

Office of Public Affairs Media Relations (310) 268-3340 VHAGLAPublicAffairs@va.gov

## **Media Advisory**

April 13, 2018 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Safe Parking for Veterans**

LOS ANGELES- VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (VAGLAHS) is honored and grateful to partner with Safe Parking L.A., affording eligible Veterans who are experiencing homelessness an opportunity to sleep safely in their vehicles on the West L.A. campus, thereby facilitating access to the supportive services necessary to complete their transition into permanent housing. "Partnerships like this help to further our mission of facilitating a 'no wrong door' approach. Not only can our Veterans who are sleeping in their cars feel secure at night, but Safe Parking on the West LA campus facilitates access to wrap around supportive services, bringing us one step closer to ending Veteran homelessness" said Heidi Marston, Director of Community Engagement and Reintegration at VAGLAHS. This arrangement will start small with approximately 10 parking spaces but may grow as demand increases. "This is phenomenal news, demonstrating the VA's commitment to serving our homeless veterans," said Councilmember Mike Bonin. "This is a huge step in a long-term goal of restoring the historic campus to its original intent as a community for Veterans, particularly the most vulnerable Veterans "said Vets Advocacy, Executive Director, Jesse Creed. VA remains committed to revitalizing the campus to a 21st Century, state-of-the-art home for our Veterans. For more information on Safe Parking L.A. visit their website: https://www.safeparkingla.org/.

**What:** Department of Veterans Affairs Announces Safe Parking for Veterans

When: Monday, April 23, 2018 at 8:00pm

Where: VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System

North Campus –Bldg. 224 11301 Wilshire Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90073

**RSVP:** Interested Media should RSVP to <u>VHAGLAPublicAffairs@va.gov</u> to confirm.

<u>ABOUT VAGLAHS</u>: VAGLAHS is one component of the VA Desert Pacific Healthcare Network (VISN22) offering services to Veterans residing in Southern California. VA continues its dedication to remaining transparent, to ensure that the community is kept informed about all land use agreements on the West Los Angeles Campus, consistent with the Veteran-Focused ethos of the Draft Master Plan. Your ongoing support and feedback is critical to our success as we progress with all things Master Plan related. For the most up-to-date information, please visit <a href="www.losangeles.va.gov/masterplan">www.losangeles.va.gov/masterplan</a>. For questions or comments, please contact <a href="www.losangeles.va.gov/masterplan">WHAGLAMasterPlan@va.gov</a>. Veterans in need can call the VA hotline toll-free at 877-4-AID-VET.