



The Administrator

November 3, 2023

The Honorable Christopher A. Wray
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Director Wray,

I received your follow-up letter dated October 12, 2023, regarding the selection process for the FBI Headquarters project. We take seriously our partnership with the FBI on this critical project, and we share your interest in a fair and transparent process.

In response to your request, I directed GSA's Office of the General Counsel (OGC) to do a thorough review of our process and the issues raised in your letter. As part of that review, I asked OGC to evaluate the FBI's concerns and determine whether there might be sufficient grounds to appropriately consider what you have asked us to do – namely, reopen the agency's site selection decision by appointing a different site selection authority. As the enclosed memo makes clear, GSA's site selection process was appropriately followed, and a reasonable conclusion was reached. Furthermore, under the regulatory framework at issue here, there is no conflict of interest for the site selection authority. Finally, the request to appoint a different site selection authority and reopen the process following a final decision could subject the government to significant risk under the standard of review for the Administrative Procedures Act, as it would be changing a final agency decision without sufficient or appropriate cause.

I remain confident in the prudence and integrity of the staff involved from GSA, and I am satisfied that their analysis and conclusions were made in a fair and reasoned way that adheres to both the letter and spirit of the plan. That view has been reinforced by the review of our counsel's office.

Recognizing the significant stakeholder interest in a final decision, and with your concerns responded to, I have directed our team to coordinate the roll-out of this decision with your team – for an announcement on Thursday, November 9th. We look

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forward to a continued partnership with your team and to delivering a new Headquarters worthy of the FBI's important mission and the people that you serve.

Sincerely,



Robin Carnahan
Administrator

Enclosure