

**U. S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
FORT LAWTON VETERANS CEMETERY
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

The Department of the Army operates the Fort Lawton Military Cemetery. It is adjacent to Discovery Park, 5 miles Northwest of downtown Seattle, Washington, in King County. The Department of the Army is transferring the cemetery to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The VA's National Cemetery Administration would be responsible for continued maintenance and operation of the cemetery. The 4.4-acre cemetery contains 940 occupied gravesites.

The proposed action is to transfer ownership and responsibilities for operations and maintenance of the Ft. Lawton Military Cemetery, Seattle, Washington, from the Department of the Army to the Department of Veterans Affairs. The initial action would include evaluation of the cemetery to meet National Environmental Policy Act requirements and to determine what activities will be necessary to have the cemetery meet the VA's National Cemetery Standards. Detailed requirements would then be written to address any cemetery needs.

Both an Environmental Site Assessment and a Cultural Resource Survey of the proposed site were completed with no adverse effects identified related to the cemetery transfer between US Army and Department of VA. The land transfer does not constitute a major Federal action that would have a significant impact upon the quality of the human environment within the meaning of Section 102(2c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and VA's environmental requirements.

This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been prepared as a result of the Final Environmental Assessment. It was completed in accordance with the regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act. An Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Copies of the Final EA and NOA are available for public review at Tahoma National Cemetery, and Magnolia Branch, Seattle Public Library, 2801 34th Avenue West Seattle Washington and the VA website: www.cem.va.gov/ea.asp for further information please contact ATTN: Ms. Jill Schattel, NCA Environmental Engineer, 425 I Street NW, Washington DC 20001. Phone (202) 815-9682. Email: Jill.Schattel@va.gov