



February 9, 2009

The Honorable Domenic Sarno
Mayor of Springfield
Springfield City Hall
36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103-1699

Dear Mayor Sarno:

This letter is an informational notice of the intent of the U. S. Postal Service to conduct an Area Mail Processing (AMP) study of mail processing at the Springfield Processing & Distribution Center for possible consolidation of some operations into the Hartford Processing & Distribution Center.

An AMP study involves a review of mail processing and transportation operations of a Postal facility. The reason for the study is to review mail volume and determine capacity needs in order to increase efficiency and improve productivity. In doing so, we will be able to continue to provide universal service at a reasonable cost for a long time to come.

The U. S. Postal Service is facing one of the most difficult challenges in its history. There has been a continual decline in single-piece First-Class Mail volumes over the past decade. The current economic downturn has led to an even greater decline in volume with the loss of over 9 billion pieces this past year alone. The Postal Service has to realign its processing and delivery network to match its resources with mail volume. The reality is we have an excess of equipment, staff, and facilities to process a declining volume of mail. Consolidating some Postal operations only makes logical business sense given the economic realities. It would be fiscally irresponsible not to do so.

We are soliciting the public's input as part of the process. The public may submit comments to:

Cheryl A. Coyne
A/Manager, Consumer Affairs
U. S. Postal Service
74 Main Street
North Reading, MA 01889-9631

All comments will be fully considered in any decision.

If the feasibility study supports the business case for changing mail processing operations, we will hold a public meeting to allow members of the community to ask questions and to provide feedback. This input will be considered in the final proposal.

If you have questions, or need additional information, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Goonan".

Theodore N. Goonan
A/Postmaster, Springfield