



FUTURE - DENVER VA MEDICAL CENTER - AURORA, COLORADO

PROJECT EAGLE UPDATE

June, 2011

While the final design of the new facility is being reviewed by a number of entities, the Project Eagle Team is focusing on identifying the furniture, fixtures and equipment needed for each room and space. This list includes everything from clocks on the wall to MRI machines for radiology. The process should take approximately 8-10 months to complete the list, identify the costs, and develop the specifications for the purchase of each item. In a parallel process, the Project Eagle Team, the Associate Director and the Director are working with three other large VA hospitals that are currently being designed and constructed (Orlando, New Orleans, and Las Vegas). The VA has not constructed this many projects at one time since the mid to late 1980s. Various funding models are being developed to try to determine a fair and equitable way to provide money to not only these four facilities but those facilities that are currently in early planning stages.

Funds to purchase the furniture, fixtures, and equipment along with the funds to hire new employees to work in these larger facilities are referred to as "activation funding". These funds will be used to take the building from bricks and mortar to a fully functioning medical center. The increased number of private inpatient rooms, procedure rooms, x-ray rooms and offices all add to the list of equipment and furniture needed. Currently the four medical centers are comparing the cost and equipment needed in four common rooms: exam room, inpatient room, operating room, and office.

Within the current economic climate the necessity to identify a variety of funding models is imperative. A second set of meetings is being held in Washington, DC the week of May 31, 2011 to continue to develop a fiscal model to activate VA construction projects in the most efficient way possible. The outcome of these meetings will be included in future updates.

Respectfully,

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Public Affairs Officer
VA ECHCS



