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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

RICHARD M. RUSSELL, MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR
GABRIELLE BATKIN, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

December 1, 2017

Dan Mathews
Commissioner, Public Buildings Service
General Services Administration
1800 F St. NW
Washington, DC 20405

Dear Commissioner Mathews:

On August 2, 2017, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee (EPW) held a hearing titled “FBI Headquarters Consolidation Project – What Happened and What’s Next.” The hearing was called to examine why the General Services Administration (GSA) cancelled the FBI headquarters project in July, 2017 after 12 years of insisting that the FBI needed the new headquarters because the current headquarters building was dangerous, obsolete, inefficient and incapable of meeting the FBI’s current security or operational needs.


During the hearing, GSA’s then-Acting Public Buildings and Services Commissioner and the FBI agreed to return to Congress within 120 days with a plan for the FBI headquarters. The deadline for this report is November 30, but the Committee, at your request, is willing to consider extending the deadline by 60 days to ensure that you have sufficient time to consider different financing options for the project.

Consistent with your request for delay, we ask that you include in the report the following:

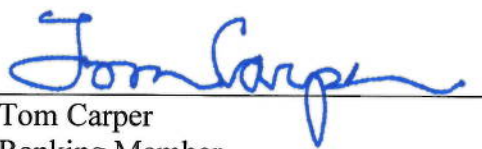
- Need and feasibility;
- Space utilization;
- Facility and parking requirements;
- Location and site considerations;
- A description and explanation of each acquisition strategy—with detailed benefits and disadvantages for each—, including but not limited to: an operating lease, federal new construction with federal appropriations, lease construction with a purchase option, lease construction with eventual federal ownership, a hybrid of federal construction and lease construction, etc.;
- An analysis of legal authorities and funding needed to implement each financing and development option with a recommendation of a specific strategy;
- A plan for the implementation of the recommended financing and development strategy; and
- An analysis of how the work that has been done to date—including site selection and environmental impact—can be used to reduce the cost of the project.

In the interest of helping the FBI meet its security and operational needs, we expect to receive, by January 29, 2018, a viable strategy to move forward.

Sincerely yours,



John Barrasso, M.D.
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on
Environment and Public Works



Tom Carper
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on
Environment and Public Works