Envisioning the Future of Federal Work

In 2020–2021, the success of widespread telework prompted the federal community to reassess the traditional workplace. GSA launched Workplace 2030 to study shared federal experiences and imagine technology-leveraged work scenarios that improve mission delivery.

A set of high-level guiding principles emerged from GSA’s Workplace 2030 study:

- Most work can now be done anywhere, asynchronously
- Technology has superseded physical space as the dominant work platform
- The physical workplace is still necessary, thanks to its ability to support human connection, specialized work, and equity

Workplace 2030 Emerging Services

In addition to GSA’s existing services, we identified a range of new and reimagined services to support agency needs. Services with the greatest potential impact have been prioritized for development. These emerging services support four objectives:

- Reimagining the physical workplace
- Enabling workforce mobility
- Providing smarter systems and spaces
- Building better teams and effective operations

Reimagining the Workplace

We believe the future office must prioritize collaboration, resource sharing, diverse work settings, and maximum flexibility. An emerging service called GSA FlexHub embodies this vision compellingly. It is a federal coworking concept that provides a workspace for employees from any federal agency.

Genesis of the GSA FlexHub

Coworking emerged in the private sector in the early 2000s. Workspace sharing is now becoming a viable solution for the public sector.

To make this a reality, GSA is establishing a FlexHub at its headquarters building at 1800 F Street NW, Washington, DC. This FlexHub location will pilot coworking within the federal government.

FlexHub Functionality

A FlexHub is a reservable federal coworking space operated by GSA. Our pilot site will be available to employees and contractors across the federal government on an as-needed, pay-per-use basis. The site will be secure both physically and technologically, and we will continually gather user feedback to optimize its features and offerings.

Individual and shared resources within the FlexHub will be searchable on a reservation app. The app will allow users to locate available workstations, offices, and conference rooms, and to book these spaces by the hour, day, week, or month.

Over time, GSA will assess demand for future FlexHub sites across the United States. The model will be available simultaneously to other federal agencies, to release office inventory while preserving employee access to physical space.

Implementation Timeline

GSA is working toward establishment of the FlexHub pilot site, with opening anticipated for 2022. While a specific opening date has not been set, please note that our timeline is contingent on workforce safety conditions. GSA is following all CDC considerations and recommendations for building operations and will provide more details as they are clarified.

To discuss the GSA FlexHub concept in more detail, please contact a workplace expert at workplace@gsa.gov.