## PROSPECTUS – LEASE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY WASHINGTON, DC

Prospectus Number: PDC-02-WA17

#### **Executive Summary**

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a lease for approximately 303,546 rentable square feet (RSF) for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) headquarters currently located in Federal Center Plaza 1 at 500 C Street SW in Washington, DC. The lease will provide housing for the agency prior to its planned move to the St. Elizabeths campus in accordance with the Enhanced Plan for the DHS headquarters consolidation.

#### Description

Occupant: Federal Emergency Management

Lease Type Agency
Extension

Current Rentable Square Feet (RSF) 303,546 (Current RSF/USF = 1.10) Estimated Maximum RSF: 303,546 (Proposed RSF/USF = 1.10)

Expansion/Reduction RSF: None
Current Usable Square Feet/Person: 134
Estimated Usable Square Feet/Person: 134

Proposed Maximum Leasing Authority: Up to 1 year from date of expiration

Expiration Dates of Current Leases: 08/16/2019

Delineated Area: Washington, DC, Central Employment

Area

Number of Official Parking Spaces : 17

Scoring: Operating Lease Estimated Rental Rate<sup>2</sup>: \$47.00/RSF EstimatedTotal Annual Cost<sup>3</sup>: \$14,266,662

Current Total Annual Cost: \$11,894,682

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> FEMA security requirements necessitate control of the parking at a leased location. This control is accomplished as a separate operating agreement with the lessor.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This estimate is for fiscal year 2019 and may be escalated by 2.1 percent annually to the effective date of the lease to account for inflation. GSA will conduct the procurement using prevailing market rental rates as a benchmark for negotiating this lease to ensure that lease award is made in the best interest of the Government. The proposed rental rate is fully serviced including all operating expenses whether paid by the lessor or directly by the Government.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> New leases may contain an escalation clause to provide for annual changes in real estate taxes and operating costs.

## PROSPECTUS – LEASE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY WASHINGTON, DC

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#### Background

FEMA's mission is to support Americans and first responders to ensure that as a Nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards. The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 100-707, signed into law November 23, 1988, amended the Disaster Relief Act of 1974, Public Law 93-288. It created the system in place today by which a Presidential Disaster Declaration of an emergency triggers financial and physical assistance through FEMA. The Act gives FEMA the responsibility for coordinating government-wide relief efforts.

#### **Justification**

The lease at Federal Center Plaza I at 500 C Street SW in Washington, DC, expires prior to FEMA's planned move to St. Elizabeths campus under the Enhanced Plan. GSA currently pays approximately \$11.9 million in annual rent for the leases that are proposed to be housed in this extension, a cost to the Government and taxpayer that will no longer be incurred once the Enhanced Plan is fully executed. Therefore, authorization is needed to extend the lease for a short term to align with the move to St. Elizabeths. FEMA will realize a smaller footprint and an improved utilization rate once the agency moves to St. Elizabeths.

The President's Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 budget proposed the funding necessary to complete the design and construction of a new facility to house FEMA at the St. Elizabeths campus. As presented in the FY 2017 capital program prospectus in support of the DHS consolidation at St. Elizabeths, GSA anticipates that construction completion of the new FEMA facility will occur in FY 2019.

### Resolutions of Approval

Resolutions adopted by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works approving this prospectus will constitute approval to make appropriations to lease space in a facility that will yield the required rentable area.

Approved:

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Interim Leasing
Interior Leasing
GSA will execute such interim leasing actions as are necessary to ensure continued housing of the tenant agency prior to the effective date of the new lease. It is in the best interest of the Government to avert the financial risk of holdover tenancy.
Certification of Need
The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.
Submitted at Washington, DC, on August 19, 2016
Recommended:  Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Deniso T. Rothe

Administrator, General Services Administration