

DAVID LOEBSACK
2ND DISTRICT, IOWA

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October 12, 2012

Patrick Donahue
Postmaster General, CEO
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, DC 20260

I am writing in regards to the announcement that the United States Postal Service will be holding public meetings about service reductions at local post offices.

Every Iowa household and many small businesses depend on reliable postal services. That is why it is extremely important to me that people have access to necessary postal services, especially seniors and those living in rural areas. It is also critical that we do everything that we can to maintain our local Post Offices and the essential services they provide.

I was very pleased with the USPS's recent decision to keep post offices and postal processing facilities open. However, it is my understanding that this proposal may mean cutbacks in post offices' services and hours. I am also very troubled that preliminary surveys sent out to Buffalo, Iowa residents include closing the doors of the local office as a possible option, despite this office only being scheduled for a serviced reduction of two hours per day. This suggests that the USPS is considering closing rural post offices rather than moving forward with the plan to reduce service hours only – something that both I and the Iowans I represent would strongly oppose.

I understand that Buffalo is the first of many post offices in Iowa's Second Congressional District that is seeking public input as service reductions are considered. I am requesting that you provide me with details on how this process will move forward and the basis that will be used to determine the plan for each post office, including the Buffalo office.

Additionally, I would like to know what role the community survey and public meeting will play as you make these decisions. I strongly believe that it is vital for community members to be given time to express their concerns and ask questions during the scheduled meetings, and urge you to take this input into full consideration.

I continue to oppose the closure of rural post offices, and urge you to continue with plans that will keep offices open and ensure that residents are able to access vital postal services. I look forward to your response regarding your plans to include community input in the decision

making process, as well as how the USPS will proceed with these possible service reductions and closures.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dave Loeb sack". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dave Loeb sack
Iowa's Second District