



**Office of Congressional and
Intergovernmental Affairs**

June 9, 2023

The Honorable Deaglan McEachern
Mayor, City of Portsmouth
Municipal Complex
1 Junkins Avenue
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Dear Mayor McEachern:

Thank you for your letter dated May 1, 2023, requesting an update on the status of the transfer of the Thomas J. McIntyre Federal Building located at 80 Daniel Street in Portsmouth, New Hampshire (the McIntyre Property), as authorized by Public Law (P.L.) 108-199, Section 408. Your inquiry has been referred to me for response.

The authorized conveyance of the McIntyre Property to the City of Portsmouth (City) was predicated on the construction of a new federal building at the Pease Tradeport to house the McIntyre Property's occupants. That new federal building contemplated by P.L. 108-199 was not constructed and the funds for that project were reprogrammed when the government no longer had a mission need for a new federal building. GSA therefore commenced the disposition of the McIntyre Property pursuant to the authorities available under the Property Act (116 Stat. 1062, 40 U.S.C. 543). The Property Act authorizes GSA to convey surplus property through several conveyance methods including a no-cost Historic Monument public benefit conveyance, a negotiated sale, and a public sale.

Since January 2017, we have been working closely with City staff to formalize its interest in acquiring the McIntyre Property through one of those authorities, a Historic Monument public benefit conveyance. The City was ultimately unable to submit the required application to the National Park Service by the March 31, 2023, deadline. Then on May 1, 2023, the City Council voted to not proceed with a negotiated sale at fair market value. The McIntyre Property is now being offered for public sale through a competitive online auction that can be followed at www.realestatesales.gov.

In response to the statement in your letter about a new appropriations bill, GSA did not receive funds this fiscal year to develop the land it owns at the Pease Tradeport. Perhaps you are referring to a \$2.5 Million appropriation to the Navy to plan and design a joint child care center to support the needs of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. GSA is currently analyzing the Pease Tradeport property and other properties as part of a


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National Portfolio Planning initiative to optimize its real property footprint. The review is scheduled to be complete later this calendar year.

As GSA prepares to begin the marketing and sale of the McIntyre Property, our agency remains committed to continued collaboration with the City, including executing an updated license agreement to allow the City use of the McIntyre Property for public parking through the upcoming tourist season.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (202) 501-0563.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Gianelle E. Rivera
Associate Administrator