



THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON

September 12, 2014

The Honorable Mary Landrieu  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Landrieu:

I am pleased to inform you that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is awarding a grant in the amount of \$7,328,600 for 100 percent of allowable costs associated with the establishment of the Northeast Louisiana Veterans Cemetery in Rayville, Louisiana (FAI: LA-07-03). The State of Louisiana submitted a formal Application for Federal Assistance for the project on August 4, 2014.

This grant will fund the construction of a main entrance, an administration building, a maintenance facility, roads, an assembly area, a committal shelter, preplaced crypts, cremains burial areas, a memorial wall and scatter burial area, columbaria, landscaping, a memorial walkway, and supporting infrastructure. The project will develop approximately 22 acres. The construction will include 754 preplaced crypts, 168 cremains gravesites, and 400 columbarium niches.

This grant will help the state provide enhanced services for 31,397 Veterans and their families in Louisiana. The closest national cemetery is Alexandria National Cemetery in Alexandria, Louisiana, which is approximately 104 miles away. The closest state Veterans cemetery is Northwest Louisiana Veterans Cemetery in Keithville, Louisiana, which is approximately 136 miles away.

The Memorandum of Agreement is being sent to the Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs, Mr. David LaCerte, the official representative of the state for this federally-assisted project. A similar letter is also being sent to the House and Senate leaders of the Veterans' Affairs Committees and the Appropriations Subcommittees.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert A. McDonald".

Robert A. McDonald

SEP 16 '14 PM 3:52



THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON

Proposed 12-2014

10/10/14

Mr. [Name]  
[Address]  
[City, State, ZIP]

Dear Mr. [Name]:

On August 4, 2014, the State of Louisiana submitted a formal application for Federal Assistance for the project on August 4, 2014.

The project consists of the construction of a main entrance, an administration building, a parking lot, an assembly area, a memorial wall, and a scatter burial area. The project also includes a memorial walkway and supporting infrastructure. The project will include approximately 25 acres. The construction will include 104,000 cubic yards of earthwork, 400 cubic yards of concrete, and 400 cubic yards of steel.

The grant will also provide enhanced services for 31,387 Veterans and their families in Louisiana. The closest national cemetery is Alexandria National Cemetery, which is approximately 104 miles away. The closest state veterans cemetery is Northwest Louisiana Veterans Cemetery in Keithville, Louisiana, which is approximately 136 miles away.

The Department of Veterans Affairs is being sent to the Secretary of the Louisiana State Board of Veterans' Affairs for their review and approval.

Subcommittee

Respectfully,

Robert A. McDonald