



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Office of the Deputy Director

Washington, DC 20535-0001

February 8, 2019

Ms. Emily Murphy
Administrator
General Services Administration
1800 F. Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20405

Dear Ms. Murphy,

As you are aware, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has been exploring various paths to obtaining a new Headquarters building for a number of years. Most recently, after the July 10, 2017 cancellation of the original procurement for a new FBI Headquarters building and the expiration of related land purchase option agreements, the FBI decided to revalidate the project's requirements, as it had been a decade since the original requirements were developed. This "reset period" enabled the FBI to look at the project anew and reexamine the proposed size and location. The FBI reached out to Maryland, Virginia and the District for ideas, and also began to evaluate the feasibility of staying at the FBI's current Pennsylvania Avenue (J. Edgar Hoover (JEH) building) site.

After careful consideration, the FBI decided that demolishing and rebuilding the Pennsylvania Avenue facility best balanced the equities at stake for the organization. While a suburban campus would have offered certain advantages, maintaining the FBI's current location addressed several equally significant concerns, including the proximity to FBI partners, transportation concerns, and reduced land acquisition and parking costs.

In addition, predating and concurrent to the New Headquarters procurement process, the FBI initiated several projects, including the construction of a new Data Center in Pocatello, Idaho, renovations to better utilize space within the Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division facility in Clarksburg, West Virginia, and the establishment of a campus at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama. These projects enabled the FBI to strategically realign its Headquarters workforce, thereby reducing the size of the Headquarters footprint and making a rebuild on the JEH site more viable. The FBI also concluded, in coordination with GSA, that security concerns could be mitigated sufficiently to permit erection of a Level V facility at the Pennsylvania Avenue site.

In sum, while the FBI's requirements have evolved over the past decade, the need for a modern facility that adequately supports the FBI's complex and increasingly technology dependent mission still exists. We believe that the construction of a secure, technologically advanced facility in the current location -- near mission partners and multiple forms of transit -- will best meet the FBI's need. I look forward to continuing to work with you and your dedicated GSA team to bring this project to fruition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul M. Abbate".

Paul M. Abbate
Associate Deputy Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation