

Answers to RFI Questions provided by the Government

Solicitation #VA250-13-B-0205 – Renovate Pulmonary Sleep Lab

1. **Question:** On drawing AF109F is the sleep room #4 to have the WSF-1 floor cover like the other Sleep rooms? (not marked on finish drawing)
 - **A:** Yes. Sleep Room #4 (Room #A939A) is to received Floor finish WSF-1 flooring similar to the other Sleep Rooms.
2. **Question:** What is on the eight floor under the area where we are to install new plumbing Lines?
 - **A:** The 8th floor below houses outpatient substance abuse clinics. Therapy rooms, group meeting rooms, etc. VA Confirmed with Addition of Resident Bedrooms.
3. **Question:** Do you have pictures of the above ceiling on the 8th. Floor in the areas of the new plumbing lines tie-ins, to show what is in spaces for pipes?
 - **A:** See attached photos of 8th Floor above-ceiling photos.
4. **Question:** Will the Eight Floor be occupied during each of the three phases of work on the ninth floor?
 - **A:** The 8th floor is to be occupied during all 9th floor construction phases.
5. **Question:** Will there need to be any temporary walls on the 8th. Floor for the plumbing tie-ins?
 - **A:** Every attempt was made during the design process to minimize the length of sloped sanitary piping above the eight floor ceiling, therefore much of the work is in small clusters scattered about the floor plan. Consequently, much of the work above the eight floor ceiling takes place in individual rooms/offices with a couple of locations in unenclosed, public locations. The Contractor should verify with the CVAMC Project Engineer any temporary requirements to complete all work above the eight floor ceiling.
6. **Question:** What are the dimensions and weight limit of the freight elevator?
 - **A:** ~VA Freight Elevator capacity is 5,000 lbs.
~VA Freight Elevator Reference Dimensions are shown on Architectural Drawings.
7. **Question:** Is the material staging area sheltered from the outside elements (rain, snow, etc.)?
 - **A:** The area atop the existing 9th floor roof identified as a potential material staging area (see Note 3, Sheet AS101) is exposed to the outside elements.
8. **Question:** What was the architects purposed means or method to getting the material, more specifically the steel, to the ninth floor?
 - **A:** Potential means of material transport envisioned include use of a mobile crane and/or the existing freight elevators. Feasibility of any and all means and methods to be determined by the GC and approved by the VA.

9. **Question:** What is the existing wall construction?
- **A:** Nearly all of the interior walls are CMU with veneer plaster. Areas of drywall system materials occur in renovated bathroom areas.
10. **Question:** Do all the existing walls go to the structural deck above?
- **A:** Nearly all of the interior walls terminate just above the finish ceilings.
11. **Question:** Are the existing HM Door Frames Grouted?
- **A:** HM Door Frames are only Grouted in Masonry Walls.
12. **Question:** Is the Plaster Ceiling & Metal Support system above the Acoustic Ceiling?
- **A:** The existing plaster ceiling does not extend above the existing acoustic ceiling. The existing metal support framing extend over the entire area of renovation. Refer to Demolition Plan, Sheet AD109.
13. **Question:** How thick is the existing roof insulation at the new addition?
- **A:** The roof insulation thickness varies. Based on cursory field investigation, the existing concrete roof deck is highest along the North/South center ridge and then slopes down to the East and to the West edges. The center is assumed to be ¼" above the finished 9th floor slab. The East and West edges are assumed to be 1-1/2" below the finished 9th floor slab.
14. **Question:** What is the size and capacity of the Freight elevator?
- **A:** ~VA Freight Elevator capacity is 5,000 lbs.
~VA Freight Elevator Reference Dimensions are shown on Architectural Drawings.
15. **Question:** Will a trash chute be able to be utilized for this project?
- **A:** VA Trash Chute cannot be used during the Construction.
16. **Question:** What are existing ceiling finishes on 8th floor under the project area?
- **A:** We believe the existing ceiling on the 8th floor under the project area is lay-in ceiling tiles. Ceilings are ACT-Lay in Ceiling Tile.
17. **Question:** How old is the building?
- **A:** The original construction drawings are dated February, 1950. Building was constructed in the early 1950's.
18. **Question:** How thick and what type of construction is the structural floor deck between the 8th & 9th Floors?
- **A:** The inside slabs are 4 ½" thick.

19. **Question:** There look to be several mechanical chases on the demolition floor plan. Do these go through the floor? If so do we need to maintain fire rating between floors? Please provide a detail on how they should be in-filled.
- **A:** There are two HVAC chases through the floor that are remaining in the project and would not need filled. All floor penetrations must be repaired to maintain a 2-hour fire rating.
20. **Question:** When is this project scheduled to start?
- **A:** Stated in Solicitation for number of days after award.
21. **Question:** Will the existing roof at the new addition need to remain weather tight during construction?
- **A:** The 8th floor below is an occupied space and must remain weathertight for the duration of the 9th floor work.
22. **Question:** Should there be 2 horizontal grab bars and 1 vertical grab bars at each toilet per ADA requirements?
- **A:** No. VA projects are to comply with the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standard (ABAAS) as modified by the VA Barrier Free Design Guide. Configure grab bars types and locations as shown.
23. **Question:** On Sheet A401 Enlarged plan D toilet A939D doesn't show soap or paper towel dispenser, but in elevation 10 on this sheet is shows the soap and paper towel dispensers. Which is correct?
- **A:** Elevation 10 is correct.
24. **Question:** Can we get more information on the requirement of the patient monitoring system that is called to be relocated. What happens to it after the project?
- **A:** VA provided access to the Control Room during Site Visit for Contractor to Review. Any VA Equipment that will be replaced will be turned back over to VA-Logistics.
25. **Question:** The abatement spec refers to room numbers. Can we get a drawing showing the existing room numbers?
- **A:** Attached is a Partial Existing 9th Floor Plan which includes existing room numbers. A reference plan is also included in the Limited Asbestos Survey. See attached VA Existing Floor Plan with Room #'s.
26. **Question:** Are we to assume no prior asbestos flooring remains under the Ceramic Tile floors to be removed?
- **A:** Only non-destructive testing was performed, so no information was provided as to any material under existing ceramic floors. Yes. VA will submit Asbestos Survey.

27. **Question:** Note 19 to demo the existing parapet walls on AD109 refers you 1b/A311. 1b/A311 only shows the new wall at the location of the removed parapet wall it does not show you the existing condition as it refers to. Can we get a section of the existing parapet wall to be removed?

- **A:** Refer to attached Sheet #I-27 circa 1950. Section #1 provides details of the adjacent west exterior wall. The parapet condition shown is assumed to be similar to the parapet to be removed.

28. **Question:** There is approx. 3050 sqft of plaster ceilings to be removed. In the abatement specs 028211 and 028213.13 it talks about quantities of brown duct insulation and pipe insulation that needs to be abated above certain areas of the plaster ceiling. The quantities of abatement materials are not close to the quantity of plaster ceiling called to be removed. Are we to assume that the plaster ceiling with the exception of the few areas mentioned in the abatement specs is clean and can be removed as normal construction debris?

- **A:** Hard plaster ceiling sample test results read "no asbestos detected" per the Limited Asbestos Survey. Yes. VA will submit Asbestos Survey