

United States Senate

February 13, 2024

The Honorable Louis DeJoy
Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, DC 20620

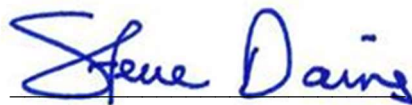
Dear Postmaster General DeJoy,

I write to express my concerns regarding the United State Postal Service's (USPS) current Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) of the Missoula Processing & Distribution Center (P&DC). I have serious concerns about potential out of state mail routing as well as any possibility of job losses in Missoula. While I appreciate the efforts of the USPS to modernize and improve services, I urge you to maintain existing operations at the Missoula P&DC as part of any future plans.

The Missoula P&DC is an important part of Montana's postal network. While I am glad that the MPFR Notice of Intent recognized that the Missoula P&DC will continue to be "a critical node to the unified movement of mail and packages across the regional process and transportation ecosystem," I am concerned by the prospect that future parcels in Missoula may be rerouted to a facility in Spokane before being sent back to Missoula or across the country. The USPS is critically important for rural and urban Montanans alike. Many rely on the USPS to help facilitate their small business transactions and deliver their vital prescription medicine, Social Security checks, tax refunds, and bills. Rerouting mail to a facility over 200 miles away will likely lead to increased service delays, decreased customer satisfaction, and job losses in Missoula.

As the USPS conducts its MPFR, I urge you to maintain current operations in Missoula and open communication with affected employees and postal customers alike. I also urge you to prioritize investments that improve upon existing services in Montana to ensure that the USPS fulfills its mission for Montanans from all corners of the state.

Sincerely,



Steve Daines
United States Senator