates resources and volunteers in meeting these needs.

The Foundation will assist with the development of the Oregon Veterans Museum and will support and maintain the public areas of the Center – arboretum, memorials, outdoor amphitheater, and fireside room.

Letters of Support

United Veterans Groups of Oregon - Robert Haltiner, Secretary
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center - James Tuchs Schmidt, MD, MM, Director
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office - Gerard F. Lorang, Director
Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs - Paula Brown, Deputy Director
Oregon House of Representatives - Rep. Jerry Krummel
City of Wilsonville - Charlotte Lehan, Mayor
Embassy of the United States - William P. McCormick, Ambassador to New Zealand & Samoa

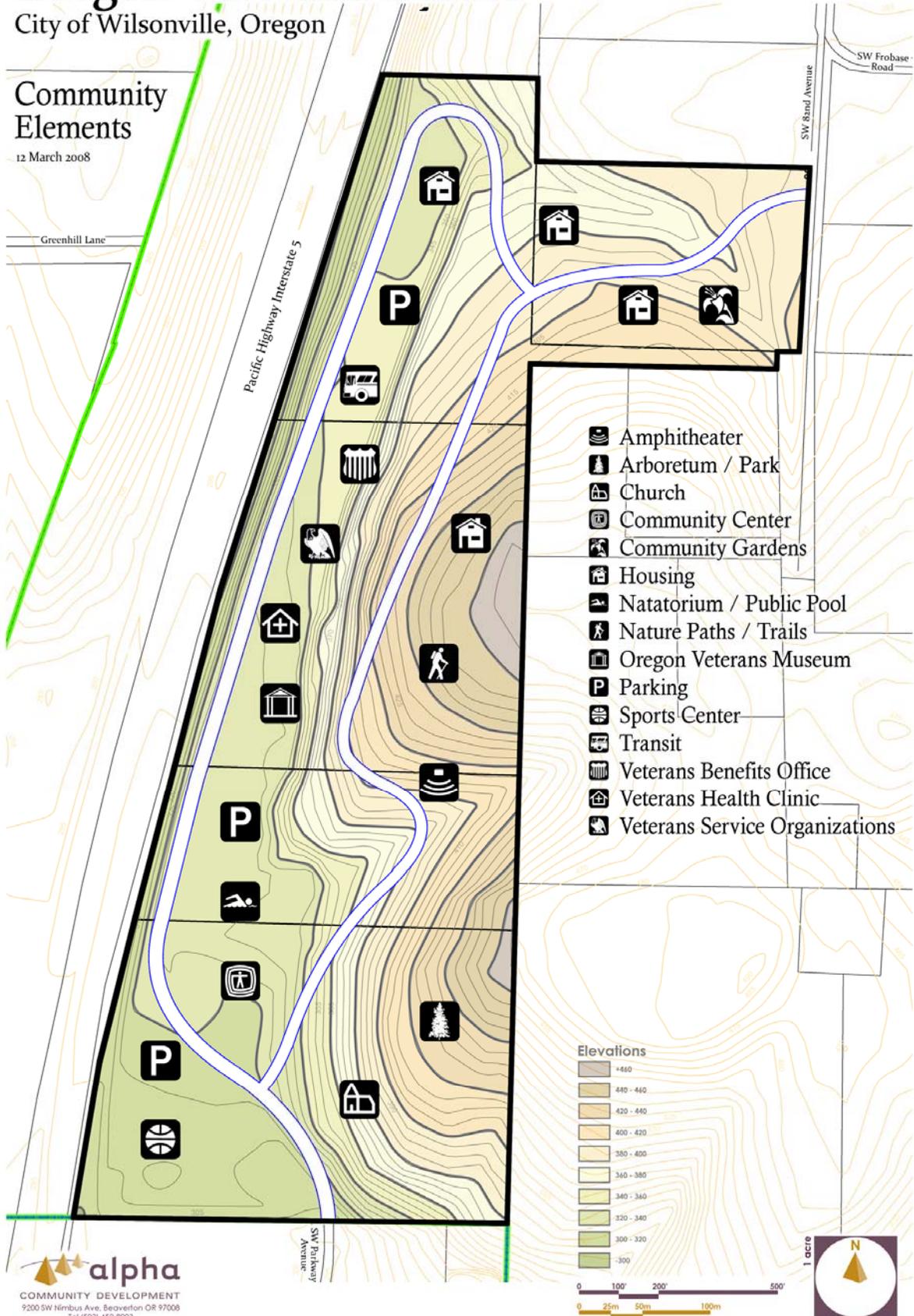


Oregon Veterans Center

City of Wilsonville, Oregon

Community Elements

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alpha
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