

**Status of the Feasibility Study and Next Steps**  
**Southern California Veterans Cemetery**  
**Provided by: California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet)**

**May 2016**

**Authority:** The Legislature hereby appropriates five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) from the General Fund to the Department of Veterans Affairs for completion of the preliminary or conceptual design work required during the preapplication phase of the grant proposal described in Section 4 of this act.

Components of the Feasibility Study: Percentages are based on the established schedule:

**Task #1 Site Characteristics Report: 100% Complete**

**Task #2 Develop Pre Schematic Sketches 100% Complete**

**Task #3 Site Analysis Plans 100% Complete**

**Task #4 Concept Plan Report Preparation 80% Complete**

**Final Steps: June 1, 2016 thru June 24, 2016**

- DGS to prepare an official state estimate for use with the Department of Finance and Legislature and local community.
- CalVet and DGS to develop a USDVA budget document for inclusion in the pre-application grant package.
- CalVet to prepare pre-application grant application with all associated documentation by July 1, 2016

The Department and the local community will know the potential cost of the cemetery and the required states share (states share is comprised of funds generated from the state, the local community, established foundations and donations) which will be required to be raised. This effort can begin immediately.

**Next Steps:**

- The State Cemetery Grants Program (SCGP) evaluates preapplications and advises the state whether the proposed project meets the requirements for funding. **Fall 2016**
- Each successful applicant (the State) receives a letter stating that their project meets the requirements for participation in the program and an explanation that the project will be prioritized in the next fiscal year, or a succeeding year, if funds are not available to fund all the projects that meet the requirements. **Fall 2016**
- Relying on this letter from VA, these applicants (states) begin the design phase of the project by using State funds to secure the architectural and engineering (A&E) services needed. VA requires a "pre-design" conference at the site to orient all parties, especially the A&E team, to VA's design standards and plan review requirements. **(once funds have been raised)**
- Applicants must comply with requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act and the National Historic Preservation Act before a grant may be made. This is conducted during the design phase. **(occurs during the preliminary plan and working drawing phases)**