# DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROPOSED ALABAMA VETERANS AFFAIRS FACILITY AT ENTERPRISE

Prepared for:

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs 425 | Street NW Washington DC 20001

And

### State of Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs 100 North Union Street, Suite 850, Montgomery Alabama 36104

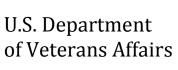
by:

BMI Environmental Services, LLC 401 Cowan Road, Suite A Gulfport, Mississippi 39507

Project No. 21103

June 2021







Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs This page intentionally left blank

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# **Acronyms and Abbreviations**

ADCNR ADEM ADVA ADCNR AHC ALDOT APE BMP CEQ CH₄ CO	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Alabama Department of Environmental Management Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Alabama Historical Commission Alabama Department of Transportation Area of Potential Effect Best Management Practice Council on Environmental Quality Methane Carbon monoxide
CWA	Clean Water Act
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)
dB	Decibel
dBA	A-weighted decibel
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EO	Executive Order
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FONSI FPPA	Finding of No Significant Impact
GIS	Farmland Protection Policy Act Geographic Information System
HVAC	Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning
IPaC	Information for Planning and Conservation
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NOx	Generic term for nitrogen oxides
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NWI	National Wetlands Inventory
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PM	Particulate Matter
PM2.5	Fine Particulate Matter (less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter)
<b>PM</b> 10	Particulate Matter (less than 10 micrometers in diameter)

REC	Recognized Environmental Condition
SO <sub>2</sub>	Sulfur dioxide
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USC	United States Code
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
VA	United States Department of Veterans Affairs
VOCs	Volatile organic compounds
WOUS	Water of the United States

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The ADVA proposes to construct a new Veterans Home in Enterprise, Coffee County, Alabama. Because ADVA plans to seek funding from the VA, ADVA and VA have prepared this Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code [USC] §§ 4321-4347), the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) NEPA Implementing Regulations (Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] §§ 1500-1508), VA's NEPA regulations titled "Environmental Effects of the Department of Veterans Affairs Actions" (38 CFR Part 26), and VA's *NEPA Interim Guidance for Projects* (VA 2010). These requirements specify that VA must evaluate the potential environmental impacts of VA-related funding decisions prior to taking action.

Under the Proposed Action, ADVA will construct a new one-story 187,000-square-foot 174-bed residential care facility to provide skilled nursing, Alzheimer's/memory care, and short-term rehabilitative care to veterans. The Veterans Home will provide dining, physical therapy, entertainment and social event services to veterans in both indoor and outdoor spaces. The facility will feature all private bedrooms organized into clusters of houses with common areas shared by approximately 15 veterans within each household. Groups of two houses will be configured into six neighborhoods that will share support spaces between each house. All six neighborhoods will surround a central common gathering space called Town Center and a primary, monumental corridor call Main Street. Public spaces such as the library, chapel, sports bar and beauty/barber shop will be located off Main Street or clustered around Town Center to encourage social interaction outside the house or neighborhood setting.

The proposed ADVA Facility will be located within the city limits of Enterprise, approximately 4.15 miles north of the central business district of Enterprise. The project site consists of managed farmland with undeveloped areas of land on the western portion of the site along Rocky Heady Road, and on the eastern portion of the site between Hickman Road and Neil Metcalf Road. The managed farmland has been in cultivation for over 70 years and historical information indicates that a segment of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad once crossed the western portion of the site parallel to Rocky Head Road.

The Veterans Home would provide dining, physical activity, and physical therapy, entertainment, and social event services to veterans in both indoor and outdoor spaces. The campus would also include parking lots, walking trails, landscaped areas, and open space comprised of forest and lawn. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to construct a state-of-theart residential care facility to help meet the current and projected future residential skilled nursing, and short- term care needs of veterans living in this area of southeast Alabama. The Proposed Action is needed because the four existing veterans care facilities in Alabama do not currently have sufficient capacity to meet the demand for veterans' medical programs and services, and they are geographically too far from the target area of southeast Alabama. ADVA and the VA have prepared this EA in accordance with NEPA to analyze the potential environmental effects of the Proposed Action. The analysis performed in this EA concludes that the Proposed Action would not have significant adverse impacts, either individually or cumulatively, to the human environment, provided mitigation measures consisting of BMPs and regulatory compliance measures described in this EA are implemented. Therefore, this EA concludes that a Finding of No Significant Impact is appropriate and that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

# **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The ADVA proposes to construct a new Veterans Home in Enterprise, Coffee County, Alabama. Because ADVA plans to seek funding from the VA, ADVA and VA have prepared this Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code [USC] §§ 4321-4347), the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) NEPA Implementing Regulations (Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] §§ 1500-1508), VA's NEPA regulations titled "Environmental Effects of the Department of Veterans Affairs Actions" (38 CFR Part 26), and VA's NEPA Interim Guidance for Projects (VA 2010). These requirements specify that VA must evaluate the potential environmental impacts of VA-related funding decisions prior to taking action.

This EA is intended to be a concise document that: 1) briefly provides sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether significant impacts would result from implementing the Proposed Action and whether the VA should prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS); 2) aids the VA's compliance with NEPA when no EIS is necessary; and 3) facilitates preparation of an EIS if one is necessary. If the analysis finds there are no significant impacts, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) can be issued concluding the NEPA process. This EA has been prepared to address compliance with a variety of other Federal statutes, including the Endangered Species Act (ESA), Clean Water Act (CWA), Clean Air Act, National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), various Executive Orders (EOS), and other applicable Federal and State regulations.

# 1.1 Project Background

The proposed project site is located on the east side of Highway 51 (Rocky Head Road) approximately 4.15 miles north of downtown area of Enterprise, Alabama (See Figure 1). The proposed project site is currently being used as agricultural land and will be donated by the Industrial Development Board of the City of Enterprise. The total area of the site is 108 acres, and the proposed VA facility will be developed on a 25-acre parcel of land within the larger 108-acre tract.

Access to the site will be from Dozier Road which forms the northern boundary of the site and an entrance road which will provide access to the facility from Highway 167 on the east. Adjoining property is comprised of single-family homes on large tracts as well as single family homes along Highway 51, Dozier Road, and Hickman Road, and farmland. This project will provide the fifth veterans home and the first home in the ADVA southeast region of the state.

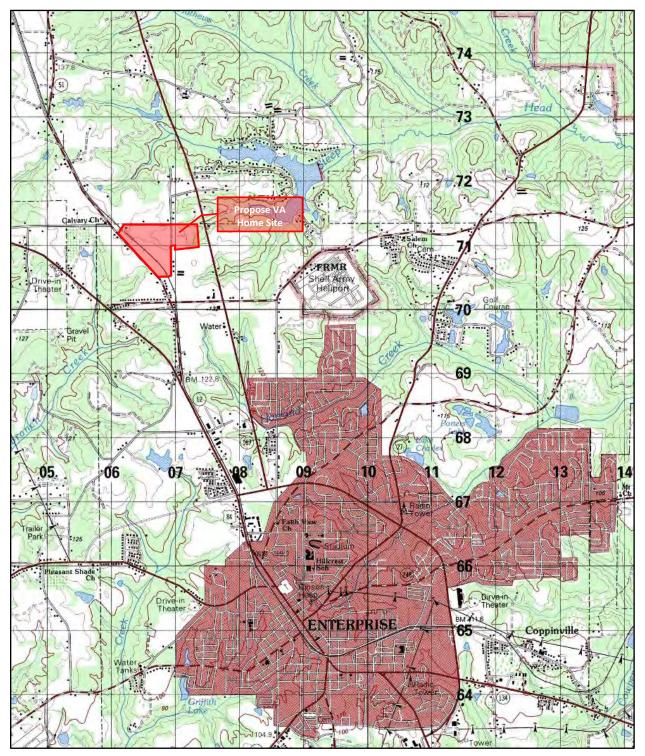


Figure 1: Vicinity Map, Proposed VA Home Site (Source: USGS Quadrangle Map, Enterprise, Alabama-Sheet 3846IV).



Figure 2: Aerial Photograph Showing the Proposed VA Site and Adjoining Land (Source: Google Earth).

# **1.2** Purpose and Need

The ADVA currently operates four veterans' homes: the William Nichols State Veterans Home-Alexander City, AL, the Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home-Huntsville, AL, the William F. Green State Veterans Home-Bay Minette, AL, and the Colonel Robert L. Howard State Veterans Home-Pell City, AL. The Bill Nichols State Veterans Home in Alexander City has been "home" to thousands of veterans since its opening in November 1989. The Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home in Huntsville and the William F. Green State Veterans Home in Bay Minette were opened in 1995, and in November 2012, the Colonel Robert L. Howard State Veterans Home opened in Pell City. Collectively these facilities provide care to 704 veterans with a staff of approximately 900. A large number of Alabama veterans live in Coffee County and travel to the closest veterans' homes, (Bill Nichols State Veterans Home in Alexander City and William F. Green Veterans Home in Bay Minette) a more than 2-hour drive. This distance limits opportunities to veterans' families to visit and care for veterans in those facilities.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to construct a state-of-the-art residential care facility to help meet the current and projected future residential skilled nursing, Alzheimer's/memory, and short- term care needs of veterans living in this area of southeast Alabama. The Proposed Action is needed because projected long-term veteran healthcare needs in the state indicate that 1,440 veterans would require a skilled-care bed by 2045, and currently, there are 704 beds in Alabama's four veterans homes. The four existing veterans care facilities in Alabama do not currently have sufficient capacity to meet the demand for veterans medical programs and services, and they are geographically too far from the target area of southeast Alabama.

# 2.0 ALTERNATIVES

NEPA, CEQ regulations, and VA NEPA guidance require evaluation of reasonable alternatives for implementing the Proposed Action. Identified alternatives are considered and evaluated to determine which ones meet the purpose and need as discussed above.

# 2.1 Development of Alternatives

In the early phase of planning ADVA engaged Public Consulting Group of Boston, Massachusetts to prepare a feasibility study and assist ADVA in assessing the need for a new veterans home. The results of the study led ADVA to a focus on Wiregrass Area southeast Alabama where there is a large veteran population and limited facilities for eligible Alabama veterans. Ten counties (Barbour, Butler, Coffee, Covington, Crenshaw, Dale, Geneva, Henry, Houston, and Pike Counties were invited to submit proposals for site consideration. A total of 12 alternative sites were proposed by the invitees and ADVA evaluated the proposed sites to determine the best fit for their needs.

# 2.2 Alternative Retained for Detailed Analysis

After evaluating the proposals, a 108-acre parcel in the city of Enterprise, Alabama in Coffee County was selected by ADVA as the proposed site for the veterans home. The 108-acre tract in Enterprise was selected from the other potential sites because the land was of sufficient size, it offered potential for expansion for growth, it was donated by the city, it met the important key factors (Accessibility, Workforce, and Other Specialized Healthcare Services) and as set forth in CFR 38 Part 59 for proximity to acute health and other supporting facilities. This section describes the Proposed Action that will be carried forward for analysis in this EA, as well as the No Action Alternative. No other reasonable alternatives were identified, as described in Section 2.1. A summary of the potential impacts from the Proposed Action and No Action Alternative evaluated in this EA is provided in **Section 3**.

# 2.3 Proposed Action

Under the Proposed Action, VA will provide a grant that will partially fund ADVA to construct a new one-story 187,000-square-foot 174-bed residential care facility to provide skilled nursing, Alzheimer's/memory care, and short-term rehabilitative care to veterans. The Veterans Home will provide dining, physical therapy, entertainment and social event services to veterans in both indoor and outdoor spaces. The facility will feature all private bedrooms organized into clusters of houses with common areas shared by approximately 15 veterans within each household. Groups of two houses will be configured into six neighborhoods that will share support spaces between each house. All six neighborhoods will surround a central common gathering space called Town Center and a primary, monumental corridor call Main Street (Figure 3). Public spaces such as the library, chapel, sports bar and beauty/barber shop will be located off Main Street or clustered around Town Center to encourage social interaction outside the house or neighborhood setting. The Veterans Home would be built on an approximately 25-acres of the 108 acre parcel with the balance of the property being used as a community park with walking trails and landscaped areas to the extent that feasible within the allotted funds. An old railroad bed will be integrated into the design of a Walk of Honor which will commemorate veterans and honor them for their service as an integral part of the community park. (Figure 4).

The Veterans Home will be operated by ADVA and will employ approximately 300 staff. ADVA anticipates that traffic associated with the Veterans Home would include approximately one ambulance per day, vehicles associated with 300 employees arriving and departing each day during three shifts, an average of approximately 75 - 100 visitor vehicles a day, and approximately three delivery trucks per week. The facility will include emergency generators to provide emergency power to the entire building during power outages. Sustainable design principles will be incorporated into the design of the facility although LEED accreditation will not be acquired.



Figure 4: Site Plan VA at Enterprise, Alabama (Source : Williams Blackstock Architects).



Figure 45: Site Rendering of VA Biloxi, Mississippi which will be similar to VA Enterprise (Source: Williams Blackstock Architects)

# 2.4 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, VA would not provide a grant to assist ADVA in constructing a new veterans' care facility in southeast Alabama. The ADVA goal of providing safe, economical, and high-quality integrated healthcare services to veterans in this region of Alabama would not occur. The proposed project site would continue to be used as farmland or would likely be developed by City of Enterprise. Although the No Action Alternative would not satisfy the purpose of or need for the Proposed Action, this alternative provides a comparative baseline against which to analyze the effects of the action alternatives, as required under CEQ Regulations (40 CFR Part 1502.14). The No Action Alternative reflects the *status quo* and serves as a benchmark against which the effects of the Proposed Action can be evaluated.

# 3.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE ALTERNATIVES

This chapter describes the environmental conditions at the proposed project site and vicinity and potential impacts that would occur as a result of the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative. The existing conditions provide a baseline for analyzing potential impacts. The analysis considers direct, indirect, short-term or long-term, adverse or beneficial impacts. Where applicable, BMPs and mitigation measures that would minimize or eliminate adverse impacts are identified. Section 3.15 discusses the cumulative impacts that may be associated with the Proposed Action in conjunction with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable activities in the project area.

# 3.1. Aesthetics

#### 3.1.1 Affected Environment

The project site consists of managed farmland over the majority of the site with undeveloped areas of land on the southwest portion of the site along Rocky Heady Road, and on the eastern portion of the site between Hickman Road and Neil Metcalf Road (Highway 167). The managed farmland has been in cultivation for over 70 years and historical information indicates that a segment of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad once crossed the western portion of the site parallel to Rocky Head Road.

The setting is mostly rural with gently rolling terrain. Features around the project site that contribute to the visual character include agricultural fields, managed forest land, rural residences, two small subdivisions, and light industrial sites south of the project site. The project site will be located on the northwestern portion of the site and visible to drivers on Rocky Head Road and Dozier Road, and with varying visibility from Hickman Road. (**Figure 2**).

#### 3.1.2 Environmental Consequences

#### 3.1.2.1 Proposed Action

The Veterans Home would resemble a residential development (**Figure 3**) as opposed to a commercial facility or multi-story hospital. All proposed buildings would be no more than one story tall and there would be landscaping around the buildings and parking areas. The new facility will be connected within a town-like setting, including a main street and town center.

Additionally, the Veterans Home will be comprised of small groups of bedrooms arranged consecutively into units call houses, which are grouped together to form neighborhoods. Like a small village, each of the neighborhoods will provide wide corridors, patios, porches, pathways, porticos, and landscaped courtyards so that the residents can feel connected to the outside. In addition to providing efficient and convenient care to residents, support spaces will also be included within each neighborhood to serve the emotional and physical needs of each resident.

Construction activities would temporarily adversely affect the visual quality of the area due to the presence of heavy equipment and unfinished stages of the site preparation and building construction. Impacts to visual quality would change over the course of construction, progressing toward negligible in the later stages as landscaping is completed and work focuses on the interiors of completed structures. To the extent possible, construction activities would be limited to daylight hours to minimize impacts from nighttime lighting from the use of construction equipment lights. Security lighting would be installed at construction staging areas, which would have short-term adverse impacts on existing nighttime light levels. All areas disturbed during construction, including temporary staging and disturbance areas, would be restored to their pre-existing condition or better.

#### 3.1.2.2 No Action

Because there would be no immediate change to the existing character of the site under the No Action Alternative, there would be no changes to aesthetics. Even though ADVA would not own or develop the site under the No Action Alternative, the project site would likely be developed for commercial and or industrial use and future development would likely have similar impacts as the Proposed Action.

### 3.2 Air Quality

Air quality is characterized by the concentrations of various pollutants, the climate conditions that influence atmospheric stability, and pollutant dispersion. The Clean Air Act, as amended, requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to set National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for pollutants considered harmful to public health and the environment.

NAAQS have been established for six principal, or "criteria" pollutants:, carbon monoxide (CO), lead (Pb), ozone ( $O_3$ ), nitrogen dioxide ( $NO_2$ ), particulate matter (PM) including coarse particulate matter ( $PM_{10}$ ,  $PM_{25}$ ), and sulfur dioxide ( $SO_2$ ). Ground-level ozone results from a chemical reaction of sunlight, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and nitrogen oxides ( $NO_x$ ), which are the two primary ozone precursors (and to a lesser extent CO). Airsheds that cannot attain compliance with the NAAQS are designated as non-attainment areas, while those areas that meet the NAAQS are designated as attainment areas.

The ADEM Air Division is responsible for implementing clean air standards for the state of Alabama. The objective of this program is to protect and enhance public health and quality of life through control and mitigation of air pollution. The ADEM Air Division regulates emissions of air pollutants from industries and facilities and implements programs designed to ensure that Alabama meets national air quality standards.

### 3.2.1 Affected Environment

The proposed ADVA Facility will be located within the city limits of Enterprise, approximately 4.15 miles north of the central business district of Enterprise. The area is characterized by long, hot and humid summers because of the moist tropical air from the Gulf of Mexico. Winters are cool and fairly short, with only a rare cold wave that moderates in 1 or 2 days. Precipitation is fairly heavy throughout the year. The total annual precipitation is 54.3 inches, and 28 inches, or fifty-two percent usually falls from April through September. Snowfalls are rare. Currently air pollution sources in the area include emissions from vehicles traveling on Highway 51 (Rocky Head Road) and Highway 167, farm equipment operating at surrounding farms, local light industrial sites, and traffic in the small subdivisions south of the Project Site. At the present time all areas of Coffee County are in attainment with the NAAQS.

### 3.2.2 Environmental Consequences

### 3.2.2.1 Proposed Action

Construction activities would generate particulate emissions (fugitive dust) from grading the ground surface for site preparation, excavating (e.g., for installing utilities and building foundations), operation of heavy equipment and driving construction vehicles on paved and unpaved roads on or near the project site. During construction, the construction contractor would be required to minimize fugitive dust by implementing dust control measures such as application of water to suppress dust and washing down construction vehicles and paved roadways immediately adjacent to the construction site. Fuel combustion in construction vehicles would temporarily result in increased emissions of VOCs, NOx, SO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub> and CO.

To the extent practical, the construction contractor would be encouraged to minimize idling of construction and delivery vehicles to minimize impacts. Construction activities at the project site would have temporary effects to air quality typical of a minor construction project and would not significantly adversely affect air quality.

Operation of the Veterans Home would result in emissions from vehicles associated with workers and bringing patients to/from the facility. Emissions from these vehicles are not expected to substantially adversely impact local air quality at the project site and surrounding area.

#### 3.2.2.2 No Action

The project site would not be used for the Veterans Home and there would be no construction or operational impacts on air quality. Although ADVA would not own or develop the site under the No Action Alternative, the project site would likely be developed for industrial and/or commercial use and future development would have similar impacts on air quality as the Proposed Action.

### 3.3 Cultural Resources

Cultural resources include both archaeological resources and historic structures in the built environment. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665; 54 U.S.C. § 300101 et seq.) as amended, outlines federal policy to protect historic properties and promote historic preservation in cooperation with states, tribal governments, local governments, the public and other consulting parties. The NHPA established the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and designated the Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) as the entity responsible for administering State-level programs and as the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Section 106 of the NHPA outlines the procedures that federal agencies follow to take into account the effect of their actions on historic properties. The Section 106 process applies to a federal undertaking that has the potential to affect historic properties, defined in the NHPA as those properties (i.e., archaeological sites, buildings, structures, historic districts, and objects) that are listed in or eligible for listing in the NRHP. Under Section 106, federal agencies are responsible for identifying historic properties within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for an undertaking, assessing the effects of the undertaking on those historic properties, if present, and considering ways to avoid, minimize, and mitigate any adverse effects of its undertaking on historic properties. The APE is the geographic area within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties if such properties exist.

### **3.3.1 Affected Environment**

The project site consists primarily of managed farmland that has been in cultivation for over 70 years. The Atlantic Coast Line Railroad once maintained a rail line on the western portion of the site parallel to Rocky Head Road. The rail has been removed and the only evidence of the rail line is the trees which are located along the margins of the old rail bed. The direct APE for architectural and archaeological resources assessment is shown in Figure 5. AHC publishes a Geographic Information System (GIS) map of properties that have been documented by or through the AHC office. The map includes properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), Alabama Register of Landmarks & Heritage, Alabama Historic Cemetery Register, county architectural surveys, and other files. The GIS map was accessed by ADVA project consultants on June 6, 2021 and reviewed to determine the presence of cultural resources on the proposed project site and within the direct APE. The indirect APE, which includes architectural resources that are evaluated for potential effects on their viewsheds, is defined as a 0.5-mile buffer around the project site. No sites reported as listed or eligible for listing on the NRHP were identified within the APE.

ADVA consulted with AHC and prepared an AHC Section 106 Project Review Consultation Form. The Section 106 report form which included historical use information and site photographs report was submitted to AHC on June 3, 2021. AHC provided a comment letter on June 18, 2021 and requested a cultural resource survey of the project area, and that the resulting report be submitted to AHC for review and determination prior to construction activities. ADVA engaged the University of Alabama, Office of Archeological Research to conduct a cultural resource survey of the project site. Field work began on June 17, 2021. The survey did not identify any archaeological sites or historic buildings eligible for the NRHP within the project site boundary. ADVA will continue to consult with AHC and the final cultural resource survey will be included as an attachment to the Final EA. AHC and public comments will also be addressed in the Final EA. Copies of the AHC Section 106 Project Review Consultation Form and consultation correspondence with AHC are provided in **Appendix A**.

On the week of June 24, 2021, VA's Office of Tribal Government Relations (OTGR) initiated tribal consultation with all 574 Federally Recognized Tribes for a series of State Veterans Home construction grants, including the Alabama Veterans Home at Enterprise. OTGR's consultation included the following federally recognized tribes with ancestral interests in the project area, according to the Tribal Directory Assessment Tool: 1) the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas, 2) the Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town, 3) the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, 4) the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, 5) the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, and 6) the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. VA has not received any tribal responses as of the date of this Draft EA. Any tribal comments will be attached to and addressed in the Final EA.

#### 3.3.2 Environmental Consequences

#### **3.3.2.1 Proposed Action**

Based on the results of the cultural resource assessments and consultation which did not identify any historic archaeological resources or buildings within the project site boundary, ADVA does not anticipate that the proposed project would result in adverse effects to historic properties from ground disturbance or construction activities. ADVA evaluated potential effects on architectural resources in the indirect APE from changes to viewsheds after the Veterans Home has been built. The proposed Veterans Home would be designed to maintain the aesthetics and character of the surrounding area (see architectural rendering in **Figure 3**). Because there are no archeological or architectural resources adjacent to or within 0. 5 miles of the project site, the Proposed Action would not result in adverse effects on the viewshed.

#### 3.3.2.2 No Action

The project site would not be used for the Veterans Home and there would be no construction or operational impacts on cultural resources. Although ADVA would not own or develop the site under the No Action Alternative, the project site would likely be developed for industrial and/or commercial use and the potential for impacts to cultural resources in the future could be similar to the findings for the Proposed Action.

### **3.4 Geology and Soils**

#### **3.4.1 Affected Environment**

The proposed site is located within the ecological region described as the East Gulf Coastal Plain (EGCP) ecoregion. The EGCP includes portions of Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana, and stretches from southwest Georgia across the Florida Panhandle and west to southeastern Louisiana (The Nature Conservancy, 2001). This ecoregion is physically characterized by subtle topography, a warm to hot, humid maritime climate, and soils derived primarily from unconsolidated sands, silts and clays transported to the ecoregion by the weathering of the Appalachian Mountains.

The geologic units in Coffee County include unconsolidated estuarine and deltaic sediments ranging in age from Miocene to Recent. The significant geologic units present in this area of Coffee County include Alluvial, coastal and low terrace deposits, Claiborne/Jackson Group; Residuum, Claiborne Group; Tallahatta Formation, Jackson Group undifferentiated, Wilcox Group; Tuscahoma Sand, and Wilcox Group; Nanafalia Formation.

The 25-acre project site is a gently sloping tract of land with elevations ranging from 450 feet in the northern portion of the site to 400 feet in the southern part of the site.

Soils at the site are typically derived from sedimentary rock, loamy clayey marine deposited that formed in alluvium on floodplains, in depressions and on terraces. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey, which was accessed on June 6, 2021, indicates that the major soil types found in the project area consist of Dothan fine sandy loam (2 to 5% slopes), Luverne-Lucy association, rolling, Orangeburg sandy loam (2 to 5% slopes), Orangeburg sandy loam (5 to 8% slopes), and Red Bay Loamy sand (2 to 5% slopes). The soils are well drained soils, the runoff class is moderate, and they are classified as Prime Farmland soils.

#### **3.4.2 Environmental Consequences**

#### 3.4.2.1 Proposed Action

Construction activities at the site will cause short-term impacts on soils due to removal of topsoil for site leveling and grading. Grading and leveling would also result in minor changes to site topography. Disturbed and exposed soils would be prone to erosion by wind and stormwater. ADVA would minimize potentially adverse impacts from erosion by implementing a site-specific SWPPP. ADVA would implement the SWPPP, including erosion control BMPs, during and after construction to stabilize soils. Excavated soil would be managed in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal regulations. Although soils at the project site are classified as Prime Farmland, the permanent conversion of these soils from potential farmland to development is not a significant adverse impact because the project site is in an urbanized). Operation of the new veterans' care facility would have no impacts to geology, soils, and topography.

#### 3.4.2.2 No Action

The project site would not be used for the Veterans Home and there would be no impacts on geology, soils or topography. Although ADVA would not own or develop the site under the No Action Alternative, the project site would likely be developed for commercial and/or industrial and/or commercial use, and future development would likely have similar impacts as the Proposed Action.

# 3.5 Hydrology and Water Resources

#### **3.5.1 Affected Environment**

The project site is located within two adjoining watersheds. The western portion of the site is located in the Blanket Creek-Double Bridges Creek Watershed (Hydrologic Unit Code

031402011102) and eastern portion of the site is located in the Steep Head Creek Watershed (Hydrologic Unit Code 031402010802). There are five waterbodies within the Blanket Creek-Double Bridges Creek watershed on only one of the waterbodies (Blanket Creek) is impaired for Aquatic Life because of low levels of oxygen in creek. There are no waterbodies assessed in the Steel Head Creek watershed.

The major aquifers for groundwater withdrawal in the vicinity of proposed VA Facility are the Nanafalia, Salt Mountain Limestone, Providence, and Clayton Aquifers. Well depths for the water wells range from 100 to 500 feet below ground surface.

#### **3.5.2 Environmental Consequences**

#### 3.5.2.1 Proposed Action

Construction activities would expose soils at the ground surface to erosion from stormwater runoff, which could result in temporary adverse impacts on water quality. Potential impacts would be minimized with implementation of a SWPPP and associated erosion and sediment control BMPs for soil stabilization. Overland flow of stormwater is currently a northeast to southwest flow and stormwater management features will be designed to continue that flow pattern during construction and post construction.

An increase in impervious surfaces at the project site due to new buildings, roads, and parking lots would result in an increase in the quantity and rate of stormwater discharge from the site. Post construction stormwater discharge would be managed through a new underground storm sewer system constructed as part of the Proposed Action. The system will be designed to manage the volume and velocity of stormwater runoff and incorporate features such as earthen berms and grassed swales to reduce possible impacts related to erosion and sedimentation.

#### 3.5.2.2 No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, the project site would not be used for the construction and operation of a Veterans Home, and no construction or operational impacts to hydrology or water quality would occur. However, the site would likely be developed by others and future development of the project site by others would have similar impacts as described for the Proposed Action.

### 3.6 Wildlife, Habitat, and Threatened and Endangered Species

#### 3.6.1 Affected Environment

The majority of the project site has been managed as farmland for over 70 years. Landcover in the undeveloped portions of the site consists of various species of pines, southern magnolia, live oaks, and water oak. The understory is dominated by shrub species such as yaupon and ink

Mammals typically found on and near the project area include, gray squirrel, Southern flying squirrel, eastern cottontail rabbit, raccoon, red fox, white-tailed deer, and opossum.

berry. Ground cover is sparse because of the closed canopy and dense scrub-shrub layer.

Common Bird species in the vicinity of the project area include osprey, great horned owl, northern mockingbird, brown thrasher, piliated woodpecker, eastern bluebird, Carolina wren, cardinal, purple martin, blue-gray gnatcatcher, red-winged black bird, American crow, turkey vulture, red-shouldered hawk, and mourning dove.

Reptiles and amphibians likely to occur on the project site include five-lined skink, speckled king snake, green anole, southern black racer, box turtle, green treefrog, and southern toad.

According to the USFWS Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC), there are seven federally listed species with potential to occur in the project area (USFWS 2021). The IPaC list includes one bird: the Wood Stork, listed as Endangered, five clams: the Choctaw Bean listed as Endangered, the Fuzzy Pigtoe, listed as Threatened, the Southern Kidneyshell, listed as Endangered, the Southern Sandshell, listed as Threatened, and the Tapered Pigtoe, listed as threatened; and two reptiles: the Eastern Indigo Snake, listed as Threatened, and the Gopher Tortoise, Listed as Candidate. BMI Environmental Services, LLC conducted a biological survey for the above referenced species on June 4, 2021. The biological survey revealed that no suitable habitat for the listed species was present and none of the listed species were observed on the project site. (Appendix B).

#### **3.6.2 Environmental Consequences**

#### **3.6.2.1 Proposed Action**

There would be short-term direct and indirect adverse impacts on wildlife and habitat during construction. Direct impacts would occur due to the clearing and grading activities associated with project construction. Temporary indirect impacts on wildlife would include disturbance from construction noise and increased human presence during construction activities. There will be a minor loss of a wildlife habitat and displacement of wildlife due to the proposed development. This loss should not negatively impact wildlife resources in the project area that will be able to utilize adjoining open space areas adjacent to the project area.

The permanent removal of habitat for construction of the buildings, parking areas and roads would have direct, minor, long-term adverse impacts on vegetation and wildlife. Long-term indirect adverse impacts on wildlife would occur from additional traffic, noise, lighting, and

human presence in the project area. However, these impacts would be minor because there is already a human presence in the area surrounding the project site.

#### 3.6.2.2 No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, ADVA would not construct a new veterans' care facility on the site. The ADVA goal of providing integrated healthcare services to veterans in southeast Alabama would not occur. Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no changes to wildlife and habitat at the site and no impacts to wildlife habitat would occur. However, future development of the project site by others would have similar impacts as the Proposed Action.

### 3.7 Noise

#### **3.7.1 Affected Environment**

The project site is located in a sparsely developed rural area of Enterprise approximately 4.15 miles north of the central business district. Noise sensitive receptors in the vicinity of the project area include small residential subdivisions south of the project site, small single family residences, churches (Calvary Baptist Church, New Brockton Baptist Church, and Coffee County Baptist Association) and industrial sites south of the project site.

#### **3.7.2 Environmental Consequences**

#### 3.7.2.1 Proposed Action

Construction of the Veterans Home would cause an increase in ambient noise in the areas surrounding the site. Increases in noise levels would occur from the operation of heavy equipment, haul/dump/concrete trucks, construction activities (e.g. saws, drills, hammers) and sawing for tree removal. Most construction equipment (bulldozers, dump trucks, excavators) operate at a noise level of 80- 90 dBA. However, noise levels depend on type of equipment, the operation being performed, condition of the equipment, and length of time the equipment is operated. To the maximum extent practical, construction activities would be limited to normal business hours. The intermittent increase in noise would likely be an annoyance but would not exceed typical noise thresholds; thus, impacts would not be significant. Operation of the Veterans Home would result in increase in traffic on nearby roadways and at the project site including worker, visitor, and delivery vehicles. Stationary sources of noise would primarily be the equipment associated with the HVAC units. Long-term increases in noise levels from operation of the Veterans Home are not expected to result in significant adverse impacts.

#### 3.7.2.2 No Action

The project site would not be used by ADVA for a Veterans' Care Facility and no construction or operational noise impacts would occur. However, future development of the project site could have similar impacts on the ambient noise environment of the area as the Proposed Action.

### 3.8 Land Use

#### **3.8.1 Affected Environment**

The project site is currently owned by Industrial Development Board of the city of Enterprise which has offered to donate the land to ADVA for the development of the proposed VA facility. The previous zoning classification was M-2 Industrial Park District; however, the City recently modified the zoning classification to M-D Medical District.

The soils present on the project site are classified as Prime Farmland soils and provisions of the Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981 require federal programs that contribute to the necessary and irreversible conversion of farmland to nonagricultural uses are required to consider ways to minimize conversion of these lands. Although the soils are classified as Prime Farmlands, the requirements of the Act do not apply to projects that will be located in or committed to urban development.

#### **3.8.2 Environmental Consequences**

#### **3.8.2.1 Proposed Action**

Construction activities would have no impacts on land use or zoning. The project site would temporarily be a construction site. The change in agricultural use to the VA Facility is consistent with approved planning and zoning. Therefore, the Proposed Action would have no adverse impacts to land use.

#### **3.8.2.2 No Action**

Under the No Action Alternative, land use at the project site would not change from existing conditions. Although ADVA would not own or develop the site under the No Action Alternative, the project site would likely be developed for residential and/or commercial use; future development would have similar impacts as the Proposed Action.

### 3.9 Floodplains, Wetlands, and Coastal Zone Management

#### **3.9.1 Affected Environment**

The project site is located on FIRM Panels 01031CO257D and 0103276D, which show the entire project site in a Zone X. Zone X designates areas that area areas of minimal flooding outside of the 100-year and 500-year floodplains. Therefore, the project site is not in a floodplain.

The National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) identifies three mapped wetlands areas adjacent to and/or within the boundary of the project site. The wetland area mapped on the west side of Highway 51 is defined as a Freshwater Forested /Shrub Wetland which is temporarily flooded. The wetland area in the southeast portion of the project site, and the wetland on the east side of Highway 167 are defined as a Freshwater Forested /Shrub Wetland which is temporarily flooded. ADVA consultants conducted a survey of the site to determine the presence of wetlands as defined in Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The consultants also reviewed soils data and information obtained for the USFWS NWI Mapper. Although the NWI map indicate a very narrow wetland feature in the southeast portion of the project site, there is no evidence of wetlands hydrology, hydrophytic vegetation, or hydric soils that would indicate that the feature is classified as a wetland. (**see Appendix B**).

Alabama's Coastal Area Management Program (ACAMP) was approved and has been in effect since 1979. Its purpose is to promote, improve and safeguard the lands and waters located in Alabama's coastal area through a comprehensive and cooperative program designed to preserve, enhance, and develop these valuable resources for present and future generations. The enforceable policies of the program regulate various activities on coastal lands and waters seaward of the continuous 10-foot contour in Baldwin and Mobile Counties of Alabama. The project is not located within the Alabama coastal zone as defined in the ACAMP.

#### **3.9.2 Environmental Consequences**

#### 3.9.2.1 Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would have no impact to floodplains. The proposed VA facility is not located within a known floodplain or floodway and is not adjacent or in close proximity to any

surface waterbody. The Proposed Action will not impact wetlands or areas within Alabama's coastal zone.

#### 3.9.2.2 No-Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, ADVA would not construct a new veterans' care facility on the site. The ADVA goal of providing integrated healthcare services to veterans in southeast Alabama would not occur. However, future development of the project site by others would have similar impacts as the Proposed Action.

# 3.10 Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice

### **3.10.1 Affected Environment**

The project site is located in Coffee County, Alabama Census Tract 103. **Table 2** shows the demographic and economic data for this census tract along with Enterprise, Coffee County, and the state.

Socioeconomic Statistic	Census Tract 103	Enterprise, Alabama	Coffee County	Alabama
Population	4,742	27,947	51,662	4,903,185
Median household income	\$58,344	\$62,695	\$55,637	\$51,734
Per capita income	\$30,388	\$29,585	\$27,806	\$28,650
Percent of persons below poverty level	9.1%	14.8%	15.1%	15.5%
Percent of minority (non-White) persons	14%	38%	30%	35%

#### Table 1. Economic and Demographic Data

Source: USCB 2019a, 2019b, 2019c, and 2019d

As shown in **Table 2**, the median household income for Census Tract 103 is slightly lower than for Enterprise, but higher than the median household income for Coffee County and for the state of Alabama. The per capita income for Census Tract 103 is higher than for Enterprise, Coffee County and the state of Alabama; and The percent of the population below poverty level in Census Tract 103 is lower than for Enterprise, Coffee County and the state of Alabama The percentage of the minority population is significantly lower than for Enterprise, Coffee County, and the state of Alabama.

#### **3.10.2 Environmental Consequences**

#### 3.10.2.1 Proposed Action

During construction, the Proposed Action would make a slight contribution to the local economy by using local construction labor and through the possible use of local construction materials and supplies. Once constructed, operation of the facility would likely provide long-term employment opportunities for residents in the surrounding community. Indirect benefits to local businesses would occur from spending by employees, patients, and visitors to the new facility. New businesses may open in the vicinity to support the users of the new care facility, providing additional indirect economic and employment benefits. There would also be long-term benefits to veterans in the region by reducing the travel distance to obtain medical care from a facility dedicated to veterans.

Executive Order 12898 requires evaluation of potential impacts related to environmental justice from federal projects. The proportion of low-income or minority populations in the vicinity of the project site are both lower than for the county and statewide. The type and intensity of effects on any minority or low-income persons from the Proposed Action would be the same as those affecting persons of all other ethnicities or income, and would not be significant as described throughout this EA. Thus, any impacts on minority or low-income persons would not be disproportionately high and no adverse environmental justice impacts would occur.

#### 3.10.2.2 No Action

The project site would not be used for the Veterans Home and there would be no construction or operational impacts on minority or low-income populations. Although ADVA would not own or develop the site under the No Action Alternative, the project site would likely be developed for residential and/or commercial; socioeconomic and environmental justice conditions from future development would likely be similar to the Proposed Action.

### **3.11 Community Services**

#### **3.11.1 Existing Environment**

The project site is within the city limits of Enterprise and police and fire services are provided by the city. Police personnel operate out of their vehicles which stay mobile during their respective watches. The nearest fire station is Northside Fire Station which is 2.75 miles south of the Project site. Calls for assistance are placed to 911 dispatch personnel at the Police Department for response actions. The 911 dispatcher then places call to the appropriate first responders for action. Ambulance service is provided by Enterprise Rescue Ambulance Service which is an independent medical response and transport company. Other community services and features include a Civic Center on Highway 167, a community recreation park (Johnny Henderson Family Park) which includes 5-pavilions, playgrounds, a softball complex, and walking trails. Medical services are provided at Medical Center Enterprise, which is located approximately 4 miles south of the project site.

#### **3.11.2 Environmental Consequences**

#### 3.11.2.1 Proposed Action

Construction activities would result in additional construction-related traffic on local roads; however, this addition would not result the ability of emergency vehicles to access nearby areas. There would be no impacts on community services during construction.

No significant additional load is expected to be placed on the fire or police departments, and changes are not expected in use of or access to other public or community services as a result of the Proposed Action. The addition of vehicles from employee, visitor and delivery vehicles associated with the Veterans Home would increase traffic on local roads. However, this is not expected to affect the ability of emergency vehicles to access nearby areas.

#### 3.11.2.2 No Action

The project site would not be used for the Veterans Home and there would be no construction or operational impacts on community services. Local veterans would not have the opportunity to benefit from a Veterans Home in the region of Alabama, which would require increased travel times to other ADVA care facilities in the state. Although ADVA would not own or develop the site under the No Action Alternative, the project site would likely be developed for commercial and/or industrial sues and community impacts from future development would likely be similar to the Proposed Action.

# **3.12 Solid Waste and Hazardous Materials**

#### **3.12.1 Existing Environment**

A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment of the project site was prepared by Poly, Inc. and completed on June 12, 2021. The results of the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment did not identify any existing "recognized environmental conditions" as defined by 40 CFR Part 312 and ASTM E1527-13.

#### **3.12.2 Environmental Consequences**

#### 3.12.2.1 Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would potentially result in short-term adverse impacts due to the increased presence and use of petroleum and hazardous substances during construction (such as oil, gasoline, antifreeze, solvents, paints, etc.). Proper handling and storage of hazardous materials would minimize the risk of impacts from a spill. Solid wastes generated during construction would be managed and disposed of in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations; no construction-related solid wastes would remain at the project site once construction activities are complete.

Operation of the proposed Veterans Home would generate solid waste, medical waste, and small amounts of hazardous wastes. Solid wastes would be stored on site per local, state, and federal regulations and transported to regulated waste facilities. Waste generation and management, including handling, storage, transportation, and disposal would be done in

compliance with federal, state, and local regulations. Adherence to these regulations and proper management of solid and hazardous wastes should minimize the risk of accidental releases or environmental degradation. Therefore, ADVA anticipates that there would be no long-term impacts from solid and hazardous materials/wastes from the Proposed Action.

#### 3.12.2.2 No Action

The project site would not be used by ADVA for a Veterans' Care Facility and no construction or operational impacts would occur. However, future development of the project site by others could have similar impacts as the Proposed Action.

# **3.13 Transportation and Parking**

#### **3.13.1 Affected Environment**

Access to the project site will be from Dozier Road which forms the northern site boundary of the project site. Access will also be provided to site by a new entrance road from Highway 167 on the east side of the project site. In addition to providing access to the new facility the east connector will also provide access to the interior of the site where recreational facilities are proposed. Parking for the proposed Veterans home will be designed to meet the city of Enterprise parking requirements for this type of care facility.

#### **3.13.2. Environmental Consequences**

#### 3.13.2.1. Proposed Action

The daily commute of construction workers and deliveries of construction materials to the project site would result in additional vehicles traveling to the project site and in the local area. During construction, there could be temporary disruptions to local traffic when large vehicles and equipment are brought to/from the project site. However, disruptions would be negligible (on the order of minutes) and only on roads immediately surrounding the project site.

Access to the Veterans Home would be provided via a new entrance to the facility from Dozier Road on the north and from Highway 167 on the east. Sufficient parking would be provided onsite so that no on-street parking would be required. Although the Proposed Action would result in increased traffic levels to the area, there would be no changes in local traffic patterns. The addition of approximately 200 vehicles a day to the nearby roads (50 visitor vehicles, 120 worker vehicles, delivery trucks and one ambulance per day) is not anticipated to result in significant adverse impacts to the roads in the surrounding community based on current traffic volumes.

#### 3.13.2.2. No Action

Under the no action alternative, the project site would not be used for a Veterans Home, and no construction or operational impacts to transportation would occur. Traffic conditions in the vicinity of the project site would not remain the same as existing conditions; however future development of the site by others could have similar impacts as the Proposed Action.

#### 3.14 Utilities

#### **3.14.1 Affected Environment**

Public utilities are available from several public utilities. Water service, and sewer collection and treatment are provided by the City of Enterprise. Natural gas is provided by Southeast Alabama Gas District and electric power is provided by Alabama Power Company. Telecommunications is provided by AT&T. Stormwater management and maintenance is the responsibility of the owner. Water and sewer infrastructure is in place and service is sufficient to serve the facility.

#### **3.14.2 Environmental Consequences**

#### 3.14.2.1 Proposed Action

Service lines, mains, etc. would be extended to the site for use. Construction of the extension of these utilities could occur at the same time as the construction of the project site; however, temporary utilities (power and water) will be required for construction. Extension of utilities to the location would be accomplished within the roadway right-of-way thus minimizing environmental impacts on other resources from utility construction. Utilities needed to support operation of the Veterans Home would be designed in accordance with applicable industry standards and regulations and would also be designed to achieve sustainable design standards and minimize energy consumption. All existing utilities/systems have sufficient capacity to meet the demands from operation of the Veterans Home property would be directed into a newly constructed storm sewer system that would discharge to newly constructed stormwater management ponds across the site. No adverse impacts on utilities are expected as a result of the Proposed Action.

#### 3.14.2.2 No Action

Under the no action alternative, there would be no changes to utilities, and there would be no impacts. Under the no action alternative, the project site would not be used for a Veterans Home, and no construction or operational impacts to utilities would occur; however, future development of the project site by others could have similar impacts as the Proposed Action.

# 3.15 Cumulative Impacts and Past, Present, and Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions

#### 3.15.1 Past, Present, and Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions

Reasonably foreseeable actions that could contribute to cumulative impacts would primarily include development within the 108-acre site and adjoining undeveloped land. Although the specific timeline for future development is beyond the scope of this EA, it is reasonable to assume that development activities will occur. New construction in the areas surrounding the project site would likely result in cumulative effects on several resources, which are described below. However, as indicated below, none of these cumulative effects are considered significant. Resources for which there would be no impacts from the Proposed Action include geology, topography, floodplains, threatened and endangered species, and solid waste and hazardous materials, and Utilities are not discussed below.

#### **3.15.2 Cumulative Impacts**

**Aesthetics:** The proposed Veterans Home is being designed to maintain the aesthetics and character of the surrounding area. The addition of new buildings and the associated landscaping and lighting, when combined with existing and future development in the surrounding areas would contribute to long-term impacts on nighttime visual resources; however, because the project site is in an rural setting cumulative impacts from the Proposed Action would be negligible.

**Air Quality:** The increase in air pollutant emissions associated with construction and operations of the Proposed Action would result in negligible additions of air pollutants, including greenhouse gases, at a local and regional scale. Therefore, ADVA does not anticipate any significant impacts on air quality or climate change under the Proposed Action when combined with other reasonably foreseeable actions.

**Cultural Resources:** The Proposed Action would result in ground disturbing activities and minor changes in the viewshed. As stated by AHC, the project would have no effect on cultural resources. Therefore, there would be no adverse cumulative impacts on cultural resources.

**Hydrology and Water Resources**: With implementation of construction and permanent stormwater management BMPs, there would be no adverse impacts on offsite water quality and quantity from stormwater runoff, and therefore no cumulative impacts to surface waters would be anticipated.

**Wildlife and Habitat**: Loss of vegetation and wildlife habitat, and noise and light disturbances to wildlife during construction and operation are likely to result in short- and long- term minor

adverse impacts on vegetation and wildlife. The Proposed Action, coupled with other reasonably foreseeable actions, would continue to result in development of the surrounding property. Due to the rural nature of the area, cumulative impacts are not expected to be significant.

**Noise**: Construction projects in the surrounding areas are likely to occur at different times than the construction of the Proposed Action and be spaced out geographically so that multiple projects and noise related to those projects, are not likely to occur simultaneously. Short-term impacts to noise receptors would be obvious but are not considered adverse. Over the long term, the development activities and operations when combined with reasonably foreseeable noise sources could cumulatively affect the local noise environment; however, the cumulative noise impact are not considered negative.

**Land Use**: Although the project site would be developed, change in land use from farmland and vacant undeveloped land to an ADVA residential care facility is consistent with approved

planning and zoning. No offsite land uses would be affected, and no adverse cumulative impacts would occur.

**Floodplains, Wetlands, and Coastal Zone Management:** The project site and surrounding lands are located on in a Zone X. Zone X designates areas that area areas of minimal flooding outside of the 100-year and 500-year floodplains. Flood zone designations in the areas adjacent to the Proposed Action are similar to the project site and no negative cumulative impacts are anticipated. The Proposed Action will not impact wetlands or waters of the US. While there may be some loss of wetlands in the areas surrounding the project site, regulatory requirements to avoid and minimize impacts to wetlands as well as permit conditions for compensatory mitigation of unavoidable losses of wetlands would ensure that individual and cumulative effects are not significant.

**Socioeconomics:** During construction, the Proposed Action would make a slight contribution to the local economy by using local construction labor and through the possible use of local construction materials and supplies, but the impact when combined with other reasonably foreseeable projects would be negligible to minor. Once constructed, operation of the facility would provide employment opportunities and result in indirect benefits to local businesses, which may result in beneficial cumulative impacts in the surrounding communities.

**Transportation and Parking**: Although access and traffic would likely be affected during construction, ADVA would implement mitigation measures, such as appropriate signage and safety measures for construction areas and lane closures, to manage these effects. Construction projects in the surrounding areas are likely to occur at different times and be spaced out geographically so that multiple projects would not affect the roads immediately

surrounding the project site simultaneously, thus reducing the potential for short-term adverse impacts from changes in access and an increase of construction-related vehicles on local roads. Over the long term, no activities or operations are proposed or reasonably foreseeable that would cumulatively adversely affect the local traffic conditions.

#### 3.15.1.1. No Action

The Veterans Home would not be constructed under the No Action Alternative. However, future development of the project site by ADVA or others would likely result in cumulative impacts similar to those described above for the Proposed Action.

### **4.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

The public was notified of the availability of the Draft EA for review through the publication of a Notice of Availability on June 4, 2021 in the *Birmingham News*, the *Montgomery Advertiser*, and the *Enterprise Ledger* newspapers.

The Draft EA is available for public review on ADVA's Web site Web site (https://va.alabama.gov). Comments may be submitted until the close of the 30-day public comment period on July 5, 2021 at 5:00 pm via email to Ms. Kim Justice at Kim.Justice@va.alabama.gov or by mailing them to: Ms. Kim Justice, Executive Director – State Veterans Homes, 100 North Union Street, Suite 850, Montgomery Alabama 36104. Comments may also be submitted until the close of the 30-day public comment period on June 21, 2021 at 5:00 pm via email to Mr. Larry Lewis at larry@bmienvironmental.com or by mailing them to: Mr. Larry Lewis, Senior Environmental Scientist, BMI Environmental Services, LLC, 401 Cowan Road, Suite A, Gulfport, Mississippi 39507.

### **5.0 AGENCY COORDINATION**

ADVA coordinated with the following agencies to request review and provide comments on the Proposed Action (agency correspondence is provided in **Appendices A, B, and C**).

#### **Federal Agencies**

- USACE
- USFWS
- USDA-NRCS

#### Alabama State Agencies

- ACNR-Wildlife
- ADEM-Air Quality
- ADEM-Surface Water
- ADEM-Coastal Area Management
- AHC
- ALDOT
- ADVA

#### **County Agencies**

- Coffee County Board of Supervisors
- Coffee County GIS

#### **City Agencies**

- Enterprise City Administrator
- Enterprise Engineering and Public Works
- Enterprise Fire Department
- Enterprise Parks and Recreation
- Enterprise Planning Commission
- Enterprise Police Department
- Harrison County Zoning

# **6.0 CONCLUSIONS**

Table 2 summarizes the impacts associated with the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative for each resource analyzed in this EA. **Table 3** summarizes the BMPs proposed to minimize project impacts. Based on the analysis presented in this EA and summarized in **Tables 2 and 3**, the VA concludes that a FONSI for the Proposed Action is appropriate, and that preparation of an EIS is not required.

#### Table 2. Summary of Impacts

Resource Area	Proposed Action	No Action
Aesthetics	Temporary adverse impacts to viewshed during construction. Long-term changes to viewshed from new Veterans Home; however, land use and anticipated viewshed changes are consistent current land uses.	No impacts. However, some observers may view the existing condition of the project site as aesthetically displeasing.
Air Quality	Negligible adverse impacts from emissions during construction and operation. Impacts during construction would be temporary. No long-term negative impacts to air quality associated with facility operations or transportation to and from the facility are anticipated.	No impacts.
Cultural Resources	No impacts during construction anticipated. According to AHC, the project will have no negative impacts on historic resources.	No impacts.
Geology, Soils and Topography	Temporary, minor adverse impacts on soils and topography during construction, no impacts from operation. No impacts on geology.	No impacts.
Hydrology and Water Resources	Temporary, minor adverse impacts to water quality during construction that would be minimized by implementing BMPs in construction stormwater permits and SWPPP. No impacts on groundwater.	No impacts.
Wildlife, Habitat, and Threatened and Endangered Species	Temporary adverse impacts on wildlife during construction due to removal of vegetation (farm crops) during clearing and grading, and from construction noise and increased human presence. Permanent removal of vegetation and additional human presence would have minor, long-term adverse impacts. No impacts to threatened and endangered species.	No impacts.
Noise	Temporary adverse impacts from construction- related noise; long-term increases in noise from traffic, ambulances and human presence would be minor.	No impacts.

Resource Area	Proposed Action	No Action		
Land Use	No impacts on land use; change in land use from leased farmland to a government/commercial facility is consistent with land use classification (MD-Medical) approved by the City of Enterprise Planning Commission.	No impacts.		
Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice	and Environmental			
Community Services	No impacts during construction; long-term beneficial impacts on veteran population in the region.	No impacts		
Transportation and Parking	Potential for temporary disruptions to local traffic during construction; impacts would be on the order of minutes and therefore negligible. Long- term increases in traffic on nearby roads would have negligible adverse impacts on local traffic.	No impacts.		
Cumulative Impacts	No significant cumulative impacts on any resources that would be affected by the Proposed Action when combined with other reasonably foreseeable actions.	No impacts.		

### Table 3. Best Management Practices

Resource Area	Best Management Practices	Section
Aesthetics	AestheticsWhere possible, construction activities will be limited to daylight hours to minimize impacts from nighttime lighting at the construction site and from construction equipment lights. All areas disturbed during construction, including temporary staging and disturbance areas, would be restored to their pre- existing condition or better.	
Air Quality	Construction contractor will be required to implement dust control measures such as application of water to suppress dust and washing down construction vehicles and paved roadways immediately adjacent to the construction site. To the extent practical, the construction contractor would be encouraged to	3.2.2

Resource Area	Best Management Practices	Section
	minimize idling of construction and delivery vehicles to the extent practicable to minimize impacts.	
Cultural Resources	The proposed Veterans Home would be designed to maintain the aesthetics and character of the surrounding area.	3.3.2
Geology and Soils	Construction contractor will be required to minimize potentially adverse impacts from erosion by implementing a site-specific SWPPP. Contractor will be required to follow the SWPPP, including erosion control BMPs, during and after construction to stabilize soils. Excavated soil would be managed in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal regulations	3.4.2
Hydrology and Water Resources	Potential impacts to water resources would be minimized by implementation of a SWPPP and associated and sediment control BMPs. Overland flow of stormwater is currently a north to south flow and stormwater management features will be designed to continue that flow pattern. Post construction stormwater discharge would be managed through a new underground storm sewer system. The system will be designed to manage the volume and velocity of stormwater runoff and incorporate features such as earthen berms and grassed swales to reduce possible impacts related to erosion and sedimentation.	3.5.2.
Wildlife, Habitat, and Threatened and Endangered Species	No BMPs proposed for the Wildlife, Habitat, and Threatened and Endangered Species Resource Area.	3.6.2
Noise	To the maximum extent practical, construction activities would be limited to normal business hours.	3.7.2
Land Use	No specific BMPs proposed for the Land Use Resource Area.	3.8.2
Floodplains, Wetlands, and Coastal Zone Management	The wetlands on the site will not be impacted and care will be taken to avoid any indirect impacts to wetlands adjacent to the project site.	3.9.2
Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice	No specific BMPs proposed for the Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice Resource Area.	3.10.2
Community Services	No specific BMPs proposed for the Community Services Resource Area.	3.11.2

Resource Area	Best Management Practices	Section
Solid Waste and Hazardous Materials	Contractor will be required to utilize proper handling and storage of hazardous materials in order to minimize the risk of impacts from a spill. Solid waste generated during construction would be managed and disposed of in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations	3.12.2
Transportation and Parking	•	
Utilities	Utility service from the utility source to the facility and the utility systems will be designed to achieve sustainable design and energy efficient standards to minimize maintenance and energy consumption costs.	3.14.2.

### 7.0 LIST OF PREPARERS

The following individuals contributed to the preparation of this document. The VA, and ADVA, reviewed this document.

### Table 4. List of Preparers

Name	Organization	Role	Highest Degree	Years of Experience
Larry Lewis	BMI Environmental	Biological Resources, Natural Resources, NEPA	M.S. Biological Science	46
Sean Whitt	Williams Blackstock Architects	Architect, Project Design, Land Use	B.S. Architecture	26
Kim Justice	Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs	Project Coordination, Planning, Design and Operation	B.S. Health Services Administration	24

### **8.0 REFERENCES CITED**

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APPENDIX A: Cultural Resources Information and Consultation Alabama Historical Commission and Native American Tribes



May 24, 2021

Dear Tribal Leader,

We are writing to facilitate tribal consultation by conducting early coordination for a series of undertakings by the State Veterans Home Construction Grant Program (SVHCGP), an office within the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Annually, the SVHCGP provides grant funding to states for the renovation and construction of State Veterans Homes. The program ensures a safe living environment, assistance, and medical care for aging and chronically ill Veterans. The VA grant will support 65% of the total construction cost for each project. The requirements of this federal grant program are defined under 38 CFR Part 59. In Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21), the SHVCGP is projected to issue \$560 Million in grants. This amount does not include supplemental CARES Act appropriations to the SVHCGP.

Projects supported by the SVHCGP are federal undertakings that must be reviewed under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (36 CFR Part 800). A list of state projects that may be funded by this federal program in FY21 is included on page 1 of the attachment. This list includes a brief description of the undertaking and its location. Page 2 includes information for grants that will fund projects at multiple locations.

This list includes projects where NHPA Section 106 consultation has not yet been initiated. Projects for which NHPA consultation is currently ongoing or completed and which may receive FY21 funding are not included on this list.

Inclusion on the attached list does not guarantee that a state project will receive funding in FY21. The grantmaking process is fluid and dependent on external parties, including funding by state governments. As a result, the SVHCGP cannot pinpoint which exact grants will receive FY21 funding at this time.

Recognizing the special relationship between the U.S. and tribal governments, VA is ready to consult directly with you to identify and resolve any cultural concerns you may have with a proposed undertaking. If you would like to consult on a specific undertaking, please send a response to tribalgovernmentconsultation@va.gov, and indicate the undertaking(s) of interest. VA will then send you a follow-up communication with additional details for any undertaking with the potential to affect historic properties, per 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(2).

Sincerely,

Anna Gaug SVHCGP National Program Manager

### VA State Home Construction Grants FY21 Tribal Consultation List

FAI No.	State	Locality	Address (Or Lat/Long)	County	Zip Code	Description
25-082	MA	Holyoke	110 Cherry St	Hampden	01040	Safety: Fifth Floor Egress
48-034	TX	El Paso	9650 Kenworthy Street	El Paso	79924	Safety: Fire Alarm System, Sewer Lift Station
51-017	VA	Richmond	1601 Broad Rock Blvd	City of Richmond	23224	Renovation: Electronic Security, Safety Circuiting
48-035	TX	McAllen	301 East Yuma Avenue	Hidalgo	78503	Safety: HVAC Controls
						Safety: Elopement System, Building Automation, Water Management, Telephone
51-014	VA	Roanoke	4550 Shenandoah Avenue	City of Roanoke	24017	System
42-051	PA	Hollidaysburg	194 Veterans' Blvd.	Blair	16648	Bed Replacement: 200 Bed Facility
16-010	ID	Statewide	See next page			Renovation: Dining, Security, Flooring, Doors, Handrails and Guards
36-034	NY	Montrose	2090 Albany Post Road	Weschester	10548	Renovation: Generator Replacement Phase 2
36-037	NY	Oxford	4207 NY-220	Chenango	13830	Renovation: Water Treatment System
36-035	NY	Jamaica	17850 Linden Blvd	Queens	11434	Renovation: HVAC Upgrades
36-036	NY	Jamaica	17850 Linden Blvd	Queens	11434	Renovation: Roof Replacement
23-034	ME	Scarborough	290 US-1	Cumberland	04074	Renovation: Window Replacement
46-015	SD	Hot Springs	500 Minnekahta Ave	Fall River	57747	Renovation: Solar Generation System
23-035	ME	Statewide	See next page			Renovation: HVAC Equipment and Controls
36-039	NY	Montrose	2090 Albany Post Road	Weschester	10548	Renovation: Roof Replacement
48-036	TX	Tyler	11466 Honor Lane	Smith	75708	Renovation: HVAC Controls, Nurse Call System, AHU Replacements
10-003	DE	Milford	100 Delaware Veterans Boulevard	Kent	19963	Renovation: Generator Upgrades
55-084	WI	King	N2665 Cty. Rd QQ	Waupaca	54946	Renovation: Electrical and Emergency Power Upgrades, LED Lighting
55-086	WI	Union Grove	21425 Spring St	Racine	53182	Renovation: Phone System and Nurse Call Upgrades
40-068	OK	Statewide	See next page			Renovation: Fire Protection Upgrades
36-033	NY	Jamaica	17850 Linden Blvd	Queens	11434	Renovation: Air Conditioning Units
36-045	NY	Jamaica	17850 Linden Blvd	Queens	11434	Renovation: Nurse Call Replacement
40-069	OK	Claremore, Sulphur	See next page			Renovation: HVAC Replacement
13-025	GA	Milledgeville, Augusta	See next page			Renovation: Patient EMR and IT Upgrades
						Renovation: Maintenance Warehouse and Dining Room Expansion, Service
39-055	OH	Georgetown	2003 Veterans Blvd	Brown	45121	Elevator Addition
21-022	KY	Bowling Green	37° 2'42.01"N 86°18'9.39"W	Warren		New Construction: 90 Bed Facility
45-009	SC	Sumter	33°57'57.9"N 80°21'33.5"W	Sumter		New Construction: 108 Bed Facility
01-013	AL	Enterprise	3200 Highway 51, Enterprise, AL	Coffee	36330	New Construction: 174 Bed Facility

### Additional project locations on the FY21 SVHCGP Priority List

- 1. Idaho 16-010, Renovation: Dining, Security, Flooring, Doors, Handrails and Guards, will take place at the following locations:
  - Idaho State Veterans Home, Pocatello, Bannock County: 1957 Alvin Ricken Dr, Pocatello, ID 83201
  - Idaho State Veterans Home, Lewiston, Nez Pierce County: 821 21st Ave, Lewiston, ID 83501
- 2. Maine 23-035, HVAC replacement, will take place at the following locations:
  - Maine Veterans Home (MVH) Scarborough, Cumberland County: 290 US Route 1, Scarborough, ME 04074
  - MVH Bangor, Penobscot County: 44 Hogan Road, Bangor, ME 04401
  - MVH South Paris, Oxford County: 477 High St, South Paris, ME 04281
- 3. Oklahoma 40-068: Renovation: Fire Protection Upgrades, will take place at the following locations:
  - Ardmore Veterans Center, 1015 S. Commerce St., Ardmore, Carter County, OK 73401
  - Claremore Veterans Center, 3001 W. Blue Starr Dr., Claremore, Green County, OK 74017
  - Clinton Veterans Center, 1701 S. 4th St., Clinton, Custer County, OK 73601
  - Norman Veterans Center, 1776 E. Robinson St., Norman, Cleveland County, OK 73071
  - Sulphur Veterans Center, 200 E. Fairlane Ave., Sulphur, Murray County, OK 73086
- 4. Oklahoma 40-069: HVAC Replacement, will take place at the following locations:
  - Claremore Veterans Center, 3001 W. Blue Starr Dr., Claremore, Green County, OK 74017
  - Sulphur Veterans Center, 200 E. Fairlane Ave., Sulphur, Murray County, OK 73086
- 5. Georgia 13-025: Renovation: Patient EMR and IT Upgrades, will take place at the following locations:
  - Georgia War Veterans Home, 2249 Vinson Hwy, Milledgeville, Baldwin County, GA 31061
  - Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home, 1101 15th St, Augusta, Augusta-Richmond County, GA 30901



# ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

468 South Perry Street Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0900 Tel: 334-242-3184 Fax: 334-242-1083

May 18, 2021

Kim Justice Department of Veterans Affairs P.O. Box 1509 Montgomery, AL 36102-1509

Re: AHC 21-0663 New Construction - 5th State Veterans Home Coffee County

Dear Ms. Justice:

Upon review of the above referenced project, we have determined the following. Our files indicate that it is unknown if sites potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places exist here. The project area is similar environmentally to areas that are known to have significant cultural resources. Therefore, we consider it archaeologically sensitive.

We request that a professional archaeologist survey the project area to identify any cultural resources that may be present. Submit the resulting report to our office for review and determination prior to construction activities.

In addition, we request properties within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) be evaluated for their eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. It is the federal agency's (or their designee) responsibility to identify properties in the APE, apply the National Register (NR) criteria, and determine whether a property is eligible or not. Those determinations are sent to our office for review and comment. All properties evaluated should be accompanied by current photographs, and these locations should be keyed to a good quality USGS topographic map.

We appreciate your commitment to helping us preserve Alabama's historic archaeological and architectural resources. Should you have any questions, please contact Amanda McBride at 334.230.2692 or Amanda.McBride@ahc.alabama.gov. Have the AHC tracking number referenced above available and include it with any future correspondence.

Sincerely,

Le anne Woffo

Lee Anne Wofford Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

LAW/AMH/amh



### ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE SECTION 106 PROJECT REVIEW CONSULTATION FORM

Federal laws exist to ensure that federal agencies or their designated applicants carefully consider historic preservation in federally funded, licensed, or permitted projects. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended directs this review. <a href="http://www.achp.gov/106summary.html">http://www.achp.gov/106summary.html</a>. At a minimum, submission of this completed form and attachments constitutes a request for review by the Alabama Historical Commission, which is the Alabama State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The responsibility for preparing documentation, including the identification of archaeological and architectural properties and the assessment of potential effects resulting from the project, rests with the federal or state agency, or its designated applicant. The role of the Alabama SHPO is to review, comment, and consult with federal/state agencies or their designees. The Alabama SHPO's ability to complete a timely project review largely depends on the quality of the material submitted. Some applicants may find it advantageous to hire a professional consultant with expertise in archaeology, history and/or architectural history.

PROJECT NAME

FEDERAL AGENCY PROVIDING FUNDS, LICENSE, OR PERMIT

FEDERAL PROJECT NUMBER

FEDERAL AGENCY CONTACT NAME AND E-MAIL/PHONE NUMBER

STATE AGENCY PROVIDING FUNDS, LICENSE, OR PERMIT (IF APPLICABLE)

STATE AGENCY CONTACT NAME AND E-MAIL ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, MAILING ADDRESS

AHC NUMBER (If project has been previously submitted)

APPLICANT NAME:

APPLICANT MAILING ADDRESS:

APPLICANT TELEPHONE:

APPLICANT EMAIL:

CONTACT NAME (if different than applicant):

CONTACT MAILING ADDRESS:

CONTACT TELEPHONE:

CONTACT EMAIL (Person to whom AHC should email response letter):

CONTRACTOR TYPE: ARCHAEOLOGIST; ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN; NONE; OTHER:

CONTRACTOR NAME:

CONTRACTOR MAILING ADDRESS:

CONTRACTOR TELEPHONE:

CONTRACTOR EMAIL:

PROJECT LOCATION		
STREET ADDRESS		CITY
COUNTY	ZIP C	CODE
LATITUDE / LONGITUDE: USE DECIMAL DEGREES EXAMPLE: 32.3722N, -86.3083W		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION		
Will the project involve any of the following? Check all that apply. exterior rehabilitation work; interior rehabilitation work; cellular equipment located on buildings; streetscape/sidewalks/lighting; new construction; and/or demolition Describe the overall project in DETAIL. Be sure to describe any items checked a	above. Use ac	lditional pages if necessary.
Describe the overall project in DETAIL. Be sure to describe any items checked a	above. Use ac	iunonai pages il necessary.

#### AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT (APE)

The APE varies with project types and can be direct or indirect (physical, visual, auditory, etc.). The APE is defined as "the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may cause changes in the character of use of historic properties, if any such properties exist." Factors to consider when determining the APE include; topography, vegetation, existing development, orientation of an existing resource to the project, physical siting of a resource, and existing and planned future development. For example:

- 1) Rehabilitation, renovation, and/or demolition of a historic building or structure, or new construction: the APE might include the building itself and the adjacent setting.
- 2) Streetscapes: the APE might include the viewshed from the street.
- 3) Pedestrian/bicycle facilities: the APE might extend the length of the corridor and for some distance on both sides of the corridor.
- 4) Underground utilities: the APE would usually be limited to the area of ground disturbance.

Attach a map indicating the precise location of the project and the boundaries of the APE, preferably a clear color copy of a USGS topographic quadrangle map (7.5 minute). For projects in urban areas, also include a city map that shows more detail. USGS topographic maps can be printed from this website: <u>https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/topoview/viewer/</u>. City maps can be printed using <u>www.google.com/maps</u>.

Provide current, high resolution color photographs that illustrate the project area and the entire APE as defined above.

#### **ARCHAEOLOGY** (Ground Disturbing Activities)

Has the ground in the project area been disturbed other than by agriculture (i.e. grading, grubbing, clear cutting, filling, etc.)? Yes Don't know N/A

If yes, describe in detail. Use additional pages as necessary. Photographs are helpful.

Describe the present use and condition of the property. Use additional pages as necessary.

To your knowledge, has a Cultural Resource Assessment (CRA) been conducted in the proposed project area?

If yes, attach a copy of the cultural resources assessment report.

#### ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

Above-ground properties within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) should be evaluated for the eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. It is the federal agency's (or their designee) responsibility to identify properties in the APE, apply the National Register (NR) criteria, and determine whether a property is eligible or not. Those determinations are sent to our office for review and comment. All properties evaluated should be accompanied by current photographs, and these locations should be keyed to a good quality USGS topographic map. Some applicants may find it advantageous to hire a historic preservation professional with expertise in history and/or architectural history to complete the identification and evaluation of historic properties. The Alabama Historical Commission publishes a GIS map of properties that have been documented by or through our office. The map includes properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places, Alabama Historic Cemetery Register, county architectural surveys, and other files. The GIS map can be accessed here: https://ahc.alabama.gov/historicpreservationmap.aspx The GIS map should function as a research tool, not an up-to-the-minute inventory about every historic and/or architecturally significant property in the state. This tool allows researchers to investigate and review potentially significant properties according to the best data that is available in the Alabama Historical Commission's files. The absence of a property from the map does not imply that an unidentified property lacks historic or architectural importance.

- I) Within the APE, are there properties listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places?
  - YES If yes, identify the properties by name, address, and photo number.

NO If no, identify the properties by name, address, and photo number. Provide an explanation as to why properties identified are not eligible for the National Register. A discussion of the National Register seven aspects of integrity and the applicable National Register criteria must be included. Refer to the National Park Service's website: https://www.nps.gov/subjects/<u>nationalregister/upload/NRB-15 web508.pdf</u> Use additional pages as necessary.

### **EFFECTS DETERMINATION**

An effect occurs when an action alters the characteristics of a property that may qualify it for the National Register of Historic Places. How will this project affect any of the properties identified in the previous section? Will the project take away or change anything within the boundaries of a historic property? Will the project change the view from or the view to any historic properties? Will the project introduce any audible or atmospheric elements? Will the project result in the transfer, lease, or sale of any of the identified properties? Use additional sheets as necessary.

CHECKLIST: Did you provide the following information?		
Completed form.	Photographs* of current site conditions and all identified historic properties keyed to a site map.	
Maps with project area, APE, and any historic properties marked and identified.	For new construction, rehabilitations, etc., attach work plans, drawings, etc.	
Other supporting documents (if necessary to explain the project).	Description of present use and condition of the project area.	

\*A note about photographs: Digital photos must be current, high resolution, and adequately show the resource. Take photographs of the overall property and the exterior of each building on the property, including outbuildings. Include views of the overall setting, views of the building in its immediate surrounding showing the relationship of the building to neighboring buildings, and views of significant landscape features (i.e. tree lined approaches, stone walls, formal gardens, etc.). Exterior views of the building should include full views of each side (if possible) and views of important architectural details. Key all photographs to a site map.

If the project involves rehabilitation, include photographs of the building(s) involved and especially the areas of the building slated for rehab work. Label each exterior view to a site map and label all interior views. If the project involves new construction, include photographs of the surrounding area looking out from the project site. Include photographs of any buildings that are located on the project property or on adjoining property.

# NOTE: Section 106 regulations provide for a 30-day response time by the Alabama SHPO from the <u>date of</u> <u>receipt</u>. Project activities may not begin until our office has reviewed this information and issued comments.

Upon receipt, applications and attachments become the property of the State of Alabama.

For questions regarding this form or the Section 106 Review Process, contact Amanda McBride, Section 106 Coordinator, at 334.230.2692 or <u>Amanda.McBride@ahc.alabama.gov</u>.

### All projects must be submitted digitally

E-mail this form and supporting documents to <u>Section.106@ahc.alabama.gov</u> This is the only approved e-mail address for project submission. Projects sent to any other e-mail address will not be accepted. The attachment size cannot exceed 19 MB. Alternatively, you may submit projects with larger attachments through an online system to be determined by the

AHC.

Please limit your submission to cultural resources information only.

#### Contact Amanda McBride for any questions on digital submissions

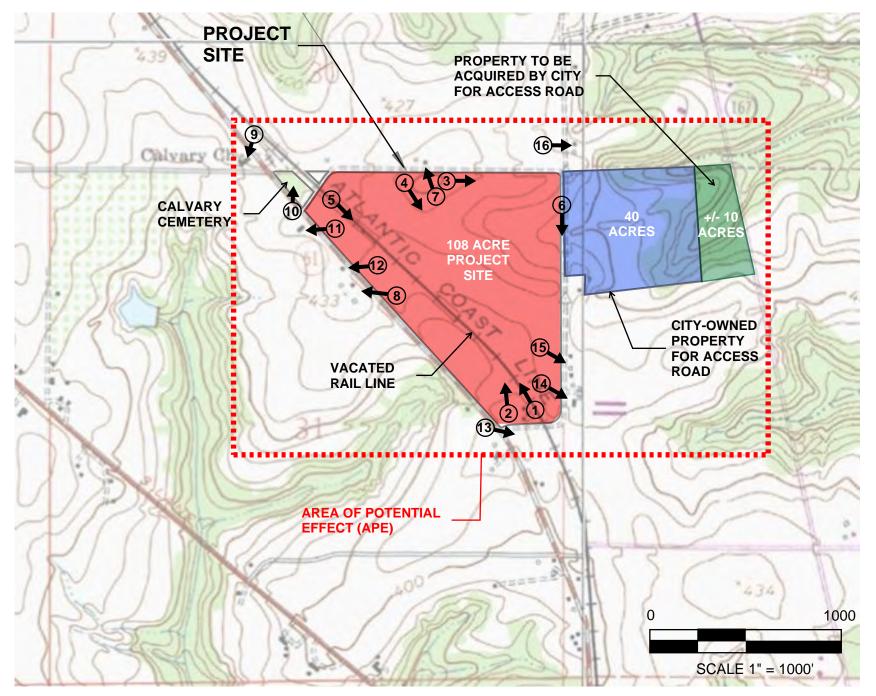






Photo #1 - Old railroad bed from Hickman Road looking north.





**Photo #2** - View looking north from Hickman Road with Hwy 51 in the distance.





**Photo #3** - View looking east from Dozier Road in front of old farmhouse at adjoining property.





**Photo #4** - View looking southeast from Dozier Road with HSUA manufacturing facility in the distance.





Photo #5 - Old railroad bed looking south from Dozier Road.





Photo #6 - View looking south at Hickman Road





**Photo #7** - House owned by the City of Enterprise to the north of the project site - 3861 Dozier Road





**Photo #8** - Two houses to the west of the project site off Hwy 51 - 3381 & 3391 Rocky Head Road





**Photo #9** - Calvary Baptist Church located northwest of the project site off Hwy 51 - 1837 Al. 51

# **Attachment A**



**Photo #10** - Calvary Baptist Cemetery off Hwy 51 to the northwest of the project site.

## **Attachment A**



**Photo #11** - House off Hwy 51 to the west of the project site - 3581 Rocky Head Rd.





**Photo #12** - House off Hwy 51 to the west of the project site - 3471 Rocky Head Rd.

# **Attachment A**



**Photo #13** - Intersection of Hickman & Hwy 51 with lay-down yard for utility company visible on corner - 2960 Rocky Head Rd.

## **Attachment A**



**Photo #14** - House at 3230 Hickman road to the southeast of the project site.





**Photo #15** - House at 3440 Hickman road to the east of the project site.

# **Attachment A**



**Photo #16** - House at 4 County Rd. 270 to the northeast of the project site.



APPENDIX B: Threatened and Endangered Species Consultation USFWS and MDWFP

### Larry Lewis

From:	Sturm, Jason R. (CFM) <jason.sturm@va.gov></jason.sturm@va.gov>
Sent:	Tuesday, May 18, 2021 4:27 PM
То:	Larry Lewis
Subject:	RE: TES Consultation: NEPA-EA for Veterans Home, Enterprise, Alabama (FAI 01-013)

Larry,

I have reviewed the Biological Survey for the Veterans Home at Enterprise. It provides the information needed to support a "No Effect" determination under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. No consultation with USFWS is required.

Jason Jason Sturm Environmental Engineer Department of Veterans Affairs Construction and Facilities Management (CFM) Desk: (224) 610-7330 Cell: (224) 628-1946

From: Larry Lewis <larry@bmienvironmental.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 2:50 PM
To: Sturm, Jason R. (CFM) <Jason.Sturm@va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] TES Consultation: NEPA-EA for Veterans Home, Enterprise, Alabama (FAI 01-013)

Jason...attached is the Biological Survey for the VA Home at Enterprise, Alabama. As we discussed, the site reconnaissance revealed a no suitable habitat for target species and no listed species of concern were observed. If you have any questions regarding the report, or if we can provide any additional information, please let me know. Thanks.

#### Larry Lewis

Senior Environmental Scientist BMI Environmental Services, LLC 401 Cowan Road, Suite A Gulfport, Mississippi 39507 228-864-7612 Office 228-864-7676 Fax 228-380-1260 Cell www.bmienvironmental.com Adding Value Blog

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### United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Alabama Ecological Services Field Office 1208 B Main Street Daphne, AL 36526-4419 Phone: (251) 441-5181 Fax: (251) 441-6222



In Reply Refer To: Consultation Code: 04EA1000-2021-SLI-0857 Event Code: 04EA1000-2021-E-02039 Project Name: Enterprise AL State Veterans Home May 17, 2021

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. Please note that new information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Note that due to the volume of emails received by our office, we cannot accept project consultation requests by email.

Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Also note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the process and consultation under the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 et seq.), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

#### http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 et seq.), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan

(http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle\_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at:

http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/usfwscommunicationtowerguidance.pdf

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

We can be reached at:

US Fish and Wildlife Service

1208 Main Street

Daphne, AL 36526

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Migratory Birds

Wetlands

## **Official Species List**

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

### Alabama Ecological Services Field Office 1208 B Main Street Daphne, AL 36526-4419 (251) 441-5181

### **Project Summary**

Consultation Code:	04EA1000-2021-SLI-0857
Event Code:	04EA1000-2021-E-02039
Project Name:	Enterprise AL State Veterans Home
Project Type:	DEVELOPMENT
Project Description:	The proposed project is to award a grant to the State of Alabama to
	partially fund the construction of a new 174-bed veterans nursing home in
	Coffee County, Alabama. The proposed 108-acre site is located in Section
	31, Township 5 North, Range 22 East and is bordered by Rocky Heady
	Road, Hickman Road, and Neil Metcalf Road.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <u>https://www.google.com/maps/@31.3678185,-85.87863116048699,14z</u>



Counties: Coffee County, Alabama

### **Endangered Species Act Species**

There is a total of 8 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

1. <u>NOAA Fisheries</u>, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

### **Birds**

NAME	STATUS
Wood Stork <i>Mycteria americana</i> Population: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8477</u>	Threatened
Reptiles NAME	STATUS
Eastern Indigo Snake Drymarchon corais couperi No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/646</u>	Threatened
Gopher Tortoise Gopherus polyphemus Population: eastern No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6994</u>	Candidate

### Clams

NAME	STATUS
Choctaw Bean Villosa choctawensis There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5038</u>	Endangered
Fuzzy Pigtoe <i>Pleurobema strodeanum</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3417</u>	Threatened
Southern Kidneyshell <i>Ptychobranchus jonesi</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7539</u>	Endangered
Southern Sandshell <i>Hamiota australis</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2551</u>	Threatened
Tapered Pigtoe <i>Fusconaia burkei</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5046</u>	Threatened

### **Critical habitats**

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

## USFWS National Wildlife Refuge Lands And Fish Hatcheries

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the <u>National Wildlife Refuge</u> system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

## **Migratory Birds**

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act<sup>1</sup> and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act<sup>2</sup>.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described <u>below</u>.

- 1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
- 2. The <u>Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act</u> of 1940.
- 3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

THERE ARE NO FWS MIGRATORY BIRDS OF CONCERN WITHIN THE VICINITY OF YOUR PROJECT AREA.

### **Migratory Birds FAQ**

## Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

<u>Nationwide Conservation Measures</u> describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. <u>Additional measures</u> or <u>permits</u> may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

## What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS <u>Birds of Conservation Concern</u> (<u>BCC</u>) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the <u>Avian</u> <u>Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. The AKN data is based on a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and citizen science datasets</u> and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle (<u>Eagle Act</u> requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the <u>AKN Phenology Tool</u>.

## What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. This data is derived from a growing collection of <u>survey, banding, and citizen science datasets</u>.

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

## How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering, migrating or present year-round in my project area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may refer to the following resources: <u>The Cornell Lab of Ornithology All About Birds Bird Guide</u>, or (if you are unsuccessful in locating the bird of interest there), the <u>Cornell Lab of Ornithology Neotropical Birds guide</u>. If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

### What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

- 1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are <u>Birds of Conservation Concern</u> (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
- 2. "BCC BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
- 3. "Non-BCC Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the <u>Eagle Act</u> requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

#### Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the <u>Northeast Ocean Data Portal</u>. The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the <u>NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical</u> <u>Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic</u> <u>Outer Continental Shelf</u> project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the <u>Diving Bird Study</u> and the <u>nanotag studies</u> or contact <u>Caleb Spiegel</u> or <u>Pam Loring</u>.

#### What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to <u>obtain a permit</u> to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

#### Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAO "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

## Wetlands

Impacts to <u>NWI wetlands</u> and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local <u>U.S. Army Corps of</u> <u>Engineers District</u>.

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND

• <u>PFO1A</u>

APPENDIX C: Maps, Exhibits, Data, Reports, and Other Correspondence

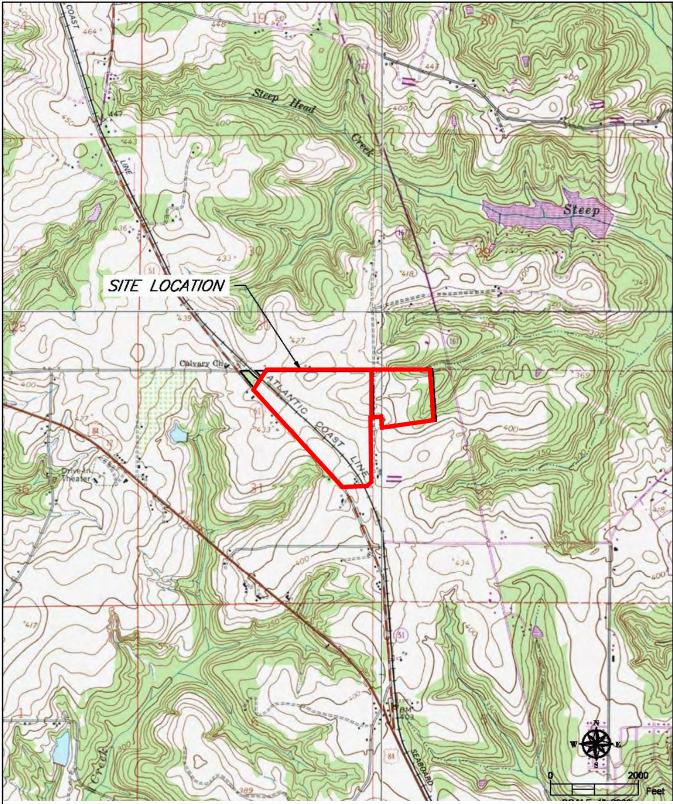


Exhibit 1: Proposed VA Home Site Over Enterprise, Alabama Quadrangle Map.

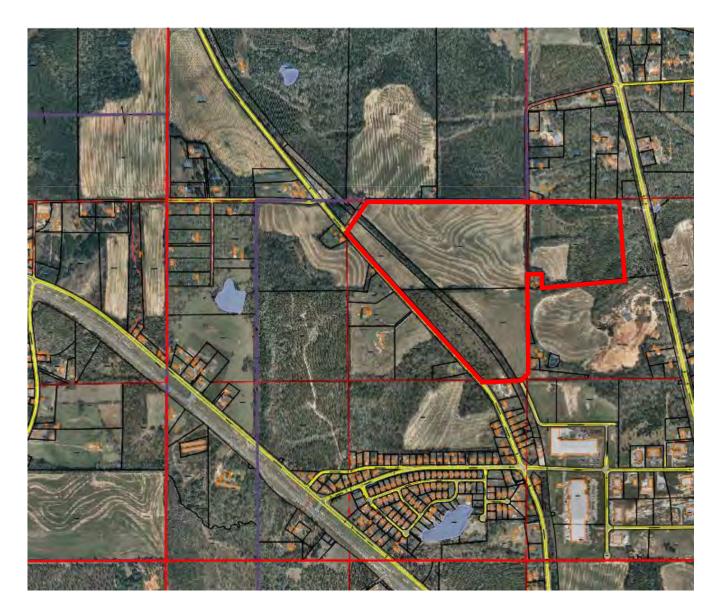
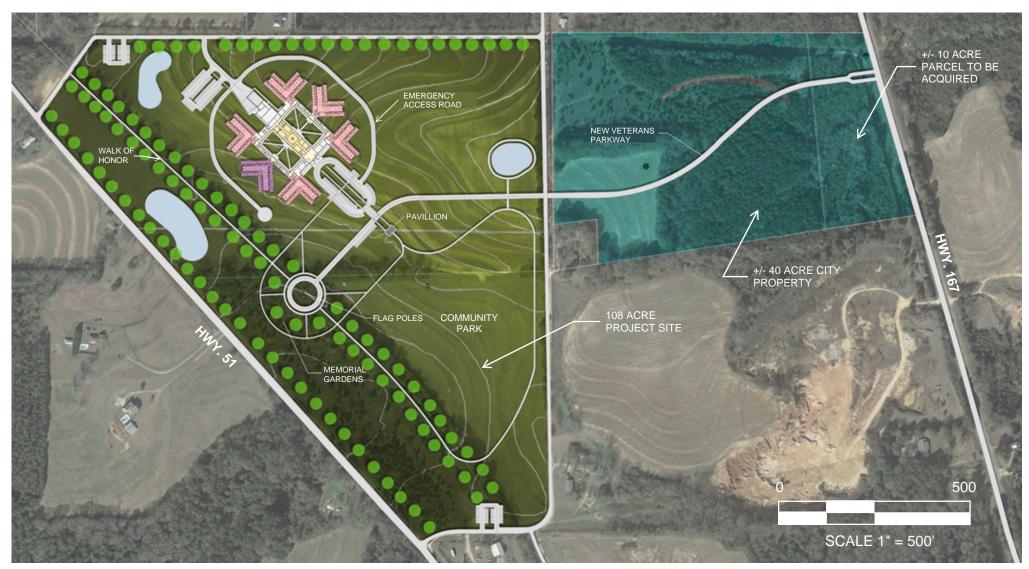


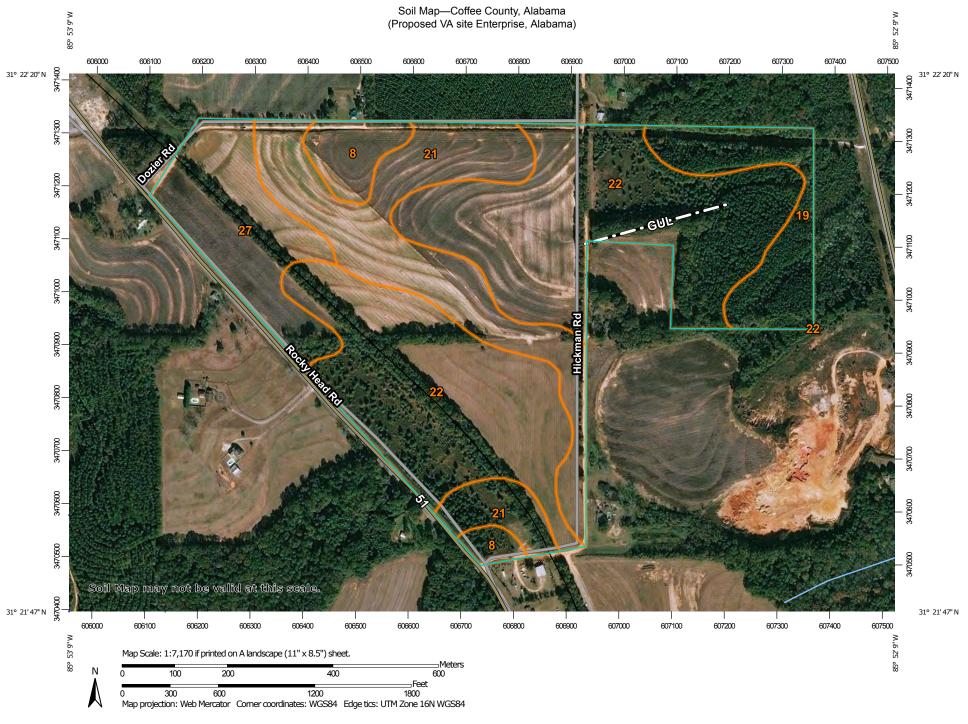
Exhibit 2: Proposed VA Home Site Over Coffee County GIS Parcel Map.



Alabama Dept. of Veterans Affairs New Construction - Fifth State Veterans Home Enterprise, AL FAI 01-013

## ENLARGED AREA SITE PLAN Attachment C





USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey National Cooperative Soil Survey

MAP LEGEND		MAP INFORMATION	
Area of Interest (AOI)   Area of Interest (AOI)   Soils   Soil Map Unit Polygor   Borrow Pit   Soil Sorow Pit   Clay Spot   Soil Closed Depression	<ul> <li>Spoil Area</li> <li>Stony Spot</li> <li>Very Stony Spot</li> </ul>	MAP INFORMATION         The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:20,000.         Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.         Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.         Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.         Source of Map:       Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey URL: Coordinate System:	
Gravel PitGravelly SpotLandfillLava FlowMarsh or swampMine or QuarryMine or QuarryPerennial WaterPerennial WaterSaline SpotSandy SpotSinkholeSide or SlipSodic Spot	<ul> <li>✓ US Routes</li> <li>✓ Major Roads</li> <li>✓ Local Roads</li> <li>Background</li> <li>Merial Photography</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercato projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.</li> <li>This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data a of the version date(s) listed below.</li> <li>Soil Survey Area: Coffee County, Alabama Survey Area Data: Version 11, May 29, 2020</li> <li>Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.</li> <li>Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Nov 18, 2018—Jar 21, 2019</li> <li>The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.</li> </ul>	

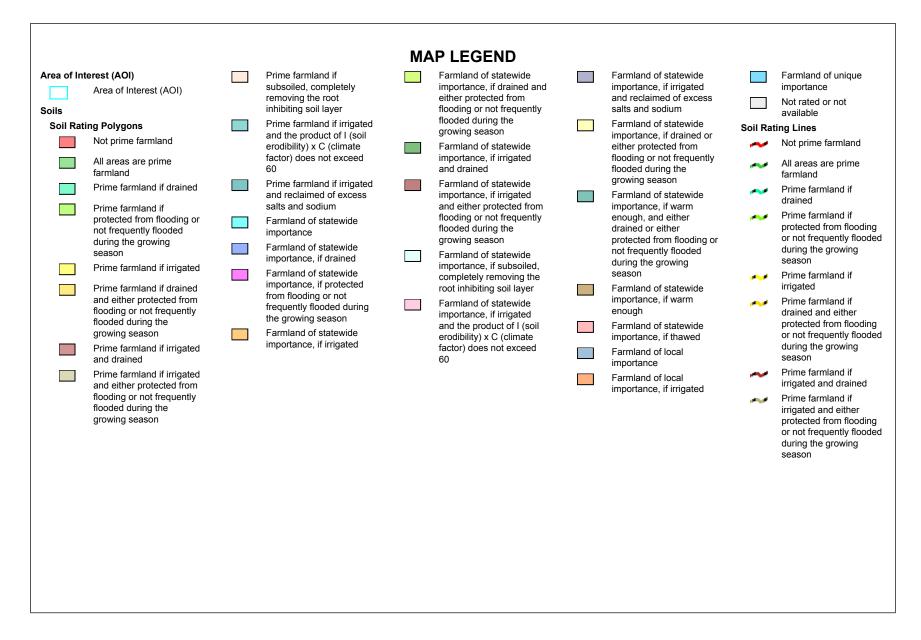
USDA

### Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
8	Dothan fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	6.8	4.5%
19	Luverne-Lucy association, rolling	13.0	8.7%
21	Orangeburg sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	33.9	22.6%
22	Orangeburg sandy loam, 5 to 8 percent slopes	77.9	51.9%
27	Red Bay loamy sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	18.4	12.2%
Totals for Area of Interest		149.9	100.0%



USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey National Cooperative Soil Survey



#### Farmland Classification—Coffee County, Alabama (Proposed VA Facility Enterprise, Alabama)

- Prime farmland if 1 A subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
- Prime farmland if irrigated ----and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60
- Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
- Farmland of statewide importance
- Farmland of statewide importance, if drained
- Farmland of statewide importance, if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
- Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated

- Farmland of statewide importance, if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the
- growing season Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and drained

1990 B

- Farmland of statewide 100 importance, if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season Farmland of statewide a 🖬 importance, if subsoiled.
- completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer Farmland of statewide 100 importance, if irrigated

and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60

- Farmland of statewide الجريدا الجر importance, if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
- Farmland of statewide importance, if drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
- Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough, and either drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
- Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough
- Farmland of statewide 1990 B importance, if thawed
- Farmland of local importance
- Farmland of local importance, if irrigated

Farmland of unique importance Not rated or not available المراجع

#### Soil Rating Points

- Not prime farmland All areas are prime farmland
- Prime farmland if drained
- Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
- Prime farmland if irrigated
- Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
- Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
- Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season

- Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
- Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60
- Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
- Farmland of statewide importance
- Farmland of statewide importance, if drained
- Farmland of statewide importance, if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
- Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated



#### Farmland Classification—Coffee County, Alabama (Proposed VA Facility Enterprise, Alabama)

<ul> <li>flooded during the growing season</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough, and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if subsolied, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough and either and of statewide importance, if warm enough and either or ot inhibiting soil layer</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough and either or ot inhibiting soil layer</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough and either or ot inhibiting soil layer</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough and either or ot inhibiting soil layer</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough and either or ot inhibiting soil layer</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough and either or ot inhibiting soil layer</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough and either or ot inhibiting soil layer</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough and either or ot inhibiting soil layer</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough and either or ot inhibiting soil layer</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough and either or ot inhibiting soil layer</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough and either ot inhibit</li></ul>	Farmland of sta importance, if d either protected flooding or not f	drained and d from	Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium		Farmland of unique importance Not rated or not available	The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:20,000.
and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60 Farmland of local importance Farmland of local importance Farmland of local importance, if irrigated Farmland of loca	<ul> <li>importance, if d either protected flooding or not t flooded during t growing seasor</li> <li>Farmland of sta importance, if ir and drained</li> <li>Farmland of sta importance, if ir and either prote flooded during t growing seasor</li> <li>Farmland of sta importance, if s completely rem root inhibiting s</li> <li>Farmland of sta importance, if ir and the product erodibility) x C ( factor) does not</li> </ul>	drained and d from frequently the atewide rrigated atewide ected from frequently the n atewide subsoiled, noving the soil layer atewide to I (soil (climate t exceed	<ul> <li>importance, if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough, and either drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough</li> <li>Farmland of statewide importance, if thawed</li> <li>Farmland of local importance</li> <li>Farmland of local</li> </ul>	U Water Fea Transport	importance Not rated or not available Streams and Canals ation Rails Interstate Highways US Routes Major Roads Local Roads nd	<ul> <li>1:20,000.</li> <li>Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.</li> <li>Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.</li> <li>Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.</li> <li>Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey URL: Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)</li> <li>Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.</li> <li>This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.</li> <li>Soil Survey Area: Coffee County, Alabama Survey Area Data: Version 11, May 29, 2020</li> <li>Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.</li> <li>Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Nov 18, 2018—Jan</li> </ul>



### **Farmland Classification**

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
8	Dothan fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	6.8	4.5%
19	Luverne-Lucy association, rolling	Not prime farmland	13.0	8.7%
21	Orangeburg sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	33.9	22.6%
22	Orangeburg sandy loam, 5 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	77.9	51.9%
27	Red Bay loamy sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	18.4	12.2%
Totals for Area of Inter	est	149.9	100.0%	

### Description

Farmland classification identifies map units as prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, farmland of local importance, or unique farmland. It identifies the location and extent of the soils that are best suited to food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. NRCS policy and procedures on prime and unique farmlands are published in the "Federal Register," Vol. 43, No. 21, January 31, 1978.

### **Rating Options**

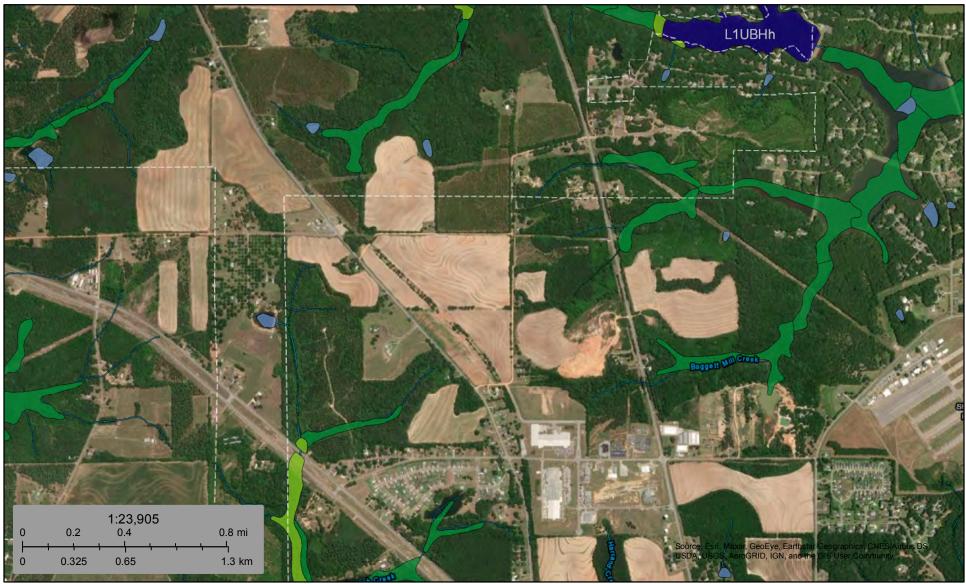
Aggregation Method: No Aggregation Necessary

Tie-break Rule: Lower



### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service **National Wetlands Inventory**

### Proposed VA Home, Enterprise, Alabama



#### April 26, 2021

#### Wetlands



Estuarine and Marine Deepwater

Estuarine and Marine Wetland

- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
  - **Freshwater Pond**

Freshwater Emergent Wetland

Lake Other Riverine

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.

## National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette

250

500

1,000

1,500

2.000



#### Legend

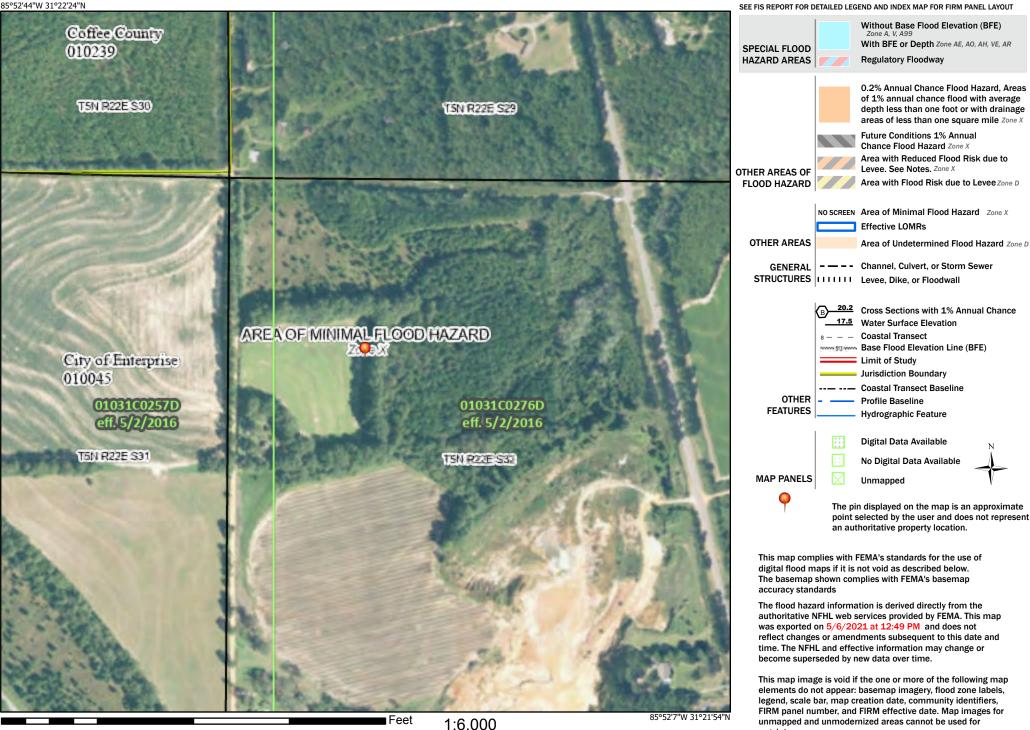
#### 85°53'6"W 31°22'22"N SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) Zone A. V. A9 Coffee County With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR SPECIAL FLOOD 010239 HAZARD AREAS **Regulatory Floodway** T5N R22E \$30 TSN R22E S29 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile Zone X Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone X Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. Zone X OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD Area with Flood Risk due to Levee Zone D NO SCREEN Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X Effective LOMRs OTHER AREAS Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard Zone D - — – – Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer GENERAL STRUCTURES LIIII Levee, Dike, or Floodwall 20.2 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance 17.5 Water Surface Elevation AREA OF MINIMAL FLOOD HAZARD **Coastal Transect** Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE) Limit of Study Jurisdiction Boundary City of Enterprise **Coastal Transect Baseline** OTHER 010045 Profile Baseline 01031C0257D FEATURES Hydrographic Feature T5Keff. 5/2 T5N P22 E \$32 **Digital Data Available** No Digital Data Available MAP PANELS Unmapped The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location. This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on 5/6/2021 at 12:46 PM and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time. This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for 85°52'29"W 31°21'51"N Feet 1:6.000 unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.

Basemap: USGS National Map: Orthoimagery: Data refreshed October, 2020

## National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette



#### Legend



250

500

1,000

1,500

2.000

Basemap: USGS National Map: Orthoimagery: Data refreshed October, 2020

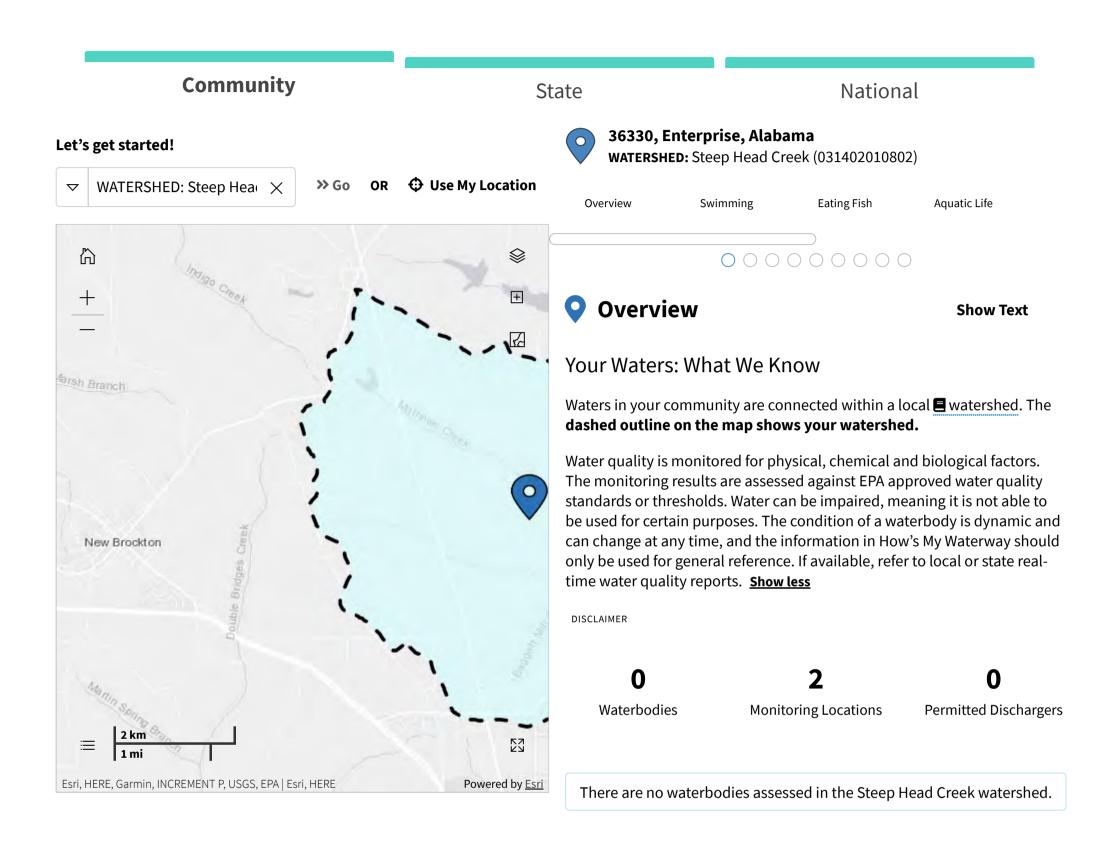
regulatory purposes.



About

# How's My Waterway?

Informing the conversation about your waters.



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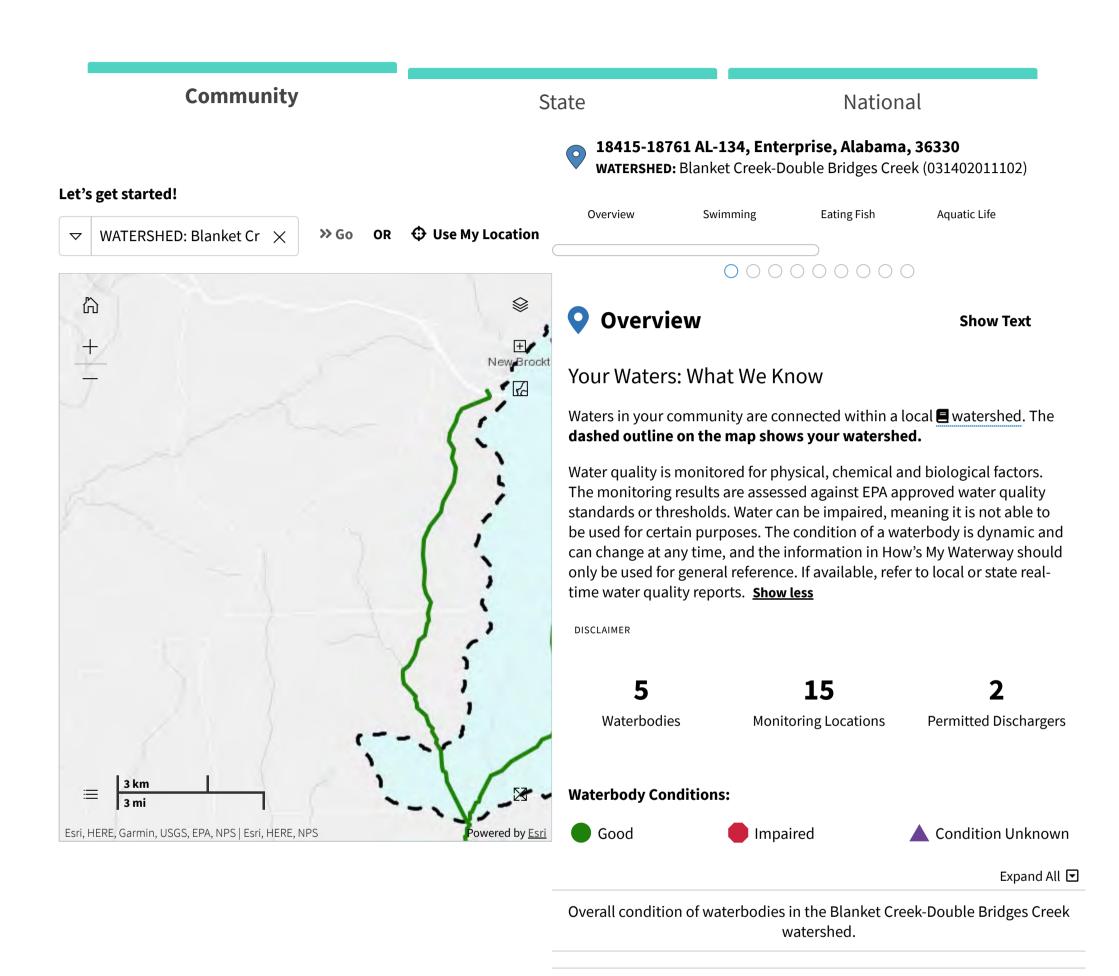
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# How's My Waterway?

Informing the conversation about your waters.



Blanket Creek

State Waterbody ID: AL03140201-1102-500

### **Double Bridges Creek**

State Waterbody ID: AL03140201-1106-100



#### Little Double Bridges Creek State Waterbody ID: AL03140201-1102-200



#### UT to Blanket Creek

State Waterbody ID: AL03140201-1102-550



#### UT to Double Bridges Creek State Waterbody ID: AL03140201-1102-900



#### Find data for this place

Search by table or column name ...

Hover for margins of error and contextual data.



#### Economics

<sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total value. Take care with this statistic.

### Income

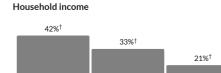
\$30,388 Per capita income

about 20 percent higher than

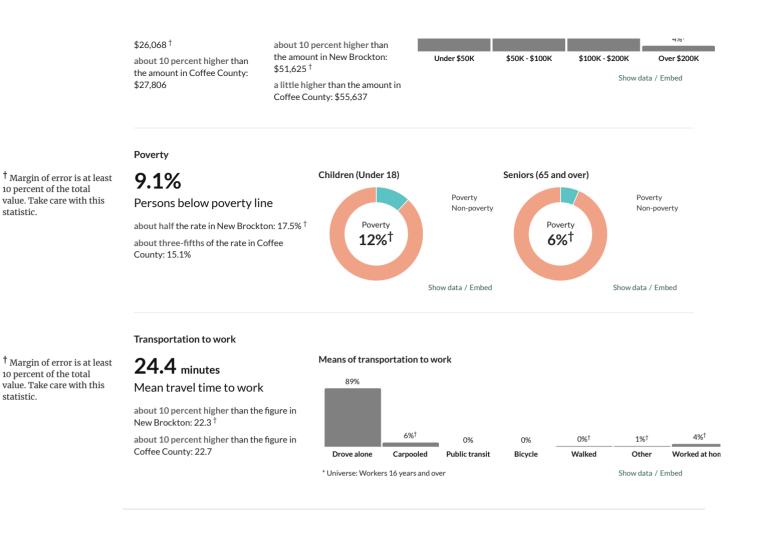
the amount in New Brockton:

### \$58,344

Median household income



10/†





statistic

statistic.

#### Households

1,833 Number of households

New Brockton: 508 Coffee County: 19,924

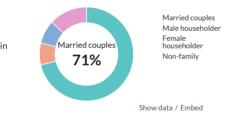
### 2.6

Persons per household

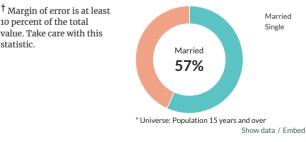
about 20 percent higher than the figure in New Brockton: 2.3

about the same as the figure in Coffee County: 2.6

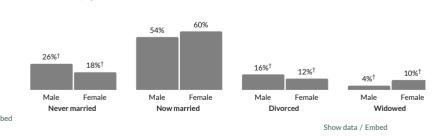
#### Population by household type



#### Marital status



#### Marital status, by sex



#### Fertility

† Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total value. Take care with this statistic.

10 percent of the total

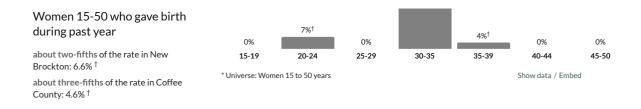
statistic.

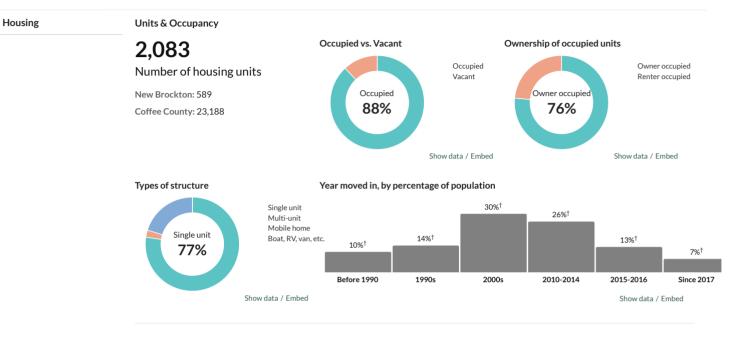
value. Take care with this



Women who gave birth during past year, by age group

34%†





## <sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least **\$1**

10 percent of the total

statistic.

value. Take care with this

<sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least

value. Take care with this

10 percent of the total

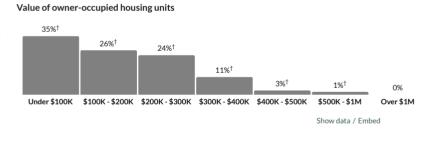
statistic.

### \$150,300

Median value of owner-occupied housing units

about 1.4 times the amount in New Brockton: \$106,500 <sup>†</sup>

about the same as the amount in Coffee County: \$147,400



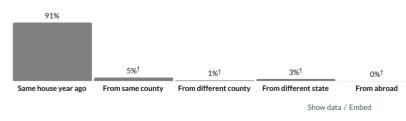
#### Geographical mobility

### 9.3%

Moved since previous year

about two-fifths of the rate in New Brockton: 21.8% <sup>†</sup> about half the rate in Coffee County: 17.8%





#### Social

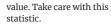
Educational attainment

<sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total 85.6%



Population by minimum level of education

35%

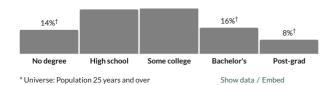


High school grad or higher

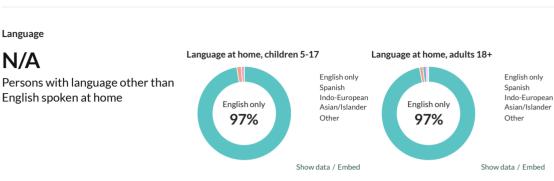
Bachelor's degree or higher

about 10 percent higher than more than 1.5 times the rate in the rate in New Brockton: 77.1% New Brockton: 14.6%<sup>†</sup>

about the same as the rate in Coffee County: 85.9%



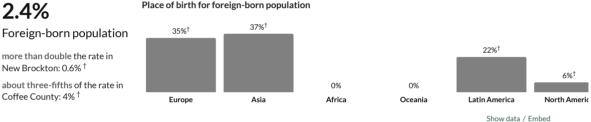
a little higher than the rate in Coffee County: 22.8%



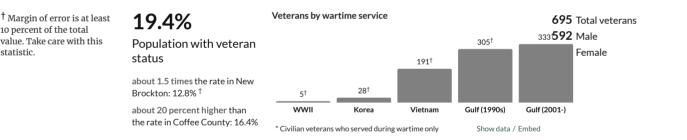
Place of birth

#### <sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total value. Take care with this statistic.

more than double the rate in New Brockton: 0.6% <sup>†</sup> about three-fifths of the rate in Place of birth for foreign-born population



Veteran status



Hover for margins of error and contextual data.

Citation: U.S. Census Bureau (2019). American Community Survey 5-year estimates. Retrieved from Census Reporter Profile page for Census Tract 103, Coffee, AL <http://censusreporter.org/profiles/14000US01031010300-census-tract-103-coffee-al/>

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10 percent of the total

statistic.

value. Take care with this

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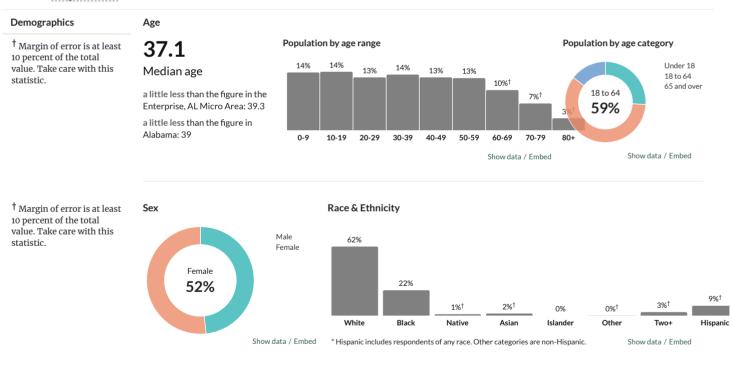
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Economics

<sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total value. Take care with this statistic.

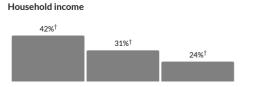
Income

\$29,585

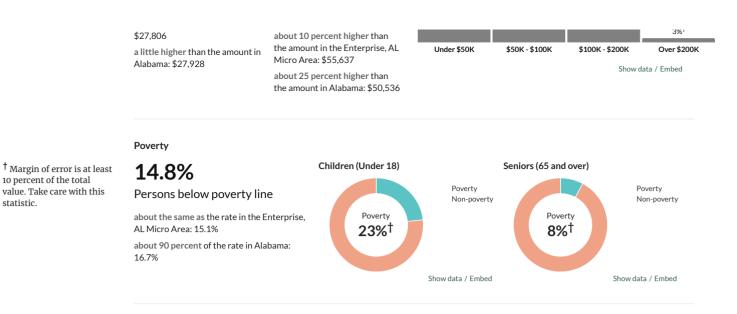
Per capita income income

a little higher than the amount in the Enterprise, AL Micro Area:

\$62,695 Median household



~~/+



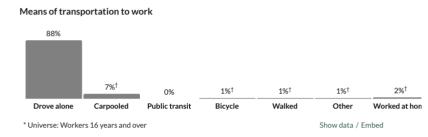
#### Transportation to work

### 20.4 minutes

Mean travel time to work

about 90 percent of the figure in the Enterprise, AL Micro Area: 22.7

about 80 percent of the figure in Alabama: 24.9



#### Families

statistic.

<sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least

value. Take care with this

10 percent of the total

statistic

## 10,744

Households

Number of households

the Enterprise, AL Micro Area: 19,924 Alabama: 1,867,893

### 2.6

Persons per household

about the same as the figure in the Enterprise, AL Micro Area: 2.6 about the same as the figure in Alabama: 2.6

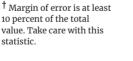
#### Population by household type



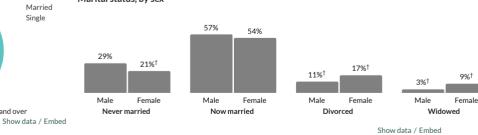
#### Marital status

Married 55%

\* Universe: Population 15 years and over







#### Fertility

† Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total value. Take care with this statistic.

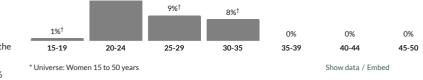


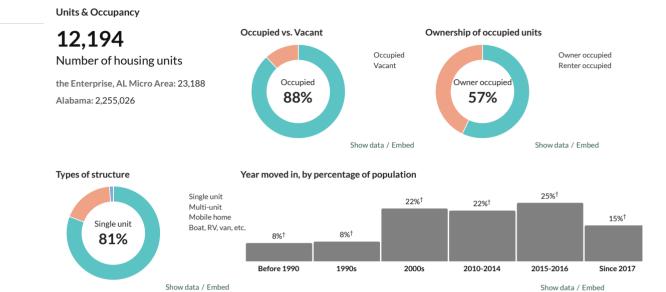
Women who gave birth during past year, by age group



#### Women 15-50 who gave birth during past year

about 10 percent higher than the rate in the Enterprise, AL Micro Area: 4.6% † a little less than the rate in Alabama: 5.3%





#### <sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total value. Take care with this statistic

<sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least

10 percent of the total

statistic.

value. Take care with this

Housing

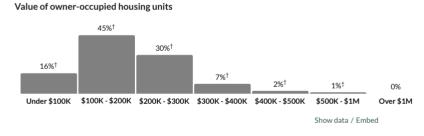
### Value

## \$170,100

Median value of owner-occupied housing units

about 20 percent higher than the amount in the Enterprise, AL Micro Area: \$147,400

about 20 percent higher than the amount in Alabama: \$142,700

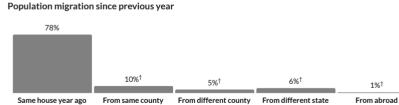


Geographical mobility

### 21.5%

Moved since previous year

about 20 percent higher than the rate in the Enterprise, AL Micro Area: 17.8% <sup>†</sup> about 1.5 times the rate in Alabama: 13.7%



Show data / Embed

1%†

#### Social

<sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total value. Take care with this statistic.

### **Educational attainment** 89.9%

High school grad or

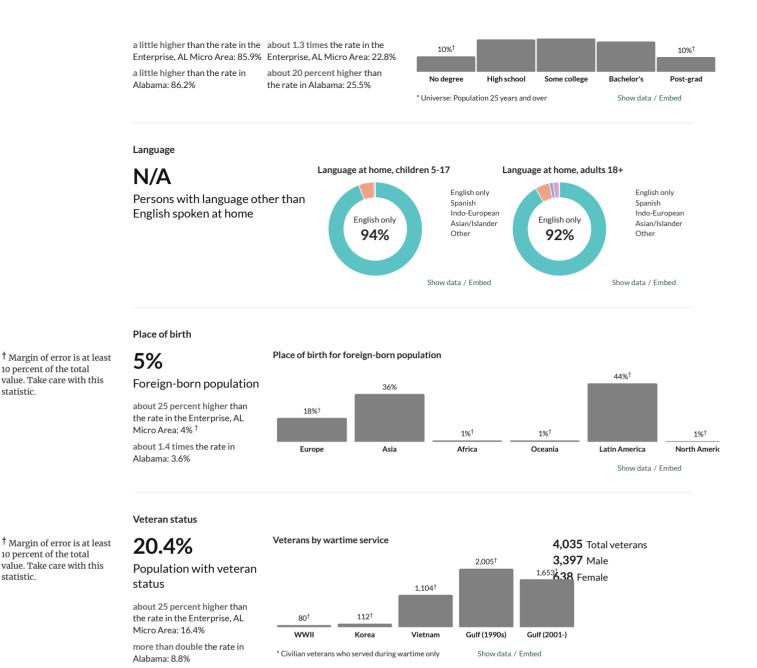
higher

### 29.8%

Bachelor's degree or higher

Population by minimum level of education





Hover for margins of error and contextual data.

Citation: U.S. Census Bureau (2019). American Community Survey 5-year estimates. Retrieved from Census Reporter Profile page for Enterprise, AL <http://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US0124184-enterprise-al/>

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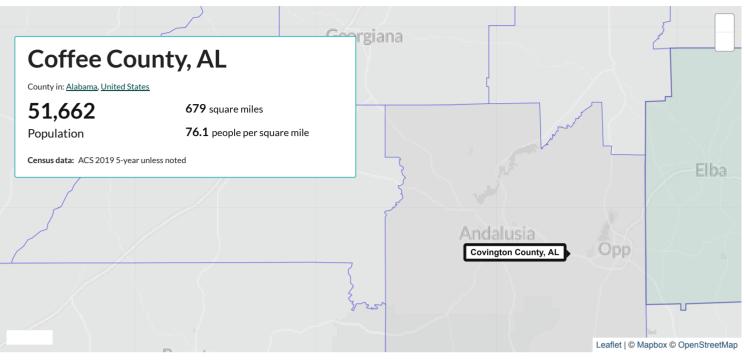
statistic.

statistic

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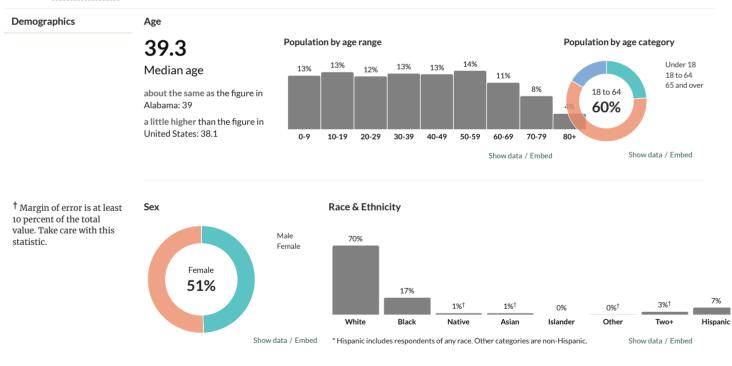
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### Economics

<sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total value. Take care with this statistic.

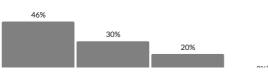
### Income

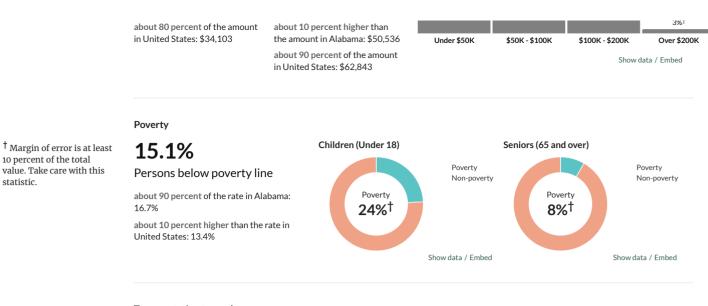
**\$27,806** Per capita income

about the same as the amount in Alabama: \$27,928 \$55,637

Median household income

Household income





### Transportation to work

† Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total value. Take care with this statistic.

10 percent of the total

statistic.

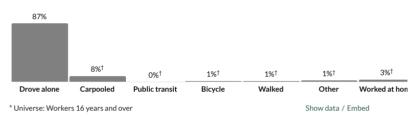
# 22.7 minutes

Mean travel time to work

about 90 percent of the figure in Alabama: 24.9

about 80 percent of the figure in United States: 26.9

### Means of transportation to work



### Families

Households

# 19,924

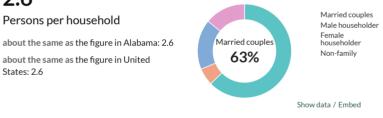
Number of households

Alabama: 1.867.893 United States: 120,756,048

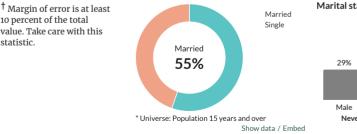
# 2.6

Persons per household about the same as the figure in Alabama: 2.6

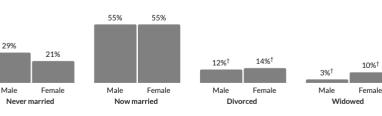
### Population by household type



### Marital status



### Marital status, by sex



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### Fertility

<sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total value. Take care with this statistic.

10 percent of the total

statistic.

value. Take care with this

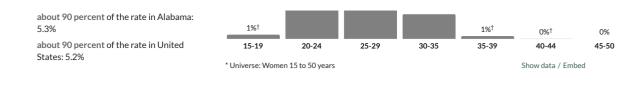
# 4.6%

Women 15-50 who gave birth during past year

### Women who gave birth during past year, by age group



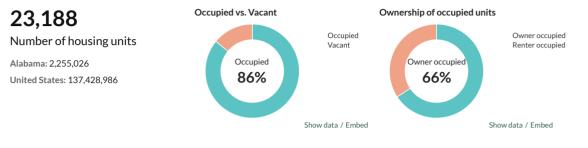
7%†



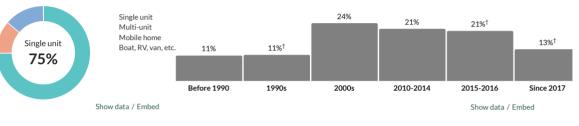
### Housing

Units & Occupancy

Types of structure



### Year moved in, by percentage of population



### Value

<sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total value. Take care with this statistic.

<sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total

value. Take care with this

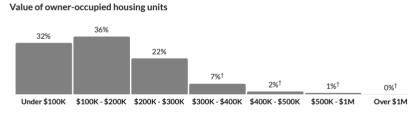
statistic

# \$147,400

Median value of owner-occupied housing units

a little higher than the amount in Alabama: \$142,700

about two-thirds of the amount in United States: \$217,500



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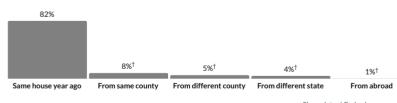
### Geographical mobility

17.8%

Moved since previous year

about 1.3 times the rate in Alabama: 13.7% about 25 percent higher than the rate in United States: 14.2%





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### Social

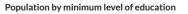
<sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total value. Take care with this statistic. Educational attainment

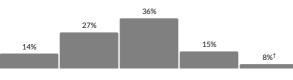
# 85.9%

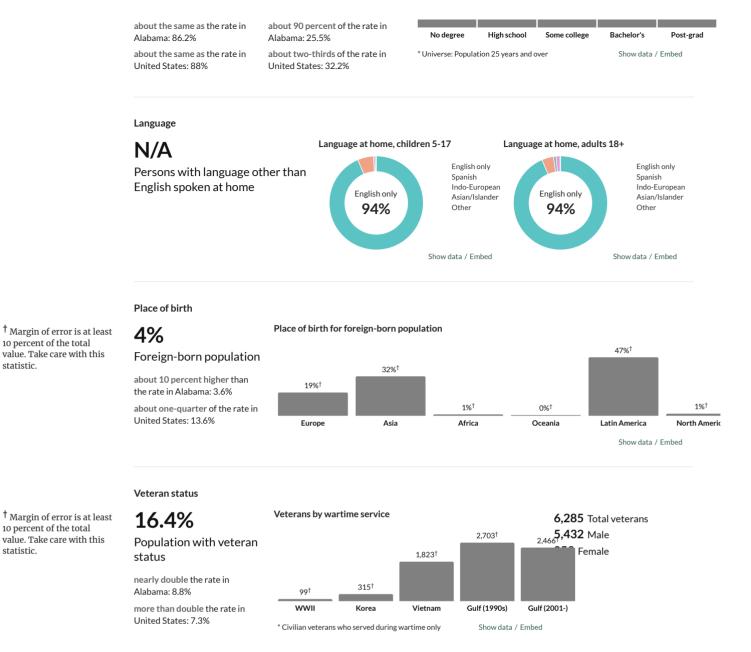
High school grad or higher

# 22.8%

Bachelor's degree or higher







Hover for margins of error and contextual data.

Citation: U.S. Census Bureau (2019). American Community Survey 5-year estimates. Retrieved from Census Reporter Profile page for Coffee County, AL <http://censusreporter.org/profiles/05000US01031-coffee-county-al/>

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statistic.

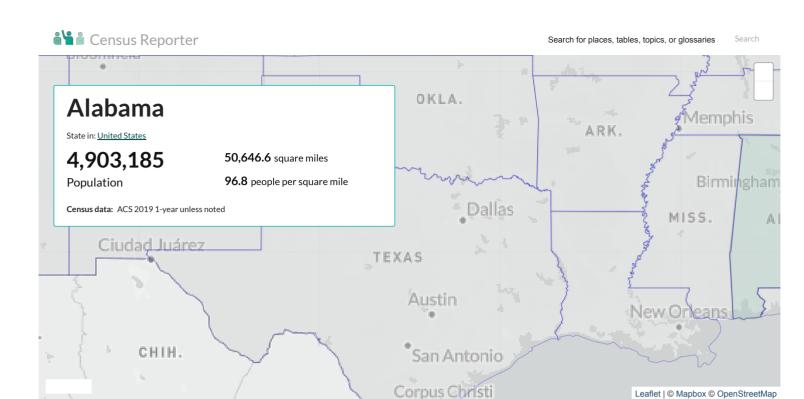
statistic

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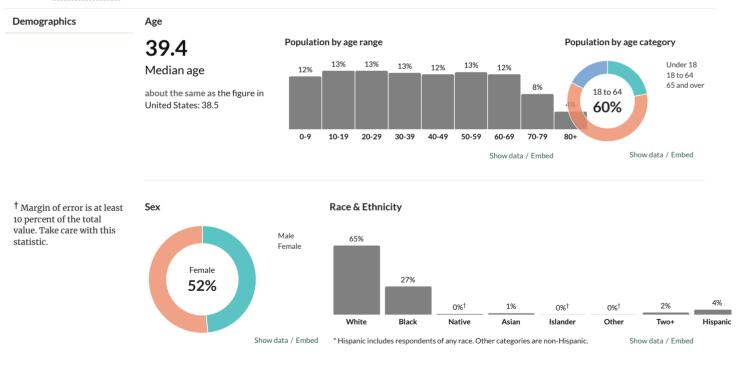
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Find data for this place

Search by table or column name ...

Hover for margins of error and contextual data.



Economics

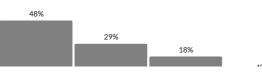
Income

## **\$28,650** Per capita income

**\$51,734** Median household

income

Household income



about 80 percent of the amount in United States: \$35,672



### Transportation to work

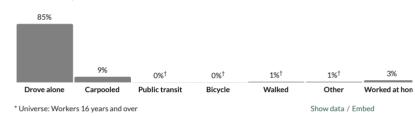
<sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total value. Take care with this statistic.



Mean travel time to work

about 90 percent of the figure in United States: 27.6

### Means of transportation to work

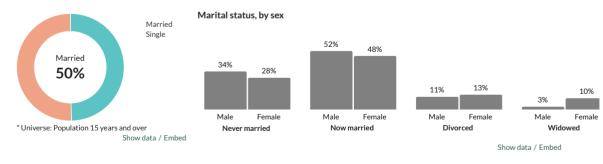


### Families

Households



### Marital status



### Fertility

<sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total

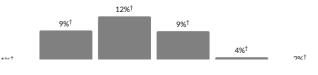
value. Take care with this

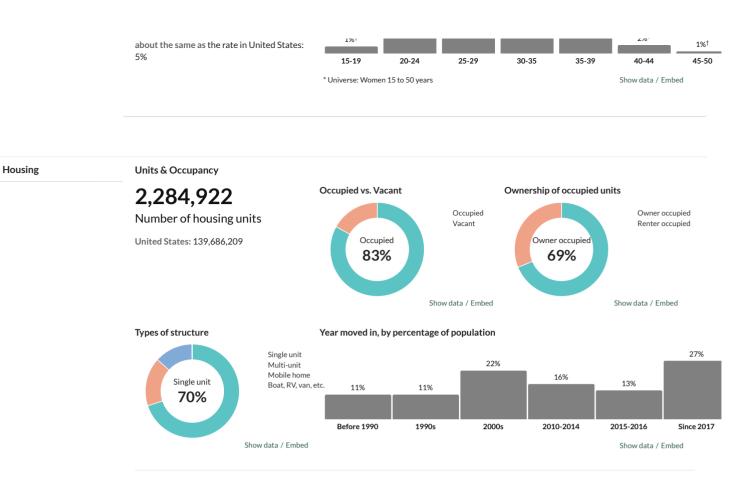
statistic.

# 5.1%

Women 15-50 who gave birth during past year

### Women who gave birth during past year, by age group





### Value

<sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least

value. Take care with this

<sup>†</sup> Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total

value. Take care with this

statistic.

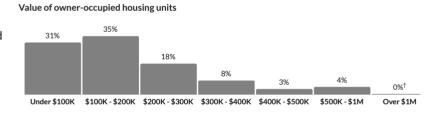
10 percent of the total

statistic.

# \$154,000

Median value of owner-occupied housing units

about two-thirds of the amount in United States: \$240,500



Show data / Embed

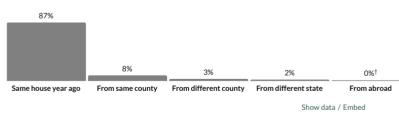
Geographical mobility

# 13.4%

Moved since previous year

about the same as the rate in United States: 13.7%

### Population migration since previous year



Social

**Educational attainment** 

# 87.1%

High school grad or higher

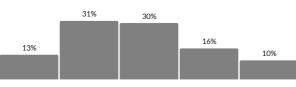
about the same as the rate in United States: 88.6% about 80 percent of the rate in United States: 33.1%

Bachelor's degree or

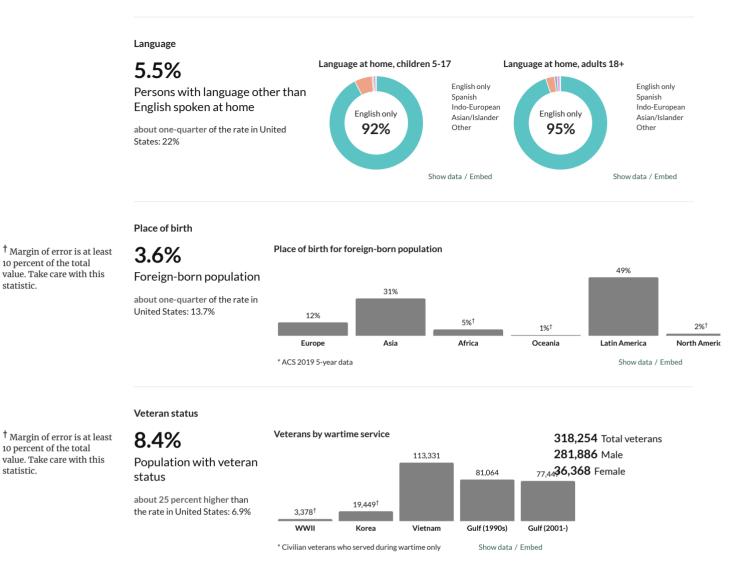
26.4%

higher

Population by minimum level of education



\* Universe: Population 25 years and over



Hover for margins of error and contextual data.

This profile displays data from more than one ACS release. Charts not derived from ACS 2019 1-year data are noted with an \*.

Citation: U.S. Census Bureau (2019). American Community Survey 1-year estimates. Retrieved from Census Reporter Profile page for Alabama <http://censusreporter.org/profiles/04000US01-alabama/>

Citation: U.S. Census Bureau (2019). American Community Survey 5-year estimates. Retrieved from Census Reporter Profile page for Alabama <http://censusreporter.org/profiles/04000US01-alabama/>

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statistic.

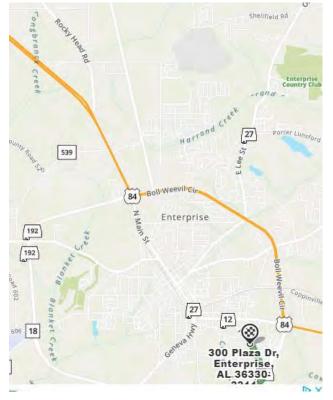
statistic.

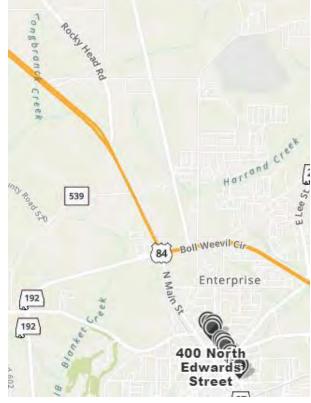
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# **MEDICAL FACILITIES**





### Search Results:

Enterprise Health & Rehabilitation 300 Plaza Drive P.O. Box 311227 Enterprise, AL 36330 View Map Phone: 334-347-9541 Link: Enterprise Health and Rehabilitation Website

Medical Center Enterprise ?400 N Edwards Street Enterprise, AL 36330 View Map Phone: 334-347-0584 Link: Medical Center Enterprise Website Enterprise Health and Rehabilitation has 257 Medicare- and Medicaid-certified beds, private rooms available along with a full in-house rehabilitation with physical (PT), occupational (OT) and speech therapy (ST). There is convenient parking for visitors and guests and a 24hour registered nurse (RN).

Medical Center Enterprise is a 131-bed progressive, acute care hospital offering a range of inpatient, outpatient, and medical and surgical care to Enterprise, Fort Rucker, Coffee County and surrounding areas. At Medical Center Enterprise, skilled professionals and technology come together to provide patients with compassionate, customer-focused care.





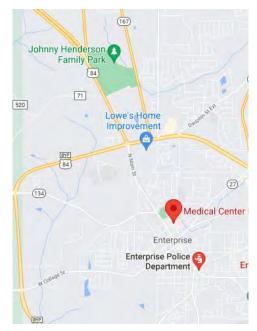
1 - 2 of 2 Listings

1 - 2 of 2 Listings

# POLICE

### Contact Us

Darrell Griswold Captain Email CPT Griswold Phone: 334-347-1211, ext. 2216





# ENTERPRISE RESCUE AMBULANCE SERVICE



### FIRE

Byron Herring Fire Chief Email Byron Herring Phone: 334-348-2641



### **OTHER INFORMATION**

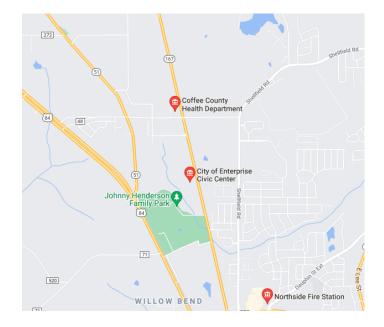
### Health Department/Environmental Services

Coffee County Health Department 2841 Neal Metcalf Road Enterprise, Alabama 36330 Office: (334) 347-9574 Fax: (334) 347-7104

### Home Health Office

2841 Neal Metcalf Road Enterprise, Alabama 36330 Office: (334) 347-9576 On Call 1-850-563-1916 Fax: (334) 347-3124

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# APPENDIX D: Public Involvement