

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3102

February 2, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

President Biden:

President Trump's creation of the U.S. Space Command was one of the most important accomplishments of his administration. This new military branch will ensure our country is protected in this emerging national security arena and I trust you will carry on the legacy you have inherited from your predecessor.

If your administration decides to review Air Force's decision to host the U.S. Space Command headquarters in Huntsville, Alabama, I want to assure you that New Mexico stands ready to host the U.S. Space Command. Our state's unique characteristics make it the ideal candidate to host this vital part of our military infrastructure. New Mexico also stands ready to host other key components of U.S. Space command, including operational, logistical, research, and administrative assets. For the good of our country's national security, the future of U.S. Space Command should involve New Mexico.

In May 2020, the list of possible U.S. Space Command host locations grew to include Albuquerque, home to many public and private space organizations. These organizations include the Space Capabilities Office and Space Vehicles Directorate along with existing national lab infrastructure. The Greater Albuquerque area is also home to Kirtland Air Force and its substantial aeronautical resources. Each of these assets are unique and tremendous resources at Space Command's disposal.

In addition, the Greater Albuquerque area is home to a thriving economy and fast growing, family friendly communities where Space Command personnel can call home. These communities include Los Lunas and Belen in Valencia County, which is located on the I-25 corridor, with easy access to Albuquerque and additional military installations in Southern New Mexico.

As one of six final locations under consideration for the new headquarters, Albuquerque should be considered if the process of assigning a new headquarters location is reopened. New Mexico is well positioned to host, at a minimum, a key component of the Space Command's infrastructure. From the Manhattan Project to the 4 major military installations currently located in New Mexico today, our state has a proud history of hosting and supporting our military. Adding Space Command to that history would be a tremendous honor.

Sincerely,



Yvette Herrell
Member of Congress