

DENNIS J. KUCINICH

10TH DISTRICT, OHIO

2445 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-5871

14400 DETROIT AVENUE
LAKEWOOD, OHIO 44107
(216) 228-8850

PARMATOWN MALL
7904 DAY DRIVE
PARMA, OH 44129
(440) 845-2707



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

www.kucinich.house.gov

CHAIRMAN,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON DOMESTIC POLICY

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND
GOVERNMENT REFORM

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

October 8, 2009

Mr. John E. Potter
Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, Southwest
Washington, D.C. 20260-3500

Dear Mr. Potter:

I have just been informed that the U.S. Postal Service's (USPS) Cleveland area office has made a decision to divert two trailers of priority mail to Pittsburgh for processing. This latest development has significant ramifications for the people of Cleveland who depend on the jobs created by priority mail processing there. I am gravely concerned that the displacement of these two trailers will open the door for additional closures of mail processing facilities in the Greater Cleveland Area. The news also comes shortly after Cleveland's Airport Mail Facility (AMF) was decommissioned from mail processing after many successful years of serving this important function. When Deputy Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe testified before the House Subcommittee on the Federal Workforce, Postal Service, and the District of Columbia, on which I serve, he informed me that mail processing would continue in Cleveland at the Orange Avenue mail facility in Downtown Cleveland while the AMF would continue to operate its retail facility.

Recently, I learned that despite promises made at the July 24, 2008, Subcommittee hearing, the AMF retail facility is now being considered for closure. This facility is extremely important to the people of Northeast Ohio because of its late operating hours and its proximity to FedEx which competes with USPS for business. I am on record as protesting this proposed closure with the USPS and with the Postal Regulatory Commission. Now I am learning that the USPS is renegeing on its other assurance made at the 2008 hearing that the AMF's processing work would be done in Downtown Cleveland.

I am shocked and disappointed that the USPS would take this action without warning after misleading me and the other members of the Subcommittee into thinking that the AMF's processing work would continue in Cleveland. I ask that you immediately retain the processing work which would have been done at the AMF in Cleveland at the Orange Avenue facility. If the two trailers cannot practicably be retained in Cleveland on such short notice after the decision was made to divert them, then I ask that no future mail be diverted to Pittsburgh after these two trailers are diverted. In addition, I ask that no other

changes be made other than those discussed at the 2008 hearing until you or Mr. Donahoe revisit the Subcommittee to clarify USPS's position. I further ask that you respond to this letter immediately.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dennis J. Kucinich". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Dennis J. Kucinich
Member of Congress

Cc: Honorable Stephen F. Lynch, Chairman, House Subcommittee on Postal Service