

## **American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO**

1300 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005

October 23, 2023

**Debby Szeredy** 

**Executive Vice President** 

202-842-4250 (Office) 202-842-4297 (Fax)

To: Charlie Cash, Director, Industrial Relations Department

**Debby Szeredy, Executive Vice President** From:

> Subject: The Postal Service Intends to Conduct MPFR Studies

> > in Multiple Locations

(Notification No. GCCG20230481)

Please find attached a copy of a letter dated 10/18/2023 from Bruce

Nicholson, regarding the above referenced matter.

You are designated as the APWU contact person in this matter. Contact the USPS representative as soon as possible for discussion, if appropriate. Please provide notification of your review to me by 11/20/2023.

Please note: Your secretary should update the Notification Tracking Module in Step 4 CAS as necessary.

Attachment

Idowu Balogun, Director, Maintenance Division Lamont Brooks, Director, Clerk Division Arrion Brown, Director, Support Services Division

Michael Foster, Director, MVS Division

Liz Powell, Secretary-Treasurer

Amy Puhalski, Central Regional Coordinator AJ Jones, Eastern Regional Coordinator

Tiffany Foster, Northeast Regional Coordinator Yared Wonde, Southern Regional Coordinator Omar Gonzalez, Western Regional Coordinator

#### National Executive Board

Mark Dimondstein

Debby Szeredy Executive Vice President

Elizabeth "Liz" Powell Secretary-Treasurer

Charlie Cash Director, Industrial Relations

Lamont Brooks Director, Clerk Division

Idowu Balogun Director, Maintenance Division

Michael O. Foster Director, MVS Division

Arrion Brown Director, Support Services Division

Amy Puhalski Coordinator, Central Region

AJ Jones Coordinator, Eastern Region

Coordinator, Northeast Region

Yared Wonde Coordinator, Southern Region

Omar M. Gonzalez Coordinator, Western Region



### RECEIVED

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October 18, 2023

APWU OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Mr. Mark Dimondstein President American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO 1300 L Street N.W. Washington, DC 20005-4128 Certified Mail Number 7022 3330 0000 9612 7698

Dear Mark:

This is an informational notice of the Postal Service's intent to conduct Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) studies in:

- Columbia, Missouri (MO)
- Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania (PA)
- Tallahassee, Florida (FL)
- Wilmington, Delaware (DE)

In accordance with Handbook PO-408, *Mail Processing Facility Review*, an MPFR determines the feasibility of changing mail processing operations to improve operational efficiency and/or service. An MPFR involves the consolidation of all originating and/or destinating distribution operations from one or more Post Offices/facilities into other automated processing facilities for the purpose of improving operational efficiency and/or service. The intent is to use Postal Service equipment, facilities, staff work hours and transportation more efficiently.

Specifically, feasibility studies will be conducted at the following facilities to determine whether efficiency and/or service could be improved by consolidating mail processing operations into other mail processing facilities:

- Columbia, MO Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) into St Louis, MO P&DC
- Lehigh Valley, PA P&DC into Harrisburg, PA P&DC
- Tallahassee, FL P&DC into Jacksonville, FL Network Distribution Center (NDC)
- Wilmington, DE P&DC into Philadelphia, PA P&DC

Enclosed is a Service Talk and Press Release that will be provided to employees in the four facilities that will be studied. Please contact Paulita Wimbush at extension 4042 if you have questions concerning this matter.

Sincerely

Bruce A. Nicholson

Director

Labor Relations Policies and Programs

**Enclosures** 

475 L'ENFANT PLAZA SW WASHINGTON, DC 20260-4101 WWW.USPS.COM



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Oct. 18, 2023

## POSTAL NEWS

Contact: Mark Inglett Mark.m.ingeltt@usps.gov











## Postal Service to Review Facility Operations in Columbia

Facility reviews part of USPS work to modernize nation's aging postal network

COLUMBIA, MO — The U.S. Postal Service announced it will be conducting a Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) of its facility in Columbia this month.

As part of its 10-year Delivering for America plan, the Postal Service is investing \$40 billion to modernize the nation's aging postal processing and delivery network. The organization is assessing how this facility can best support service and operational goals in Missouri, as well as provide platforms for launching new products and competitive services for mailing and shipping customers in the future.

The MPFR process is expected to have minimal impact to customer service. Business mail entry, Post Office, station and branch retail services, and delivery services are expected to remain unchanged in most cases.

Public input will be considered as part of the review process. Members of the local community may submit written comments at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-columbia-mo. If the review supports the business case for change to the facility's processing operations, Postal Service representatives will hold a public meeting to allow members of the local community to provide additional feedback.

The Postal Service will work closely with its unions and management associations throughout the facility review process and will continually monitor the impact of any changes that are implemented and will adjust plans as necessary and appropriate.

#### ###

Please Note: The United States Postal Service is an independent federal establishment, mandated to be self-financing and to serve every American community through the affordable, reliable and secure delivery of mail and packages to nearly 165 million addresses six and often seven days a week. Overseen by a bipartisan Board of Governors, the Postal Service is implementing a 10-year transformation plan, Delivering for America, to modernize the postal network, restore long-term financial sustainability, dramatically improve service across all mail and shipping categories, and maintain the organization as one of America's most valued and trusted brands.

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## **Stand-Up Talk** October 18, 2023

## Notice of Intent: Mail Processing Facility Review Columbia P&DC

Today, the Postal Service will begin a Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) at the Columbia Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) The purpose of this study is to see if it makes operational sense to consolidate the remaining outgoing operations into the St. Louis P&DC.

### Why is this MPFR study being conducted?

The Postal Service is moving forward with the Delivering for America Plan, which includes strategies for the development of a mail processing network that enables more precise, efficient and reliable service. By using best-in-class logistics practices, the Postal Service is driving efficiency and service performance improvement to fuel revenue growth and customer retention.

The MPFR process will help identify how this facility can best support the organization's service and operational goals, as well as provide platforms for launching new products and competitive services for mailing and shipping customers in the future.

#### So how does the MPFR process work?

First, a feasibility study will be conducted. Based on the data from that study, a proposal will then be made. The proposal may recommend consolidating mail processing operations or it may be determined that a consolidation should not occur because it would not provide any cost savings or would negatively impact service.

Public input will be considered as part of the review process. Members of the local community and employees may submit initial comments online.

If the facility review supports the business case for change to the facility's processing operations, the Postal Service will hold a public meeting to allow members of the local community to provide additional feedback. All comments will be fully considered in any decision.

We anticipate the review will have minimal impact to customer service. Business mail entry, Post Office, station and branch retail services, and delivery services are expected to remain unchanged in most cases.

## What would happen if the decision were made to move some operations to St. Louis P&DC?

If it is determined that operations should be moved, there may be some employee reassignments. All reassignments will be made in compliance with the collective bargaining agreements.

There would be no change in local mail service. The local postmark would still be available at local Post Offices.

We will keep you informed about any future developments regarding this MPFR.

# MAIL PROCESSING FACILITY REVIEW FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### 1. What is being announced?

The Postal Service is conducting Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) studies of various facilities to assess how best to utilize these facilities to support the organization's service and operational goals, as well as provide platforms for launching new products and competitive services for mailing and shipping customers in the future.

This is the beginning of a multi-year process to modernize the mail processing network. The Postal Service will continually monitor the impact of any implemented changes and will adjust accordingly.

The MPFR will determine a recommendation to consolidate, reconfigure or continue status-quo operations at the facility to best support increased delivery performance and the Postal Service's financial sustainability over the long term.

#### 2. is the Postal Service making changes to its mail processing network?

Under the Delivering for America plan, the Postal Service is focused on modernizing its aging, inefficient network through targeted \$40 billion in investments, and on establishing new or reimagined facilities that support redesigned processing, transportation, and delivery networks.

The Postal Service regularly reviews its processing and delivery network footprints to ensure its facilities and services are best aligned to provide increased service reliability to customers and a better workplace experience for employees.

### 3. What is a Mail Processing Facility Review study?

A Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) determines the feasibility of changing mail processing operations to improve operational efficiency and/or service. An MPFR involves the consolidation of all originating and/or destinating distribution operations from one or more Post Offices/facilities into other automated processing facilities for the purpose of improving operational efficiency and/or service. The intent is to use Postal Service equipment, facilities, staff work hours and transportation more efficiently.

### 4. When will the studies happen?

The studies are currently underway, and the Postal Service anticipates communicating findings in the coming months.

#### 5. What criteria is used to study the facilities?

MPFR study criteria include projected savings, service issues, transportation and logistics networks, capacity within processing plant, amount of required capacity necessary, equipment usage and maximizing capacity across the board.

## 6. What does this mean for employees who work at the facilities being studied?

The Postal Service is focused on improving the workplace experience for all employees. Throughout the MPFR process, the Postal Service will continue to communicate regularly with the unions and management associations to support local employees as appropriate.

#### 7. Does the Postal Service involve the public in these decisions?

Yes. Public input will be considered as part of the review process. Members of the local community may submit initial comments at <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-columbia-mo">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-columbia-mo</a>. If the facility review supports the business case for change to the facility's processing operations, the Postal Service will hold a public meeting to allow members of the local community to provide additional feedback.

### 8. How are public meetings held?

The public meetings will be held in a central location that can accommodate a group of people. If sufficient meeting space is unavailable to host public meetings, the Postal Service may use Zoom.

## 9. How much will efficiency improve, and money will be saved with this initiative?

The intent is to make more efficient use of Postal Service resources — equipment, facilities, staffing and transportation. For each location, we will disclose the potential savings ahead of a community meeting and/or when public input is solicited.

## 10. Can facilities close without going through the MPFR process?

The Postal Service is not required to conduct MPFR studies prior to making changes at annexes, or mail processing operations within a single customer service area.

# 11. If a facility is closed or if an operation is consolidated, where will mail be processed?

Should a facility be determined to be closed or consolidated, the MPFR process will provide analysis of where best to process the mail and packages in the region.

#### 12. Can the Postal Service sell facilities that close?

Decisions will be made based on the operational needs of the Postal Service. Postal Service-owned facilities could be sold if appropriate for operational needs.

# 13. Will these changes affect how long it take for mail and packages to be delivered?

The impact of these changes on delivery times is part of the MPFR study analysis.

# 14. If operations are consolidated, will it impact local Post Office or retail operations?

The MPFR will have minimal impact to customer services. Business Mail entry, Post Office, station, and branch retail services, and delivery services are expected to remain unchanged in most cases.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Oct. 18, 2023



Contact: Mark Lawrence mark.e.lawrence@usps.gov











## Postal Service to Review Facility Operations in Lehigh Valley

Facility reviews part of USPS work to modernize nation's aging postal network

LEHIGH VALLEY, PA — The U.S. Postal Service announced it will be conducting a Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) of its facility in Lehigh Valley this month.

As part of its 10-year Delivering for America plan, the Postal Service is investing \$40 billion to modernize the nation's aging postal processing and delivery network. The organization is assessing how this facility can best support service and operational goals in Pennsylvania, as well as provide platforms for launching new products and competitive services for mailing and shipping customers in the future.

The MPFR process is expected to have minimal impact to customer service. Business mail entry. Post Office, station and branch retail services, and delivery services are expected to remain unchanged in most cases.

Public input will be considered as part of the review process. Members of the local community may submit written comments at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-lehigh-valley-pa. If the review supports the business case for change to the facility's processing operations, Postal Service representatives will hold a public meeting to allow members of the local community to provide additional feedback.

The Postal Service will work closely with its unions and management associations throughout the facility review process and will continually monitor the impact of any changes that are implemented and will adjust plans as necessary and appropriate.

#### ###

Please Note: The United States Postal Service is an independent federal establishment, mandated to be self-financing and to serve every American community through the affordable, reliable and secure delivery of mail and packages to nearly 165 million addresses six and often seven days a week. Overseen by a bipartisan Board of Governors, the Postal Service is implementing a 10-year transformation plan, Delivering for America, to modernize the postal network, restore long-term financial sustainability, dramatically improve service across all mail and shipping categories, and maintain the organization as one of America's most valued and trusted brands.

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## Stand-Up Talk October 18, 2023

### Notice of Intent: Mail Processing Facility Review Lehigh Valley P&DC

Today, the Postal Service will begin a Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) at the Lehigh Valley Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) The purpose of this study is to see if it makes operational sense to consolidate the remaining outgoing operations into the Harrisburg P&DC.

### Why is this MPFR study being conducted?

The Postal Service is moving forward with the Delivering for America Plan, which includes strategies for the development of a mail processing network that enables more precise, efficient and reliable service. By using best-in-class logistics practices, the Postal Service is driving efficiency and service performance improvement to fuel revenue growth and customer retention.

The MPFR process will help identify how this facility can best support the organization's service and operational goals, as well as provide platforms for launching new products and competitive services for mailing and shipping customers in the future.

#### So how does the MPFR process work?

First, a feasibility study will be conducted. Based on the data from that study, a proposal will then be made. The proposal may recommend consolidating mail processing operations or it may be determined that a consolidation should not occur because it would not provide any cost savings or would negatively impact service.

Public input will be considered as part of the review process. Members of the local community and employees may submit initial comments online.

If the facility review supports the business case for change to the facility's processing operations, the Postal Service will hold a public meeting to allow members of the local community to provide additional feedback. All comments will be fully considered in any decision.

We anticipate the review will have minimal impact to customer service. Business mail entry, Post Office, station and branch retail services, and delivery services are expected to remain unchanged in most cases.

## What would happen if the decision were made to move some operations to Harrisburg P&DC?

If it is determined that operations should be moved, there may be some employee reassignments. All reassignments will be made in compliance with the collective bargaining agreements.

There would be no change in local mail service. The local postmark would still be available at local Post Offices.

We will keep you informed about any future developments regarding this MPFR.

# MAIL PROCESSING FACILITY REVIEW FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### 1. What is being announced?

The Postal Service is conducting Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) studies of various facilities to assess how best to utilize these facilities to support the organization's service and operational goals, as well as provide platforms for launching new products and competitive services for mailing and shipping customers in the future.

This is the beginning of a multi-year process to modernize the mail processing network. The Postal Service will continually monitor the impact of any implemented changes and will adjust accordingly.

The MPFR will determine a recommendation to consolidate, reconfigure or continue status-quo operations at the facility to best support increased delivery performance and the Postal Service's financial sustainability over the long term.

### 2. is the Postal Service making changes to its mail processing network?

Under the Delivering for America plan, the Postal Service is focused on modernizing its aging, inefficient network through targeted \$40 billion in investments, and on establishing new or reimagined facilities that support redesigned processing, transportation, and delivery networks.

The Postal Service regularly reviews its processing and delivery network footprints to ensure its facilities and services are best aligned to provide increased service reliability to customers and a better workplace experience for employees.

## 3. What is a Mail Processing Facility Review study?

A Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) determines the feasibility of changing mail processing operations to improve operational efficiency and/or service. An MPFR involves the consolidation of all originating and/or destinating distribution operations from one or more Post Offices/facilities into other automated processing facilities for the purpose of improving operational efficiency and/or service. The intent is to use Postal Service equipment, facilities, staff work hours and transportation more efficiently.

### 4. When will the studies happen?

The studies are currently underway, and the Postal Service anticipates communicating findings in the coming months.

#### 5. What criteria is used to study the facilities?

MPFR study criteria include projected savings, service issues, transportation and logistics networks, capacity within processing plant, amount of required capacity necessary, equipment usage and maximizing capacity across the board.

## 6. What does this mean for employees who work at the facilities being studied?

The Postal Service is focused on improving the workplace experience for all employees. Throughout the MPFR process, the Postal Service will continue to communicate regularly with the unions and management associations to support local employees as appropriate.

#### 7. Does the Postal Service involve the public in these decisions?

Yes. Public input will be considered as part of the review process. Members of the local community may submit initial comments at <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-lehigh-valley-pa">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-lehigh-valley-pa</a>. If the facility review supports the business case for change to the facility's processing operations, the Postal Service will hold a public meeting to allow members of the local community to provide additional feedback.

#### 8. How are public meetings held?

The public meetings will be held in a central location that can accommodate a group of people. If sufficient meeting space is unavailable to host public meetings, the Postal Service may use Zoom.

## 9. How much will efficiency improve, and money will be saved with this initiative?

The intent is to make more efficient use of Postal Service resources — equipment, facilities, staffing and transportation. For each location, we will disclose the potential savings ahead of a community meeting and/or when public input is solicited.

### 10. Can facilities close without going through the MPFR process?

The Postal Service is not required to conduct MPFR studies prior to making changes at annexes, or mail processing operations within a single customer service area.

# 11.If a facility is closed or if an operation is consolidated, where will mail be processed?

Should a facility be determined to be closed or consolidated, the MPFR process will provide analysis of where best to process the mail and packages in the region.

#### 12. Can the Postal Service sell facilities that close?

Decisions will be made based on the operational needs of the Postal Service. Postal Service-owned facilities could be sold if appropriate for operational needs.

# 13. Will these changes affect how long it take for mail and packages to be delivered?

The impact of these changes on delivery times is part of the MPFR study analysis.

# 14. If operations are consolidated, will it impact local Post Office or retail operations?

The MPFR will have minimal impact to customer services. Business Mail entry, Post Office, station, and branch retail services, and delivery services are expected to remain unchanged in most cases.





Contact: Carol Hunt carol.l.hunt@usps.com usps.com/news











## Postal Service to Review Facility Operations in Tallahassee

Facility review part of USPS work to modernize nation's aging postal network

TALLAHASSEE, FL — The U.S. Postal Service announced it will be conducting a Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) of its facility in Tallahassee this month.

As part of its 10-year Delivering for America plan, the Postal Service is investing \$40 billion to modernize the nation's aging postal processing and delivery network. The organization is assessing how this facility can best support service and operational goals in Florida, as well as provide platforms for launching new products and competitive services for mailing and shipping customers in the future.

The MPFR process is expected to have minimal impact to customer service. Business mail entry, Post Office, station and branch retail services, and delivery services are expected to remain unchanged in most cases.

Public input will be considered as part of the review process. Members of the local community may submit written comments at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-tallahassee-fl. If the review supports the business case for change to the facility's processing operations, Postal Service representatives will hold a public meeting to allow members of the local community to provide additional feedback.

The Postal Service will work closely with its unions and management associations throughout the facility review process and will continually monitor the impact of any changes that are implemented and will adjust plans as necessary and appropriate.

Please Note: The United States Postal Service is an independent federal establishment, mandated to be self-financing and to serve every American community through the affordable, reliable and secure delivery of mail and packages to nearly 165 million addresses six and often seven days a week. Overseen by a bipartisan Board of Governors, the Postal Service is implementing a 10-year transformation plan, Delivering for America, to modernize the postal network, restore long-term financial sustainability, dramatically improve service across all mail and shipping categories, and maintain the organization as one of America's most valued and trusted brands.

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# **Stand-Up Talk** October 18, 2023

## Notice of Intent: Mail Processing Facility Review Tallahassee P&DC

Today, the Postal Service will begin a Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) at the Tallahassee Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) The purpose of this study is to see if it makes operational sense to consolidate the remaining outgoing operations into the Jacksonville Network Distribution Center (NDC).

#### Why is this MPFR study being conducted?

The Postal Service is moving forward with the Delivering for America Plan, which includes strategies for the development of a mail processing network that enables more precise, efficient and reliable service. By using best-in-class logistics practices, the Postal Service is driving efficiency and service performance improvement to fuel revenue growth and customer retention.

The MPFR process will help identify how this facility can best support the organization's service and operational goals, as well as provide platforms for launching new products and competitive services for mailing and shipping customers in the future.

#### So how does the MPFR process work?

First, a feasibility study will be conducted. Based on the data from that study, a proposal will then be made. The proposal may recommend consolidating mail processing operations or it may be determined that a consolidation should not occur because it would not provide any cost savings or would negatively impact service.

Public input will be considered as part of the review process. Members of the local community and employees may submit initial comments online.

If the facility review supports the business case for change to the facility's processing operations, the Postal Service will hold a public meeting to allow members of the local community to provide additional feedback. All comments will be fully considered in any decision.

We anticipate the review will have minimal impact to customer service. Business mail entry, Post Office, station and branch retail services, and delivery services are expected to remain unchanged in most cases.

## What would happen if the decision were made to move some operations to Jacksonville NDC?

If it is determined that operations should be moved, there may be some employee reassignments. All reassignments will be made in compliance with the collective bargaining agreements.

There would be no change in local mail service. The local postmark would still be available at local Post Offices.

We will keep you informed about any future developments regarding this MPFR.

# MAIL PROCESSING FACILITY REVIEW FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### 1. What is being announced?

The Postal Service is conducting Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) studies of various facilities to assess how best to utilize these facilities to support the organization's service and operational goals, as well as provide platforms for launching new products and competitive services for mailing and shipping customers in the future

This is the beginning of a multi-year process to modernize the mail processing network. The Postal Service will continually monitor the impact of any implemented changes and will adjust accordingly.

The MPFR will determine a recommendation to consolidate, reconfigure or continue status-quo operations at the facility to best support increased delivery performance and the Postal Service's financial sustainability over the long term.

### 2. is the Postal Service making changes to its mail processing network?

Under the Delivering for America plan, the Postal Service is focused on modernizing its aging, inefficient network through targeted \$40 billion in investments, and on establishing new or reimagined facilities that support redesigned processing, transportation, and delivery networks.

The Postal Service regularly reviews its processing and delivery network footprints to ensure its facilities and services are best aligned to provide increased service reliability to customers and a better workplace experience for employees.

## 3. What is a Mail Processing Facility Review study?

A Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) determines the feasibility of changing mail processing operations to improve operational efficiency and/or service. An MPFR involves the consolidation of all originating and/or destinating distribution operations from one or more Post Offices/facilities into other automated processing facilities for the purpose of improving operational efficiency and/or service. The intent is to use Postal Service equipment, facilities, staff work hours and transportation more efficiently.

### 4. When will the studies happen?

The studies are currently underway, and the Postal Service anticipates communicating findings in the coming months.

#### 5. What criteria is used to study the facilities?

MPFR study criteria include projected savings, service issues, transportation and logistics networks, capacity within processing plant, amount of required capacity necessary, equipment usage and maximizing capacity across the board.

## 6. What does this mean for employees who work at the facilities being studied?

The Postal Service is focused on improving the workplace experience for all employees. Throughout the MPFR process, the Postal Service will continue to communicate regularly with the unions and management associations to support local employees as appropriate.

#### 7. Does the Postal Service involve the public in these decisions?

Yes. Public input will be considered as part of the review process. Members of the local community may submit initial comments at <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-tallahassee-fl">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-tallahassee-fl</a>. If the facility review supports the business case for change to the facility's processing operations, the Postal Service will hold a public meeting to allow members of the local community to provide additional feedback.

### 8. How are public meetings held?

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## 9. How much will efficiency improve, and money will be saved with this initiative?

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## 10. Can facilities close without going through the MPFR process?

The Postal Service is not required to conduct MPFR studies prior to making changes at annexes, or mail processing operations within a single customer service area.

# 11. If a facility is closed or if an operation is consolidated, where will mail be processed?

Should a facility be determined to be closed or consolidated, the MPFR process will provide analysis of where best to process the mail and packages in the region.

#### 12. Can the Postal Service sell facilities that close?

Decisions will be made based on the operational needs of the Postal Service. Postal Service-owned facilities could be sold if appropriate for operational needs.

## 13. Will these changes affect how long it take for mail and packages to be delivered?

The impact of these changes on delivery times is part of the MPFR study analysis.

# 14. If operations are consolidated, will it impact local Post Office or retail operations?

The MPFR will have minimal impact to customer services. Business Mail entry, Post Office, station, and branch retail services, and delivery services are expected to remain unchanged in most cases.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Oct. 18, 2023

## POSTAL NEWS

Contact: Paul Smith Paul.f.smith@usps.gov











## Postal Service to Review Facility Operations in Wilmington

Facility reviews part of USPS work to modernize nation's aging postal network

Wilmington, DE — The U.S. Postal Service announced it will be conducting a Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) of its processing and distribution center in Wilmington this month.

As part of its 10-year Delivering for America plan, the Postal Service is investing \$40 billion to modernize the nation's aging postal processing and delivery network. The organization is assessing how this facility can best support service and operational goals in Delaware, as well as provide platforms for launching new products and competitive services for mailing and shipping customers in the future.

The MPFR process is expected to have minimal impact to customer service. Business mail entry, Post Office, station and branch retail services, and delivery services are expected to remain unchanged in most cases.

Public input will be considered as part of the review process. Members of the local community may submit written comments at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-wilmington-de . If the review supports the business case for change to the facility's processing operations. Postal Service representatives will hold a public meeting to allow members of the local community to provide additional feedback.

The Postal Service will work closely with its unions and management associations throughout the facility review process and will continually monitor the impact of any changes that are implemented and will adjust plans as necessary and appropriate.

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## **Stand-Up Talk** October 18, 2023

## **Notice of Intent: Mail Processing Facility Review Wilmington PaDC**

Today, the Postal Service will begin a Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) at the Wilmington Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) The purpose of this study is to see if it makes operational sense to consolidate the remaining outgoing operations into the Philadelphia P&DC.

### Why is this MPFR study being conducted?

The Postal Service is moving forward with the Delivering for America Plan, which includes strategies for the development of a mail processing network that enables more precise, efficient and reliable service. By using best-in-class logistics practices, the Postal Service is driving efficiency and service performance improvement to fuel revenue growth and customer retention.

The MPFR process will help identify how this facility can best support the organization's service and operational goals, as well as provide platforms for launching new products and competitive services for mailing and shipping customers in the future.

#### So how does the MPFR process work?

First, a feasibility study will be conducted. Based on the data from that study, a proposal will then be made. The proposal may recommend consolidating mail processing operations or it may be determined that a consolidation should not occur because it would not provide any cost savings or would negatively impact service.

Public input will be considered as part of the review process. Members of the local community and employees may submit initial comments online.

If the facility review supports the business case for change to the facility's processing operations, the Postal Service will hold a public meeting to allow members of the local community to provide additional feedback. All comments will be fully considered in any decision.

We anticipate the review will have minimal impact to customer service. Business mail entry, Post Office, station and branch retail services, and delivery services are expected to remain unchanged in most cases.

# What would happen if the decision were made to move some operations to Philadelphia P&DC?

If it is determined that operations should be moved, there may be some employee reassignments. All reassignments will be made in compliance with the collective bargaining agreements.

There would be no change in local mail service. The local postmark would still be available at local Post Offices.

We will keep you informed about any future developments regarding this MPFR.

# MAIL PROCESSING FACILITY REVIEW FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### 1. What is being announced?

The Postal Service is conducting Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) studies of various facilities to assess how best to utilize these facilities to support the organization's service and operational goals, as well as provide platforms for launching new products and competitive services for mailing and shipping customers in the future.

This is the beginning of a multi-year process to modernize the mail processing network. The Postal Service will continually monitor the impact of any implemented changes and will adjust accordingly.

The MPFR will determine a recommendation to consolidate, reconfigure or continue status-quo operations at the facility to best support increased delivery performance and the Postal Service's financial sustainability over the long term.

### 2. is the Postal Service making changes to its mail processing network?

Under the Delivering for America plan, the Postal Service is focused on modernizing its aging, inefficient network through targeted \$40 billion in investments, and on establishing new or reimagined facilities that support redesigned processing, transportation, and delivery networks.

The Postal Service regularly reviews its processing and delivery network footprints to ensure its facilities and services are best aligned to provide increased service reliability to customers and a better workplace experience for employees.

## 3. What is a Mail Processing Facility Review study?

A Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) determines the feasibility of changing mail processing operations to improve operational efficiency and/or service. An MPFR involves the consolidation of all originating and/or destinating distribution operations from one or more Post Offices/facilities into other automated processing facilities for the purpose of improving operational efficiency and/or service. The intent is to use Postal Service equipment, facilities, staff work hours and transportation more efficiently.

### 4. When will the studies happen?

The studies are currently underway, and the Postal Service anticipates communicating findings in the coming months.

#### 5. What criteria is used to study the facilities?

MPFR study criteria include projected savings, service issues, transportation and logistics networks, capacity within processing plant, amount of required capacity necessary, equipment usage and maximizing capacity across the board.

## 6. What does this mean for employees who work at the facilities being studied?

The Postal Service is focused on improving the workplace experience for all employees. Throughout the MPFR process, the Postal Service will continue to communicate regularly with the unions and management associations to support local employees as appropriate.

### 7. Does the Postal Service involve the public in these decisions?

Yes. Public input will be considered as part of the review process. Members of the local community may submit initial comments at <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-wilmington-de">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-wilmington-de</a>. If the facility review supports the business case for change to the facility's processing operations, the Postal Service will hold a public meeting to allow members of the local community to provide additional feedback.

#### 8. How are public meetings held?

The public meetings will be held in a central location that can accommodate a group of people. If sufficient meeting space is unavailable to host public meetings, the Postal Service may use Zoom.

## 9. How much will efficiency improve, and money will be saved with this initiative?

The intent is to make more efficient use of Postal Service resources — equipment, facilities, staffing and transportation. For each location, we will disclose the potential savings ahead of a community meeting and/or when public input is solicited.

## 10. Can facilities close without going through the MPFR process?

The Postal Service is not required to conduct MPFR studies prior to making changes at annexes, or mail processing operations within a single customer service area.

# 11. If a facility is closed or if an operation is consolidated, where will mail be processed?

Should a facility be determined to be closed or consolidated, the MPFR process will provide analysis of where best to process the mail and packages in the region.

#### 12. Can the Postal Service sell facilities that close?

Decisions will be made based on the operational needs of the Postal Service. Postal Service-owned facilities could be sold if appropriate for operational needs.

# 13. Will these changes affect how long it take for mail and packages to be delivered?

The impact of these changes on delivery times is part of the MPFR study analysis.

# 14. If operations are consolidated, will it impact local Post Office or retail operations?

The MPFR will have minimal impact to customer services. Business Mail entry, Post Office, station, and branch retail services, and delivery services are expected to remain unchanged in most cases.