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French Camp has been selected as the location for an outpatient clinic and nursing home for veterans.

Rep. Jerry McNerney, D-Pleasanton, announced in an email late Wednesday afternoon that a 52-acre site north of San Joaquin General Hospital was selected for the clinic and nursing home. It will be just west of Interstate 5.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs selected the French Camp location after announcing two years ago that it would be somewhere in San Joaquin County, McNerney said in a news release.

"I'm excited to announce that San Joaquin County's new medical facility for veterans has a final home," McNerney said in a news release. "At last, the Department of Veterans Affairs reached a decision on the facility's location within the county. Our entire area will benefit from the hundreds of jobs this project creates and our veterans will be able to get medical care close to home."

The 120-bed skilled nursing facility, which VA officials call a "community living center," is scheduled to open in 2018, according to VA spokesman Michael Hill-Jackson. Construction will begin in 2014 or 2015, depending on funding availability, Hill-Jackson said.

McNerney credited many local elected officials, including the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors and local veterans, for strongly advocating for the medical center and nursing home.

McNerney said he frequently met with current and former veterans affairs secretaries during the past few years, and hosted a visit from the former chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to see the area first-hand.