

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Stephen Ehikian  
Acting Administrator  
U.S. General Services Administration  
1800 F Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20405

March 27, 2025

Dear Acting Administrator Ehikian,

We are strongly opposed to the Government Services Administration's (GSA) proposal to terminate the San Antonio National Park Service (NPS) headquarters lease, which serves the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park (NHP). This decision has left local staff scrambling to determine how they will continue to safeguard one of America's oldest heritage sites, weakens federal law enforcement efforts, and jeopardizes the protection of priceless historical artifacts.

The San Antonio Missions have stood for more than 300 years and represent a unique chapter in San Antonio's history. They serve as an active place of worship and educational space, welcoming over one million visitors each year and generating close to \$100 million in economic benefits for the region.

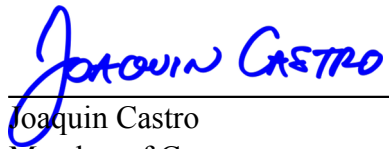
The local NPS facility serves as the backbone of the park's security, maintenance, and preservation efforts. It houses federal law enforcement officers, first responders, maintenance teams, and conservation staff who ensure the Missions remain safe, accessible, and properly maintained. The Missions have already suffered from increasing vandalism and security breaches due to lack of federal funds and inadequate NPS rangers on patrol. Closing this facility would endanger park safety and put thousands of artifacts at risk.

This attempt at cost-cutting disregards the immense value these sites hold for our nation. Instead of reducing resources, we should bolster them with more rangers, stronger security measures, and better preservation efforts.

Additionally, the San Antonio Missions NHP has worked with GSA for over a decade to find a new facility that meets their operational needs. While the current headquarters is outdated and inadequate, it remains a vital base for park operations. However, park operations now face significant uncertainty due to GSA's lack of a clear relocation plan ahead of the possible lease termination.

We urge GSA to remove the San Antonio Missions NHP headquarters from the current termination list, promptly establish a clear timeline for relocating to a new facility, and actively collaborate with local stakeholders to protect and preserve park operations. We look forward to your timely response outlining the specific steps you will take to address these concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joaquin Castro". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

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Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Greg Casar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G".

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Greg Casar  
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Henry Cuellar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "H".

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Henry Cuellar  
Member of Congress