



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTAL SUPERVISORS

National Headquarters
1727 KING STREET, SUITE 400
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February 26, 2024

Board Memo 025-2024: Charleston, SC P&DC Public Meeting Notice Regarding MPFR Results

Executive Board,

NAPS HQ has been informed of USPS intent to provide a notice announcing a public meeting, stand up talk, and press release for Charleston, South Carolina P&DC. This meeting is to share results and additional feedback based on Mail Processing Facility Reviews (MPFR).

Please see information regarding the public meeting being held in Reno, Nevada below.

Charleston, SC P&DC to Columbia, SC P&DC

Date and Time: Mon., March 11th at 6pm

Location: Charleston County Public Library, 68 Calhoun Street, Charleston, SC 29401

Please share this information with your membership.

Thank you, and be safe.

NAPS Headquarters



February 25, 2024

Mr. Ivan Butts
President
National Association of Postal Supervisors
1727 King Street, Suite 400
Alexandria, VA 22314-2753

Dear Ivan:

This is in further reference to the Postal Service's January 10 correspondence (enclosed) announcing its intent to conduct Mail Processing Facility Reviews (MPFR) at several facilities, including at the Charleston, South Carolina (SC) Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC).

A review of the Charleston, SC P&DC was conducted to determine whether efficiency and/or service could be improved by consolidating some mail processing operations into the Columbia, SC P&DC in Columbia, SC.

The initial result of this facility review supports the business case for keeping this facility open and modernized as a Local Processing Center with simplified processes and standardized layouts. Additionally, the business case supports transferring some mail processing operations to the Columbia, SC P&DC.

The next step is to provide notice of a public meeting to share the initial results of the study and to allow members of the community to provide additional feedback.

Enclosed are the following communication materials that are intended to be communicated today for this location:

- Stand Up Talks (SUT) to employees
- Notices of Public Meetings
- Press Releases

Please contact Paulita Wimbush at ext. 4042 if you have questions regarding the matter.

Sincerely,

Bruce A. Nicholson
Director
Labor Relations Policies and Programs

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



January 10, 2024

Mr. Ivan Butts
 President
 National Association of Postal Supervisors
 1727 King Street, Suite 400
 Alexandria, VA 22314-2753

Certified Mail Number
 9589 0710 5270 0684 7735 32

Dear Ivan:

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

Abilene, Texas (TX)	Midland, Texas (TX)
Bemidji, Minnesota (MN)	Missoula, Montana (MT)
Brockton, Massachusetts (MA)	North Platte, Nebraska (NE)
Burlington, Vermont (VT)	Peoria, Illinois (IL)
Casper, Wyoming (WY)	Quad Cities, Illinois (IL)
Champaign, Illinois (IL)	Raleigh, North Carolina (NC)
Charleston, South Carolina (SC)	Reno, Nevada (NV)
Corpus Christi, Texas (TX)	Santa Barbara, California (CA)
Fresno, California (CA)	Sioux Falls, South Dakota (SD)
Grand Junction, Colorado (CO)	South Jersey, New Jersey (NJ)
Gulfport, Mississippi (MS)	Springfield, Illinois (IL)
Iron Mountain, Michigan (MI)	Tulsa, Oklahoma (OK)
Johnstown, Pennsylvania (PA)	Waterloo, Iowa (IA)
Manchester, New Hampshire (NH)	White River Junction, Vermont (VT)
McAllen, Texas (TX)	Yakima, Washington (WA)

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 thirty mail processing facilities to determine whether efficiency and/or service could be improved by consolidating some mail processing operations into other mail processing facilities. A list of the thirty facilities that will be studied is enclosed.

Enclosed are the Notices of Intent, Press Releases, Stand-Up Talks and Frequently Asked Questions that will be distributed today for the thirty facilities that will be studied.

Please contact Paulita Wimbush at extension 4042 if you have questions concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'BAN', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bruce A. Nicholson
Director
Labor Relations Policies and Programs

Enclosures

Facilities to Be Studied (MPFR)	Transfer Some Operations to
ABILENE TX P&DC	NORTH TEXAS TX P&DC
BEMIDJI MN P&DC	FARGO ND P&DC
BROCKTON MA P&DC	PROVIDENCE RI P&DC
BURLINGTON VT P&DC	HARTFORD CT P&DC
CASPER WY P&DC	BILLINGS MT P&DC
CHAMPAIGN IL P&DC	SOUTH SUBURBAN IL P&DC CHICAGO SOUTH IL RPDC
CHARLESTON SC P&DC	COLUMBIA SC P&DC
CORPUS CHRISTI TX P&DC	SAN ANTONIO TX P&DC
FRESNO CA P&DC	SACRAMENTO CA P&DC
GRAND JUNCTION CO P&DC	DENVER CO P&DC
GULFPORT MS P&DC	JACKSON MS P&DC
IRON MOUNTAIN MI P&DC	GREEN BAY WI P&DC
JOHNSTOWN PA P&DC	PITTSBURGH PA P&DC
MANCHESTER NH P&DC	BOSTON MA P&DC SOUTHERN ME P&DC
MCALLEN TX P&DC	SAN ANTONIO TX P&DC
MIDLAND TX P&DC	AMARILLO TX P&DC
MISSOULA MT P&DC	SPOKANE WA P&DC
NORTH PLATTE NE P&DC	DENVER CO P&DC
PEORIA IL P&DC	SOUTH SUBURBAN IL P&DC
QUAD CITIES IL P&DC	DES MOINES IA P&DC
RALEIGH NC P&DC	GREENSBORO RPDC
RENO NV P&DC	SACRAMENTO CA P&DC
SANTA BARBARA CA P&DC	SANTA CLARITA CA P&DC
SIOUX FALLS SD P&DC	OMAHA NE P&DC
SO JERSEY NJ P&DC	PHILADELPHIA PA P&DC
SPRINGFIELD IL P&DC	ST LOUIS MO P&DC
TULSA OK P&DC	OKLAHOMA CITY OK P&DC
WATERLOO IA P&DC	DES MOINES IA P&DC
WHITE RIVER JUNC VT P&DC	HARTFORD CT P&DC
YAKIMA WA P&DC	SEATTLE WA P&DC

Mail Processing Facility Review Notice of Public Input Meeting

Charleston SC P&DC in North Charleston SC to Columbia P&DC in Columbia SC

February 25, 2024

As part of a \$40 billion investment strategy to upgrade and improve the Postal processing, transportation, and delivery networks, the U.S. Postal Service announced that it is conducting an evaluation of current operations and potential future uses of its Charleston SC Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) facility in North Charleston SC.

The USPS ten-year Delivering for America (DFA) plan includes initiatives to improve organizational and operational processes and actively make the Postal Service an efficient, high-performing, world class logistics and delivery provider. Improvements to Postal operations will enhance the level of service provided to the public; drive innovation and enable a broader array of postal products and services; enhance organizational competitiveness; improve efficiency and lower the cost to operate; and provide better workplaces and careers for Postal Service employees.

This specific facility review will inform the best allocation of resources and strategies to improve customer service and to achieve significant cost savings through operational precision and efficiency. Business mail entry, Post Office, station, and branch retail services are not expected to change, and delivery services will be unaffected throughout this review. The evaluation is a first step in the Postal Service review and investment process in this facility and will not result in this facility's closure or career employee layoffs.

Public input will be considered as part of the review. A public meeting will be held to share the initial results of the study and to allow members of the local community to provide their feedback and perspectives on the Initial Findings of the MPFR. The meeting will be held on Monday, March 11, 6:00 PM at the Charleston County Public Library, 68 Calhoun St, Charleston SC 29401. A summary of the MPFR will be posted on *about.usps.com* at least one week prior to the public input meeting.

Members of the local community may submit comments at:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-charleston-sc>.

Below are some preliminary highlights from the study:

Business Case

The Postal Service is investing heavily in operations as it moves to modernize the nation's postal network, improve customer service, and achieve the organization's goal of 95% on-time delivery across all mail products.

The initial results of the facility review support the business case for keeping the Charleston SC P&DC open and modernizing the facility as a Local Processing Center (LPC) with simplified processes and standardized layouts. The Charleston SC LPC will be a critical node to the unified movement of mail and packages across the regional processing and transportation ecosystem. The facility will offer expanded and streamlined package processing capabilities in the local market and new workplace amenities for USPS employees. Additionally, the business case supports transferring some mail processing operations to the Columbia P&DC in Columbia SC.

Future of Facility

The Charleston SC P&DC will remain open and will be modernized. It will be repositioned as a Local Processing Center for destinating mail processing. It is expected that this facility will be a critical node to the unified movement of mail and packages across the regional processing and transportation ecosystem.

Local Customers

- Retail and other services currently available at the Charleston SC P&DC will not change.
- Business mail acceptance will remain the same.
- A local postmark will continue to be available at retail post offices.
- Delivery times of mail to residence and businesses should not change throughout this review.

Commercial Mailers

- Mailers who presort mail will continue to receive appropriate postage discounts.
- Mailers who drop ship to Destination Sectional Center Facility (DSCF) can expect no changes if the MPFR is approved.

Please go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-charleston-sc> to submit written comments.
All written comments must be received by March 26, 2024.



POSTAL NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Feb. 25, 2024

Contact: Kanickewa "Nikki" Johnson
kanickewa.p.johnson@usps.gov



USPS Proposes Improvements to Mail Operations at Charleston SC Processing Facility

Facility to remain open and modernized as a Local Processing Center to improve mail and package flow through the region

Investments part of USPS 10-year Delivering for America plan to modernize the nation's aging postal network

Public meeting to be held Mar. 11

NORTH CHARLESTON, SC — As part of a \$40 billion investment strategy to upgrade and improve the Postal processing, transportation, and delivery networks, the U.S. Postal Service is conducting an evaluation of current operations and potential future uses of its Charleston SC Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) facility in North Charleston, SC.

The USPS ten-year Delivering for America (DFA) plan includes initiatives to improve organizational and operational processes and actively make the Postal Service an efficient, high-performing, world class logistics and delivery provider. Improvements to Postal operations will enhance the level of service provided to the public; drive innovation and enable a broader array of postal products and services; enhance organizational competitiveness; improve efficiency and lower the cost to operate; and provide better workplaces and careers for Postal Service employees.

This specific facility review will inform the best allocation of resources and strategies to improve customer service and to achieve significant cost savings through operational precision and efficiency. Business mail entry, Post Office, station, and branch retail services are not expected to change, and delivery services will be unaffected throughout this review. The evaluation is a first step in the Postal Service review and investment process in this facility and will not result in this facility's closure or career employee layoffs.

The initial results of the facility review support the business case for keeping the Charleston SC facility open and modernizing the facility as a Local Processing Center (LPC). The Charleston SC LPC will be a critical node to the unified movement of mail and packages across the regional processing and transportation ecosystem. The facility will offer expanded and streamlined package processing capabilities in the local market and new workplace amenities for USPS employees – part of the Postal Service's \$40 billion investment in the nation's aging postal network.

Additionally, the business case supports transferring some mail processing operations to the Columbia P&DC in Columbia, SC. This would mean a significant percentage of the mail collected locally will travel across the wider USPS transportation and processing network over significant distances to reach their final destinations in a more efficient manner. Mail and packages destined for outside the local area may receive better service and be more cost effectively distributed by aggregating it with mail and packages from other areas going to the same places that will likewise utilize the wider postal network and be transported significant distances from where the mail originated.

A public meeting will be held on Monday, Mar. 11, 6:00 PM at the Charleston County Public Library, 68 Calhoun St, Charleston SC 29401. USPS will share the initial results of the study and allow members of the community to provide oral feedback and perspectives on the Initial Findings of the MPFR. A summary of the MPFR will be posted on about.usps.com at least one week prior to public input meeting. Members of the local community may submit written comments at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-charleston-sc> through Mar. 26, 2024. The public's input will be considered prior to a final decision.

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

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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 167 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.

The Postal Service generally receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

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Stand-Up Talk

February 25, 2024

Mail Processing Facility Review **Public Meeting to be held re: Charleston SC P&DC**

On January 10, we shared that we were beginning an evaluation of current operations and potential future uses for this facility. This review is part of our 10-year strategic Delivering for America plan and our \$40 billion investment strategy to upgrade and improve the Postal processing, transportation, and delivery networks.

The USPS ten-year Delivering for America (DFA) plan includes initiatives to improve organizational and operational processes and actively make the Postal Service an efficient, high-performing, world class logistics and delivery provider. Improvements to Postal operations will enhance the level of service provided to the public; drive innovation and enable a broader array of postal products and services; enhance organizational competitiveness; improve efficiency and lower the cost to operate; and provide better workplaces and careers for Postal Service employees.

This specific facility review will inform the best allocation of resources and strategies to improve customer service and to achieve significant cost savings through operational precision and efficiency. Business mail entry, Post Office, station, and branch retail services are not expected to change, and delivery services will be unaffected throughout this review. The evaluation is a first step in the Postal Service review and investment process in this facility and will not result in this facility's closure or career employee layoffs.

The initial results of the facility review support the business case for keeping this facility open and modernized as a Local Processing Center (LPC). Repurposing this facility as a Local Processing Center is consistent with the broader network redesign outlined in the DFA Plan. The Charleston SC LPC will be a critical node to the unified movement of mail and packages across the regional processing and transportation ecosystem. It will result in a revitalized, modernized, and upgraded facility with improved employee amenities and a better working environment.

Additionally, the business case supports transferring some mail processing operations to the Columbia P&DC in Columbia, SC. This will mean, a significant percentage of the mail collected here will travel across our wider transportation and processing network over significant distances to reach their final destinations in a more efficient manner. Mail and packages destined for outside our local area may receive better service and be more cost effectively distributed by aggregating it with mail and packages from other areas going to the same places that will likewise utilize the wider postal network and be transported significant distances from where the mail originated.

As updates are made to the facility and its operations, there will be no career employee layoffs.

The Postal Service will hold a public meeting to allow the local community to provide their feedback and perspectives on the Initial Findings of the review on Monday, March 11, 6:00 PM at the Charleston County Public Library, 68 Calhoun St, Charleston SC 29401. Attendance will be voluntary and off-the-clock for employees who choose to attend.

Comments on the proposal from employees and the public will be considered before any decision is made. Comments may be submitted at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-charleston-sc>. You can submit your comments on the study up to 15 days after the public meeting.

Thank you for your attention. We will keep you updated as we move through the facility review process and additional initiatives to modernize our postal network.

MAIL PROCESSING FACILITY REVIEW

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Why is USPS conducting a review of this facility?

This review is part of a \$40 billion investment strategy to upgrade and improve processing, transportation, delivery networks and employee experiences across the country. The Charleston SC Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) facility has been selected as a candidate for evaluation of its current operations and potential future uses that may lead to overall modernization and enhancement initiatives at the facility.

The review will not result in this facility's closure or career employee layoffs.

2. What did the MPFR evaluate?

In connection with the review, the Postal Service evaluated the following:

- a. Whether efficiency could be increased by transferring some mail processing operations currently performed at the Charleston SC P&DC to the Columbia P&DC. A significant percentage of the mail collected in Charleston will travel across our wider transportation and processing network over significant distances to reach their final destinations. Mail and packages destined for outside the Charleston area may receive better service and be more cost effectively distributed by aggregating it with mail and packages from other areas going to the same places that will likewise utilize the wider postal network and be transported significant distances from where the mail originated.
- b. Whether efficiency can be increased, and service improved, regardless of any determination to transfer some mail processing operations out of the Charleston facility, by investing in the Charleston facility to redesign mail processing operations to accommodate changing mail products and mail flow with modern operating strategies, equipment, and improved employee amenities.
- c. Whether efficiency can be improved and/or service enhanced, regardless of any determination to transfer some mail processing operations out of the Charleston facility, by expanding operations at the facility including adding Sorting & Delivery Center functions currently being deployed throughout the nation, incorporating expanded retail functions currently being evaluated and deployed throughout the nation, and/or increasing local package delivery functions including local transportation initiatives supporting new products being introduced.

3. When will a final decision be announced?

The Postal Service anticipates communicating initial findings in the coming month or two.

4. What does the facility review mean for local employees?

The review will not result in career employee layoffs. Our DFA plan is focused on improving the workplace experience for all employees by investing in facility conditions – including better space and lighting. Throughout the review process, we will continue to communicate regularly with the unions and management associations to support local employees as appropriate.

5. How can the public provide input in the process?

Members of the local community may provide feedback and perspectives on the Initial Findings of the MPFR at a public meeting to be held on Monday, March 11, 6:00 PM at the Charleston County Public Library, 68 Calhoun St, Charleston SC 29401 or submit comments at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-charleston-sc>. A summary of the MPFR will be posted on *about.usps.com* at least one week prior to the public input meeting.

6. How will local Post Office or retail operations be impacted by the review process?

The purpose of conducting this review and implementing our 10-year strategic plan is to improve service delivery and our overall retail experience. Business mail entry, Post Office, station, and branch retail services are not expected to change, and delivery services will not slow down as a result of this review.

7. What would repurposing this facility look like?

While it may be determined that moving some mail processing operations from this facility is a good business decision, it is highly likely under those circumstances that the facility will be modernized and repurposed as a Local Processing Center, a Sorting & Delivery Center, or both, consistent with the broader network redesign outlined in the DFA Plan. Any such repurposing will result in a revitalized, modernized, and upgraded facility with improved employee amenities and a better working environment.

8. What is a Local Processing Center (LPC)?

Local Processing Centers are critical nodes in our new end-to-end network model. They are the connective node between Regional Processing & Distribution Centers (RPDCs) to Sorting & Delivery Centers – and will ensure a streamlined flow of mail and packages in a logical and integrated manner. As an LPC, the facility amenities – including lighting, space, and bathrooms – would be improved.

9. What is a Sorting & Delivery Center (S&DC)?

Within a region, S&DCs will expand our network reach. S&DCs will aggregate delivery units into fewer, larger, and centrally located sites to provide faster and more reliable mail and package delivery over a greater geographic area, as compared to traditional delivery units.

As with RPDCs, S&DCs will be repurposed existing facilities as well as new buildings. In each S&DC, we will install package sorting equipment to reduce manual handlings and improve throughput. Employee amenities such as lighting, bathrooms, and breakrooms, will also be improved.

We have opened 31 S&DCs since the DFA plan launched. We plan to open another 36 in coming months.

10. What are the long-term benefits of implementing the Delivering for America Plan and modernizing the postal network?

There are many benefits derived from realizing the Delivering for America 10-year Plan. Implementation of the plan will lead to a better everything including better service performance for our customers; better employee morale and retention rates; better facility conditions; a better carbon footprint; better sequencing of mail and packages; better opportunities for our customers to reach a larger population in less time, and overall, a better customer experience.