Las Vegas, Nevada strikes me as being one of the better locations for a future USPTO Satellite Office location for the following reasons:

1) Centrally located between western states (California, Arizona, Washington, Utah, etc.). An easy drive from LA and a one day drive from Silicon Valley.

2) Low cost of living. Lots of surplus housing available for examiners. According to Kiplinger's magazine, at the beginning of this year (2011) the average house price was $153K, which is actually down -4.7% from 2010.

3) Government land in the area. Nellis Air Force Base is located just next to North Las Vegas. If budget cuts come and the armed forces downsize, there is a good chance they may be amenable or incentivized to dual-use some space on base with the Commerce Dept. at a low cost (if not free). If not, there seems to be lots of land available for building a satellite office within driving distance of town.

4) Excellent transportation available to get to and from Las Vegas, NV from both coasts (by air, rail, and road).

5) No chance of a shutdown due to snow (no Snowmageddon).

6) Practitioners would be much more amenable to coming in for in-person interviews due to the great hotels and entertainment nearby.

7) The local economy needs it.

As far as I know, there is at least one examiner already hoteling from Las Vegas (although there could be more?); hence, high speed Internet is readily available.

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