



February 13, 2023

The Honorable Robin Carnahan
CC: Mr. Aaron Hassinger, Project Executive
U.S. General Services Administration
1800 F Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20405

CC: The Honorable Christopher A. Wray
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Administrator Carnahan:
CC: Director Wray, Mr. Hassinger:

On behalf of the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce, we believe that our region is the optimal location for the new headquarters for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

The Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce represents over 500,000 employees. We represent large and small businesses, prominent academic institutions, and philanthropic organizations. Our members are committed to partnering with the federal government to ensure the continued success of the United States is maintained. In addition to advancing the federal mission, the priorities we advocate for on transportation, education, healthcare, workforce development and community safety create a desirable location for federal employees to live, work and play.

The Springfield, Virginia site is uniquely situated among several of the region's transit hubs. The location has easy access to WMATA metro and bus service, VRE, and the Fairfax Connector bus system. In addition to public transit, it is connected to several federal, state, and local transportation networks including I-395, I-495, I-95 and I-66.

These roadways offer FBI employees access to nearly 90-miles of express lanes, including free carpooling, commuter buses and toll options. These lanes also provide access to Northern Virginia's innovative Commuter Choice program,



which benefits the region by reinvesting toll revenues in expanding and improving regional transportation projects.

In addition, to the Fairfax Connector bus service being one of the best systems in the country, it is the largest bus system in the state and has been a top priority of local leaders for decades. Currently it operates 20 routes from the Franconia-Springfield Metrorail Station, only a 10-minute walk from the proposed Springfield FBI site.

While the relocation of the FBI needs to consider the benefits of local and regional transportation networks to create a work-life balance for federal employees, we know the work of the Bureau is nationwide. What makes Northern Virginia unique in your consideration is our access to Amtrak and two major commercial airports - Ronald Reagan National, a 20-minute drive away , and Dulles International, a 30-minute drive away - which provides the FBI with unparalleled access to cross country or international travel, at a moment's notice.

Northern Virginia is and will continue to be a national leader in several industries that are critical to the success of the Bureau, including cybersecurity, information technology, and national security. Locating in Northern Virginia would place the Bureau in the center of a workforce pipeline with skills directly related to the Bureau's mission.

Northern Virginia's education programs are first class. The Virginia Tech Innovation Campus and Northern Virginia Community College's provide award winning programs in information technology and cyber security programs. These institutions have demonstrated a commitment to workforce development in our region that has spanned numerous Gubernatorial Administrations. Furthermore, George Mason University's Center for Infrastructure Protection and Homeland Security is already producing a workforce uniquely qualified for the needs of the FBI. In addition, Northern Virginia is home to a significant veteran community who are equipped with vast experience in law enforcement, cybersecurity, and other technology qualifications.

We have been successful as a region in attracting and supporting large-scale projects due to the commitment of our state and local governments. Northern Virginia citizens pride themselves on our region's ability to move forward quickly, efficiently, and successfully in these efforts.



For these reasons above, the Northern Virginia Chamber strongly believes the ideal home for the new FBI headquarters is in Springfield, Virginia. Our community, businesses and state and local governments are ready to make this process as seamless and efficient as possible for the General Services Administration. The Chamber looks forward to working with you in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie Coons". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Julie" on top and the last name "Coons" below it.

Julie Coons
President and CEO
Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce