Congress of the United States Washington, VC 20515

August 17, 2023

The Honorable Louis DeJoy U.S. Postmaster General 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW Washington, DC 20260

U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW Washington, DC 20260

Dear Mr. DeJoy and distinguished Board Members:

We write to share our concerns about the initial results of the Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) at the Macon, Georgia Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC). The downsizing of the Macon mail processing facility would undoubtedly lead to decreased service standards and the loss of middle-class jobs, both career and non-career, for the people of our districts.

We share your belief that every zip code, household, and business in America deserves the U.S. Postal Service's highest service standards, and we are concerned that America's rural areas and small towns are being left behind. Over the past few decades, rural and small urban communities in our districts have seen their postal facilities consistently scaled down and consolidated with processing operations in highly populated areas, either out-of-state or in the Atlanta region.

Following the closings of the Columbus, Albany, and Valdosta Customer Service Mail Processing Centers (CSMPCs) in 2012, the communities we represent lost jobs and faced delivery delays due to the routing of local mail and packages through distant processing facilities. While we understand that the U.S. Postal Service is facing acute financial difficulties and as a result has begun implementation of the Delivering for America Plan, we are concerned that the transformation of the Macon P&DC into a Local Processing Center (LPC), which, as we understand, would handle only letters and flat mail rather than packages, could lead to further customer service disruptions in the rural towns and small urban communities that depend on the Postal Service the most.

Therefore, we have a few questions regarding the proposed repositioning of the Macon P&DC to a LPC:

- We understand there will be no career employee layoffs as a result of the transition. How many non-career employees currently work at the Macon P&DC?
- How many non-career employee layoffs are expected following the repositioning of the Macon P&DC to an LPC?
- How many career employees will be reassigned to locations outside of Macon following the repositioning? To which postal facilities does USPS anticipate reassigned career employees will go?
- Will the new Macon LPC process any originating packages?
- If the LPC does not process originating packages, will all packages originating from the Middle Georgia region be routed through Atlanta for processing? How might that affect delivery times of local packages, such as the shipment of prescription drugs, within Macon-Bibb County and its immediate surrounding areas?

We urge the U.S. Postal Service to utilize this study not to curtail operations at the Macon P&DC but to make improvements that keep jobs in the area and improve customer service outcomes for the people of Middle and Southwest Georgia. We greatly appreciate your efforts to provide the best possible service to the American people and we look forward to hearing from you. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.

Member of Congress

Austin Scott

Member of Congress

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