



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

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MICHAEL A. NUTTER
Mayor

June 5, 2014

Honorable Debbie Wasserman Schultz, Chairwoman
Democratic National Committee
430 South Capitol Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Dear Chairwoman Wasserman Schultz:

It is with great pleasure that I invite the Democratic National Committee to choose Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love and Sisterly Affection, as the host city for the 2016 Democratic National Convention.

I believe that Philadelphia is ideally suited to serve as the host city for this historically important event. Philadelphia has the logistical and technical capital in our City personnel to put on this event, the transit system and regional transit hubs to help visitors get to Philadelphia and around the city, the infrastructure to serve a large convention and the amenities to excite a group of visiting dignitaries.

Philadelphia has become a go-to location to host big events -- our City government has the right people in place to effectively and safely organize and manage large-scale conventions and Philadelphia has the can-do, will-do attitude needed to make these big events successful. Our team, mentality and ability are tremendous host city assets.

It's why we were selected by the Pontifical Council, Pope Benedict XVI and his successor, Pope Francis, to host the 2015 World Meeting of Families, which will bring 2 million people from around the world, including up to 20,000 religious dignitaries representing more than 150 countries, to our great city for six days. In October, Forbes will convene its first-ever Under 30 Summit, the largest summit in Forbes' 97-year history and each summer, Philadelphia proudly hosts the nation's premier 4th of July celebration, the Wawa Welcome America Festival, which includes the largest free concert in the nation.

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Philadelphia has the strength of accessibility – getting to and around Philadelphia is simple, easy and affordable. We are within a day's drive of 100 million people. Philadelphia International Airport, and 30th Street Station are just minutes from Center City. Our regional transit system, SEPTA, can easily support quick trips around the City for delegates and was recently ranked the best large transit system in North America by the American Public Transportation Association.

Philadelphia has the infrastructure to support an event the size and scale of the 2016 Democratic National Convention. Our state-of-the-art Wells Fargo Center, located in the stadium district of South Philadelphia, can accommodate more than 20,000 people. The upgraded Pennsylvania Convention Center, renovated in 2011, spans four city blocks in the heart of Center City and we have more than 30,000 rooms in the Greater Philadelphia region including 1,500 rooms from eight new hotels. Just this week, Philadelphia's hotels were ranked the best among all hotels in U.S. cities by a TravelMag.com survey.

Delegates will also enjoy exploring some of what makes Philadelphia a top travel destination – our cultural boulevard, the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, home to the Barnes Foundation, Rodin Museum and the Philadelphia Museum of Art; the Avenue of the Arts to take in a show; our booming restaurant and nightlife scene; shopping on Rittenhouse Row; the nation's largest urban park system; our vibrant neighborhoods; or our unique connection to the convention that started it all in the historic district.

Lastly, Philadelphia's thriving millennial population presents a great opportunity for the Democratic National Committee to galvanize a group that was critical to the successful election of President Obama in both 2008 and 2012.

I hope that you come to Philadelphia to see our excitement, our enthusiasm and all we have to offer. Philadelphia is a fantastic city and a great choice for the 2016 Democratic National Convention. We know how to host big events well and are ready for the challenge.

Sincerely,



Michael A. Nutter
Mayor