

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3203

July 22, 2026

The Honorable Markwayne Mullin
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave SE
Washington, DC 20240

The Honorable Edward C. Forst
Administrator
U.S. General Services Administration
1800 F Street NW
Washington, DC 20405

Dear Secretary Mullin and Administrator Forst:

We write to get clarity and demand answers into the recent \$35.5 million, 15-year lease purchase of a 42,377-square-foot industrial warehouse located at **800 Corporate Blvd, Newburgh, NY 12550**, for U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) operations.

This purchase has generated significant concern among local residents, elected officials, and community stakeholders due to the lack of transparency surrounding the facility's intended use. Although U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) and ICE have publicly identified the tenant agencies and developer, they have provided few details about the operations that will take place at the site or the potential impacts on the surrounding community.

These concerns are reinforced by GSA's initial 2025 Request for Lease Proposals (RLP) Summary, which outlined requirements that go beyond a typical federal office lease and suggest a facility designed to support secure law enforcement operations.¹ The RLP called for a dedicated sally port to accommodate "detainee buses and vans," a location away from residential areas, schools, religious institutions, and retail centers, as well as 24/7 access, an emergency generator, secured parking, and enhanced security features. Together, these specialized requirements indicate a facility intended for more than routine administrative office use.

Without clear information from GSA and ICE, the community has been left to interpret these requirements on its own, making it difficult for residents and local leaders to meaningfully assess the potential impacts of the proposed facility or engage in an informed public discussion about the project. This lack of transparency has alarmed leaders and stakeholders at every level, creating unease among those who are expected to deal with the reality of any upscaling of DHS and ICE operations in their communities.

This community has faced a similar proposal before in Chester, New York, and has been unequivocal and bipartisan in expressing its opposition to immigration detention activities within the area. That experience demonstrated the community's clear and consistent position: residents and local leaders do not support the establishment or expansion of immigration detention operations in their community.

¹ *Lease Award for 42,377 RSF in Newburgh, NY*. System for Award Management. (n.d.).
<https://sam.gov/workspace/contract/opp/f93540e58051446cae17e94c92d436d9/view>

Given this recent history, any purchase that raises similar concerns warrants meaningful transparency and engagement from federal agencies so that the public is fully informed about the intended use of the facility and its potential impact on the surrounding community.

To address these unanswered questions surrounding purchase, development, and potential impact on the surrounding community, we request responses to the following questions on the intended use of this facility located at **800 Corporate Blvd Newburgh, NY 12550**:

1. What is the intended use of the facility located at 800 Corporate Boulevard in Newburgh, New York, and what operations will DHS and ICE conduct at this site? Please list every DHS component, contractor and program expected to use the property.
2. What is the expected timeline for the facility becoming operational, and what steps remain before DHS and ICE begin using the site? Please identify any remaining approvals, construction, tenant improvements, permits or other conditions that must be completed before occupancy.
3. Please provide the lease, occupancy agreement, solicitation, program of requirements, statement of work, improvement plans, security requirements, and all associated contracts and subcontracts.
4. Please identify the lessor and beneficial owners, all operating contractors, the appropriations accounts funding the lease and operations, the annual rent and improvement costs, and the total estimated lifecycle costs.
5. Who approved the project, when was it approved and what operational needs is it intended to address? Is the project aimed at increasing detention capacity in New York, supporting increased enforcement operations in New York, expanding the operations of ICE Air, or supporting a broader regional deportation plan?
6. Will the facility be used for the detention, temporary holding, processing, transportation, or transfer of individuals in federal custody? Please provide details regarding the scope and duration of these activities.
7. For each contemplated use, please provide the following:
 - a. Maximum physical and operational capacity.
 - b. Projected average daily population.
 - c. Projected annual throughput.
 - d. Anticipated opening date and hours of operations.
 - e. Maximum intended length of stay.
 - f. Whether people will be held overnight.
 - g. Whether DHS will publicly report these specific statistics periodically.
8. Please confirm if the facility will hold the following:
 - a. Families or children.
 - b. Unaccompanied children.
 - c. Pregnant or postpartum individuals.
 - d. People with medical or mental health conditions.
 - e. People with disabilities.
9. Please confirm if the property will provide:
 - a. Free and confidential telephone access.
 - b. Confidential attorney meeting rooms.
 - c. Consular access.
 - d. Visitation.
 - e. Access to legal materials.
10. Please identify the precise detention standards governing the site. Have you contemplated, requested or granted any waiver, variance, or delayed compliance with any detention, safety, security, medical care, hygiene or other standard?

11. Will Members of Congress, congressional staff and DHS oversight personnel receive unannounced access to this facility? What access will be provided to state and local government, health or emergency officials?
12. Will the facility support ICE Air operations, domestic detainee-transfer flights, international removal flights, chartered or commercial flights, transportation contractors, staging of officers, restraints or other equipment? Please provide projected number of flights, passengers, destinations, transportation movements, and vehicles associated with this facility, including whether any flights would occur overnight.
13. What steps have been taken to assess the facility's impact on the surrounding community, including traffic, infrastructure, emergency services, and public safety? Will those findings be shared publicly?
14. Has GSA or DHS determined that any current certificate of occupancy authorize the temporary or overnight holding of people? Has DHS, GSA, the lessor or any contractor asserted that federal immunity or preemption exempts the property or its intended use from any local building, permitting, zoning or inspection requirement?
15. Before operation, will GSA or DHS obtain a certificate of occupancy and conduct fire, health, environmental or other inspections? Will you commit to providing us with the resulting reports, approvals and identified deficiencies?
16. Will DHS and ICE make an effort to keep community stakeholders and local leaders informed about its proposed activities in Orange County? What notice or consultation has occurred or will occur with Newburgh, Orange County, New York State, and nearby residents?

We request a written response by **August 7, 2026**. Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



Kirsten E. Gillibrand
United States Senator