

# “LOCAL” MAIL STAYING “LOCAL” (UPDATE)

Paul V. Hogrogian, National President



**D**ear Members: I previously reported that the Postal Service announced what it called “Mail Processing Facility Reviews” (MPFRs) for approximately sixty sites. The Postal Service had determined that there was a need to consolidate certain mail processing operations from these facilities into other processing centers. The plan was to move ALL Outgoing/Originating mail (letters/flats and parcels) from the targeted installation to a centralized Mail Processing Facility (MPF).

While some of these consolidations made sense, others did not. The original concept was to centralize mail processing among facilities in a metropolitan area within a

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50-mile radius. The Postal Service’s plans, in some instances, have extended much further than that, often exceeding one hundred miles, sometimes exceeding two hundred miles. This would mean that a letter mailed across town would travel to a centralized facility (often 100-200 miles away), be processed there and then returned to the original facility for local processing. We have and will continue to argue to the Postal Service that they must re-evaluate the situation, reconsider these plans and implement a more reasonable and rational plan.

Many representatives in Congress have also voiced their opposition to the Mail Processing Facility reviews. At least four separate bills were introduced in Congress to stop the consolidations until service performance improves. A

bi-partisan group of twenty-six Senators signed a letter to pause all changes to the delivery network until the Postal Regulatory Commission reviews the proposed changes.

As previously reported, the Postal Service announced a change in their plans. The Postal Service now proposes to continue mail cancellation operations in thirty-six of the proposed sixty MPFR sites. The “local” mail processed there will therefore remain in the local area, thereby avoiding the unnecessary round trips of several hundreds of miles. The Postal Service claims that the proposed changes will maintain the existing 1–5-day service standards for first class mail.

The NPMHU has now been supplied with a draft list (subject to change) of the thirty-six facilities where local mail will remain local. The listed postal facilities will now continue certain local originating mail processing operations. The following facilities are slated to continue to cancel and process local mail:

- McAllen, TX
- El Paso, TX
- Charleston, WV
- Knoxville, TN
- Fayetteville, AR
- Gulfport, MS
- Burlington, VT
- Wichita, KS
- Bismarck, ND
- Shreveport, LA
- Sioux Falls, SD
- Mobile, AL
- Quad Cities, IL
- Springfield, MO
- Pensacola, FL
- Fresno, CA
- Jackson, MS
- West Palm Beach, FL
- Peoria, IL
- Reno, NV
- Champaign, IL
- Chattanooga, TN
- Little Rock, AR
- Waterloo, IA
- Cedar Rapids, IA
- Eastern ME
- Tulsa, OK
- Columbus, OH
- Birmingham, AL
- Albany, NY
- Syracuse, NY
- Greenville, SC
- Austin, TX
- Raleigh, NC
- Buffalo, NY
- Fort Myers, FL

The Postal Service anticipated staffing impacts due to the proposed move of operations originating from the losing sites. However, with the decision to keep these operations at the original facility, it is anticipated that the predicted employee impacts will be greatly diminished if not totally eliminated.

It is worth repeating that these plans are extremely fluid and subject to change. The National Office will provide updates on this project as we receive more information.

The NPMHU will ensure that the Postal Service complies with all the provisions of our National Agreement, especially those contained in Article 12 and keeping all dislocation and inconvenience to Mail Handlers to an absolute minimum when implementing these plans.

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The National Office has continued to prepare for the next round of contract negotiations. Our National Bargaining Agreement expires on September 20, 2025. Our contract establishes the wages, benefits and working conditions of the Mail Handler bargaining unit. Solicitation for contract proposals has been sent to the field. Last time hundreds of contract proposals were submitted. A bargaining strategy session was held on the third day of our Semi-Annual Meeting of Local Unions (SAMLU) held in Houston, Texas on November 4-6, 2024. Our Field Negotiating Committee is scheduled to meet in Washington for a week in February to review and discuss all the proposals that were received from the field.

The members that I appointed to the Field Negotiating Committee are as follows:

1. **Paul Hogrogian**, National President
2. **Kevin Tabarus**, National Secretary-Treasurer
3. **John Gibson**, Eastern Regional VP/President — Local 308
4. **June Harris**, Central Regional VP/President — Local 306
5. **Don Sneesby**, Western Regional VP/President — Local 316
6. **Dan St. Marie**, Northeastern Regional VP/President — Local 301
7. **John “JR” Macon**, Southern Regional VP/President — Local 329
8. **Tony Coleman**, President — Local 302
9. **Juan Torres**, President — Local 303
10. **Greg Hill**, President — Local 304
11. **Felandria Jackson**, President — Local 305
12. **James Haggarty**, President — Local 307

13. **Lisa Greer**, President — Local 310
14. **Charles Charleston**, President — Local 311
15. **Nick Mosezar**, President — Local 318
16. **Lisa Greer**, President — Local 310
17. **Kelly Dickey**, President — Local 322
18. **Jeff Larsen**, President — Local 323
19. **Todd Larson**, President-Local 328
20. **Edvina Tesch**, President — Local 332
21. **Sheldon Adams**, President — Local 334
22. **Teresa Harmon**, Manager — CAD
23. **Tom Ruther**, CAD Representative
24. **Eugene Horton**, CAD Representative
25. **Neil Ryan**, CAD Representative/  
Asst to the National Officers
26. **Matt Clash-Drexler**, General Counsel

Our Field Negotiating Committee, National Executive Board and our National Negotiations Team will analyze the submissions to prepare and present proposals at the bargaining table. Our bargaining kick-off with the Postal Service is scheduled for June of 2025. Regular updates concerning the progress of the negotiations will be provided to the Local Unions and to the membership.

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I want to thank all the delegates to the 2024 NPMHU National Convention, held in Las Vegas, Nevada, for the confidence that they have shown in me by electing me by acclamation to serve another 4-year term as your National President. I am extremely both honored and humbled and pledge to serve the membership of this great Union to the best of my ability. Thank you all!!!!.

I also want to wish everyone a Happy Holiday season and a happy and healthy New Year.

I remain confident that through the work of our Contract Administration Department and our legal representatives, and through the hard work of our Regional, Local, and Branch representatives, we can successfully meet all challenges that lie before us.

Fraternally,



**Paul V. Hogrogian**  
National President