



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
National Cemetery Administration
Washington, DC 20420

March 15, 2017

Laura Hare Charitable Trust
c/o Dr. Lenore Tedesco

Dear Ms. Tedesco:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) shares your commitment to provide burial options for Indianapolis-area Veterans and their families and to do what is best for Veterans and the Indianapolis community. As you know, VA has engaged in extensive communication efforts with parties who have expressed interest or concern about this project, to include public notifications required by the NEPA process, community meetings and site tours. In response to the concerns raised, and at considerable expense, we made significant modifications to the project plan to retain groves of mature trees at the Crown Hill site.

In our recent communications, you indicated the Laura Hare Trust is willing to assist VA in identifying a "no-harm alternative" to the current site at Crown Hill. The Trust also indicates in a November 14, 2016, letter that it "believes there are available alternative sites, including within the Crown Hill Cemetery property, which can better serve the VA, Crown Hill and the community."

To permit VA to determine whether a proposed alternative site would suit our needs and whether the associated transaction process has any potential for timely consideration, I am requesting you provide the following information regarding a proposed alternative site:

1. A legal description of the proposed alternative site, preferably with an aerial map or satellite view. The proposed site must be of comparable size to the Crown Hill site. Similar to the Crown Hill site, any proposed alternative site should offer a separate entrance from a suitable right of way and enough space for a road network that will accommodate large funeral processions that will not conflict with non-Veteran related activity. Photographs of the proposed site are optional but would be useful.
2. Evidence that the proposed site is suitable for development as a cemetery, including appropriate zoning.
3. A signed, notarized letter of intent from the current owner to sell the property at fair market appraised valuation or to donate the land to VA and permission to access the site for evaluation purposes.

Page 2.

Laura Hare Charitable Trust

4. Evidence of the Trust's ability to provide financial resources for "necessary provision to make the VA whole with regards to this transaction" as stated in your November 14, 2016, letter.

Please understand this request is exploratory in nature and does not reflect a change in VA's current intention to proceed with development of the Crown Hill site.

In order to proceed in a timely fashion, we would appreciate your formal written response along with the requested information no later than one week from the date of this letter. If there is no viable and acceptable alternative at that time we plan to proceed with the project. You may send your response by e-mail to me at Glenn.Powers@va.gov and Mr. Michael Roth at Michael.Roth@va.gov.

Respectfully,



Glenn R. Powers
Deputy Under Secretary
for Field Programs and Cemetery Operation