

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

August 11, 2020

Mr. Louis DeJoy
Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., Room 10300
Washington, D.C. 20260-1000

Dear Postmaster General DeJoy:

The mission of the United States Postal Service (USPS) is to provide the nation with reliable, affordable, and universal mail service. USPS is unique from other delivery entities in that it is responsible for rendering postal services to all communities at an affordable price. Unfortunately, due to recent changes within USPS, service standards have been negatively impacted which has caused significant mail delivery delays for our constituents. These delays cause undue stress to seniors, small businesses, and thousands of community members who rely on the mail for essential services. We urge you to confirm and clarify that USPS will not reduce mail delivery times, and to ensure that USPS continues to deliver mail in a reliable and timely manner.

In July, USPS released two documents which make substantial changes to USPS operations: the first prohibiting overtime, and the second eliminating additional trips to deliver undelivered mail.¹ Together, these changes have resulted in some neighborhoods not receiving mail for extended periods of time.² These delays are unacceptable, especially during a global pandemic when constituents are relying on timely mail delivery for much-needed items, including prescription drugs, tax refunds, economic impact payments and absentee ballots. Distribution centers around the country have closed in recent years; instead of working to address these issues, the changes outlined in these documents serve to exacerbate existing delivery delays during a time when Americans are relying heavily on the USPS.

On July 22, 2020, your General Counsel and Executive Vice President sent a letter to the House Committee on Oversight and Reform claiming that changes to USPS operations were not, "official Postal Service memoranda." Thus, we urge you to explicitly and immediately issue a directive to all Postal Service employees communicating that official USPS policy has not changed. In addition, we encourage you to work with postal service employees and other

¹ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2020/07/14/postal-service-trump-dejoy-delay-mail/>

² <https://www.wtkr.com/news/mail-delays-impact-residents-across-hampton-roads-usps-doesnt-explain-why>

stakeholders, including the relevant congressional committees of jurisdiction, when working to address outstanding financial challenges and other needed legislative reform to USPS.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. We look forward to working with you to take the necessary steps to ensure the solvency and continuation of the United States Postal Service.

Sincerely,



ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT
Member of Congress



A. DONALD MCEACHIN
Member of Congress