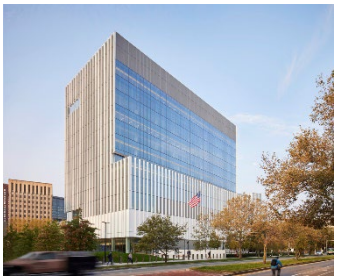
Project：John A. Volpe National Transportation Systems Center

Design Team：SOM

Size：575,000 square feet

Location：Cambridge, USA



Feature：

Project - After decades operating as the "best-kept secret in Cambridge", the new John A. Volpe National Transportation Systems Center building empowers the U.S. Department of Transportation's research and innovation center to reveal itself to the public for the first time. Designed by Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM), the structure engages with the streetscape through green spaces and a transparent entrance, while six 14-foot garage doors enable labs to host demonstrations. Targeting LEED Platinum, the facade is oriented and calibrated to maximize daylight while minimizing glare. Vertical aluminum fins shade east and west facades, while north and south facades have less surface area. The branding brings a sense of motion through stretched lettering and numbers echoing through the space. Creating a vertical campus under one roof for the first time, the center encompasses labs, data centers, offices and amenities to foster community among 1,300 staff members. Says SOM Partner Chris Cooper, "We calibrated the building to make the most of sunlight, and that sensitivity to context permeates outward in how the center interacts with its neighborhood." The innovative architecture puts the institution's groundbreaking transportation research on display.

Design Team - Since its founding in 1936, SOM has been involved in a series of the world's most iconic architectural projects. Early contributions to high-rise and structural innovation fostered the symbolic architecture of the mid 20th century, such as New York's Lever House and Chicago's John Hancock Center. Today SOM's projects span five continents, approaching each project with an interdisciplinary ethos, bringing together architects, engineers, interior designers, and urban planners. Their acclaimed works include engineering feats like the Burj Khalifa. Although rooted in modernism, SOM is not confined to any particular aesthetic or style. Through unique detailing and digital prototyping, their

visually diverse buildings are united in pursuing sustainability and human-centric design. With their prolific output and unwavering quality, SOM remains a leading force shaping skylines and cityscapes worldwide.