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Facebook expanding in D.C.

Facebook has leased a 8,600-square-foot property in Penn Quarter as part of plans to beef up its Washington operation.

Douglas Development, which owns the new building, said the new digs can accommodate between 30 and 40 people — a significant increase from Facebook's current D.C. staff of around six.

Facebook spokesman Andrew Noyes **told** the Washington Post that Facebook will be moving into "a long-term location that will fit our growing business needs" but declined to specify how much it plans to grow.

Bloomberg **reported** yesterday that Facebook is expanding its D.C. office and reaching out to privacy advocates as lawmakers consider tightening Internet privacy rules that would affect how the company's ads can function.

The company is looking for a public-policy expert and a deputy press spokesman after the June hiring of Marne Levine to head its D.C. office. Levine is a former top aide to Larry Summers, director of President Obama's National Economic Council. The new hires would bring Facebook's Washington team to eight, up from zero three years ago.

** This post has been updated to clarify that Noyes was speaking to the Post, not Douglas.*