



The Detroit Postal Worker

A NEWS BULLETIN FOR APWU MEMBERS

American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO - Detroit District Area Local

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Study to Close 12 Detroit City Stations : *APWU-DDAL Does Not Agree!!*

The Detroit District has announced it would be studying about 17 Post Offices throughout the newly established Detroit District. USPS Management has informed the APWU-DDAL that 12 of the 17 Post Offices to be studied for closure are within the Detroit City Bid Cluster.

The Union opposes any closure within the Detroit Bid Cluster. The Union opposes the study itself. the Union believes this is just another attempt by the USPS to slam the employees and the citizens of the City of Detroit. No closing will add to the district's bottom line, in fact, any closure will drastically take away from the district's bottom line.

USPS Management says the stations were identified due to the fact that they did not generate at least \$600,000.00 in 2010. One year of less than \$600,000.00 in revenue is not enough reason to take away Detroit residents' access to the Post Office. There are some obvious and correctable reasons why USPS revenue in Detroit is down.

For example, one of the things that needs to be addressed is the disparate way the Detroit Stations are stocked. The Detroit Stations do not have the premium items (e.g. Hallmark Cards, the new money cards, etc) that the surrounding Post Offices have to generate additional revenue. Also, our philatelic boutique was closed years ago. Open business hours for finance units continue to be reduced, in some cases opening *after* most people have to be at work, and closing *before* those people get off work. Saturday hours are also being eliminated all over the place.

The Clerks in the Detroit Bid Cluster have consistently out-performed other clerks throughout the country in many areas of evaluation. That is not a one year thing.

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Striving to Maintain Democracy, Equality and Integrity for all People

The Detroit District will lose about 6 million dollars a year if station closings are allowed to go forward— and the citizens of the City of Detroit stand to lose more: *universal service from the USPS, which the U.S. Constitution guarantees to its citizens.*

The USPS believes that money will be recaptured in other places, the union disagrees. The USPS said the same thing when they closed the Detroit Metro Airport Air Mail Facility (AMF) Post Office. The AMF Finance Unit was bringing in 1 Million dollars or more a year before it closed, it was the top revenue-generator of all the finance units in the Detroit Installation, and the USPS has never recouped that 1 million dollars from anywhere. 6 million dollars is a lot of money to try and recoup from somewhere else.

The Stations and Branches within the city to be studied for closure are;

Kensington Station, Ren Cen Station, Highland Park Branch, Ferndale Branch, Fenkell Station, Northwestern Station, Livernois Station, Springwells Station, Strathmoor Station, Joyfield Station, Brightmoor Station, Seven Oaks Station.

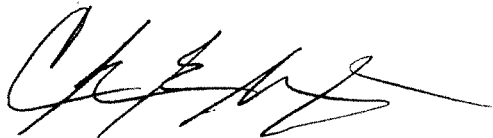
These closings would effectively cut off almost the entire West Side of the City of Detroit, and the entire Latino community of Southwest Detroit, from access to public postal services at retail windows. Customers would either have to come all the way downtown to the GWY, or go West to Redford Branch (out of the city) or North to Oak Park (out of the city) or South to River Rouge (out of the city). Only College Park Station would remain open (on the border with Ferndale) and even Ferndale residents would have to come to College Park, or go to Royal Oak.

YOU SHOULD BE UPSET ABOUT THIS!! NOT ONLY AS A POSTAL EMPLOYEE, BUT AS A POSTAL CUSTOMER!!

Your Union wants you to get involved politically. Let all your customers and family members know that, when the public-comment meetings are held, they should ATTEND and voice their opposition to these closings. GET INVOLVED and PARTICIPATE in the labor events that the Union has planned. Plan to write your city, state and national elected officials. We will have sample letter formats to assist you with contacting your elected officials.

THESE ARE YOUR JOBS AND YOUR LIVELIHOODS . . . GET INVOLVED!

In Union Solidarity,



Christopher E. Ulmer, President