

United States Senate

August 7, 2018

COMMITTEES
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND
FORESTRY

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN
AFFAIRS

BUDGET COMMITTEE

The Honorable Emily W. Murphy
Administrator
U.S. General Services Administration
1800 F Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20405

Dear Administrator Murphy:

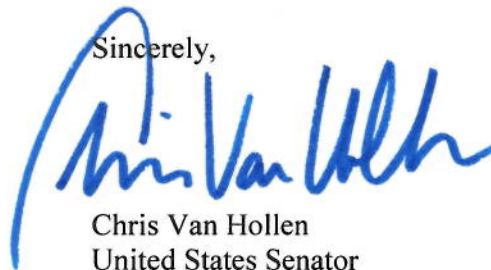
I am writing to follow up on the Questions for the Record that were submitted to Commissioner Dan Mathews following the Senate's Environment and Public Works Committee hearing on February 28, 2018 regarding the FBI Headquarters relocation. The responses to the Committee's questions were received by the Committee on the evening of July 31, 2018 – five months after the hearing.

Given the delay in submission, the lack of detail in the responses is especially disappointing. Several of the questions I submitted for the record regarding the President's involvement in the decision-making process for determining the site of the new headquarters building were not answered with any substance. The abrupt decision to change course on a project of this magnitude should be fully explained, including the feedback from the White House and other agencies.

According to White House statements in recent news reports, President Trump has strong feelings about the project and intends to be very involved. Moreover, one report quotes a senior official stating, "POTUS has interest in the issue and has met with FBI officials, but more importantly the GSA [General Services Administration] team. GSA has concerns that the building can't be rehabilitated particularly given the security requirements and has relayed that to him." This information, suggests that the President himself had a role in deciding that the FBI Headquarters should stay at the current site and not move to a more secure suburban location. Can you confirm that the President has communicated with GSA officials on this issue, and if so, please provide details on those conversations.

I am writing to give you an opportunity to provide clarity on this issue and respond to my questions with the most accurate and up-to-date information. I look forward to receiving your reply.

Sincerely,



Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator

STATE OFFICES

ROCKVILLE OFFICE
111 ROCKVILLE PIKE
SUITE 960
ROCKVILLE, MD 20850
PHONE (301) 545-1500
FAX (301) 545-1512

ANNAPOLIS OFFICE
60 WEST STREET
SUITE 107
ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401
PHONE (410) 263-1325

CAMBRIDGE OFFICE
204 CEDAR STREET
SUITE 200C
CAMBRIDGE, MD 21613

BALTIMORE OFFICE
1900 NORTH HOWARD STREET
SUITE 100
BALTIMORE, MD 21218
PHONE (667) 212-4610
FAX (667) 212-4618

HAGERSTOWN OFFICE
32 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
SUITE 203
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21750
PHONE (301) 797-2826

LARGO OFFICE
1101 MERCANTILE LANE
SUITE 210
LARGO, MD 20774
PHONE (301) 322-6560