

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 05, 2024

The Honorable Louis DeJoy
Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Postmaster General De Joy,

I write to express my serious concern about the United States Postal Service's (USPS) proposed changes to South Jersey, NJ Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC), and to inquire about the potential impact of such changes to mail service reliability, the local economy, and jobs in the community. While I appreciate the U.S. Postal Service's (USPS) ongoing efforts to improve processing, transportation, delivery networks and employee experiences, I continue to hear from my constituents about their worries of the effects this potential move have in their communities.

As you know, residents rely on the Postal Service for medication, bill, and election material delivery; small businesses rely on the Postal services for timely delivery of their goods and other entrepreneurial pursuits, and more. To your credit and work at the Postal Service, the government relied on the Postal Service for timely and efficient delivery of COVID-19 testing kits, a vital service that helped keep Americans alive. However, I do have deep concerns that a detour in service from the SO Jersey, NJ P&DC to an entirely different State's P&DC could impact delivery times and service.

I also have deep concerns regarding the effects these changes could have on the employees and workplace. While layoffs of career employees may not be scheduled, it remains unclear to me the effects of these changes in services will have on job relocations, employees having to choose between long commutes, moving, or resigning. This also includes increased costs from those commutes.

The public hearing set for this Wednesday, March 6th at 1pm is also of concern. There did not seem to be adequate notice and the time of the hearing is during most people's normal work hours. This site services a large area in South Jersey. Having a hearing in only one town seems to be restrictive on the public's ability to have input.

With the concerns outlined above, I would respectfully ask you answer the following questions (provide the following information):

1. What criteria did the Postal Service use to determine which P&DCs would be involved in the Mail Processing and Facility Review, and how was employee feedback incorporated into that process?

2. What criteria was used in determining any cost-benefit analysis to consolidating facilities? What is the savings the Postal Service intends to accrue from these consolidations?
3. What is USPS' plan to guarantee that jobs will not be lost or relocated or that delivery times will not grow longer?
4. How has the Postal Service incorporated local community feedback during the review process?
5. How did the Postal Service conclude that moving mail from the SO Jersey, NJ P&DC to the Philadelphia, PA P&DC to sort, then back to the SO Jersey, NJ P&DC will not slow or effect delivery times? Please share the criteria and methodology that led to that decision.
6. Does USPS have an estimate of the number of employees they expect to reassign from the SO Jersey, NJ PD&C to the Philadelphia, PA P&DC? Is there a plan to work with these employees who will see increased commute costs and times?
7. How and when was the public notified of the public hearing? Why was this specific time and location chosen?

Lastly, I would request a briefing on the proposed changes as your earliest convenience to further understand how these changes will impact the residents on NJ-01.

I look forward to your response and thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Donald Norcross
Member of Congress