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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

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COMMITTEE ON RULES

March 27, 2024

The Honorable Louis DeJoy
Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 10300
Washington, D.C. 20260-1000

Dear Postmaster General DeJoy,

I write to express my deep concerns about proposed changes to the USPS Grand Junction facility from a regional to a local mail processing center and the resulting proposed relocation of mail processing operations from this facility to one in Denver. I urge you to reconsider any changes that would exacerbate mail delivery performance issues in Colorado's Western Slope communities, as many of these communities already experience significant service problems.

As I understand it, as part of its *Delivering For America* plan, the Postal Service is conducting "mail processing facility reviews" to study the network and consider changes at mail processing facilities, including the one in Grand Junction, the largest city on Colorado's Western Slope. The Postal Service apparently claims that facilities losing outgoing mail processing will be converted to "a Local Processing Center, a Sorting & Delivery Center, or both," and that these reviews will supposedly not result in slower mail delivery.

The proposed change to the Grand Junction facility operations, however, would require mail from Western Slope communities to be sent hundreds of miles over the Continental Divide to be processed in Denver – along highways that regularly experience closures and delays due to winter storms, wildfire, rockslides, and heavy traffic – even when its destination is on the Western Slope. In these rural areas, detours can be hundreds of miles long and over high mountain passes. Given these substantial transportation challenges, this proposal to send local mail from the Western Slope to Denver and back again would seemingly cause major delays for many residents and businesses.

This is especially concerning for Coloradans who need reliable mail service to vote in elections, conduct business, pay their bills, receive medications, and stay in touch with loved ones. While I appreciate the need for the Postal Service to continue to work toward financial stability, it cannot come at the expense of Colorado's rural small businesses, seniors, and families.

For the foregoing reasons, I urge you to reconsider changes to USPS's Grand Junction facility that would result in slower mail delivery and further declines in service for our Western Slope communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Neguse". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joe" and last name "Neguse" clearly legible.

Joe Neguse
Member of Congress