

Scott B. Peyton
P.O. Box 5
Greenwood, Va. 22943

Mr. Patrick R. Donahoe
Postmaster General of the United States of America
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW – Room 10022
Washington, D.C. 20260-0010

April 6, 2012

Dear Postmaster General,

As a resident of Greenwood, Va., I am writing to you on behalf of hundreds of my friends and neighbors. We were shocked to learn that the U.S.P.S. plans to downgrade our Greenwood, Virginia Post Office (22943) by removing our mail carrier and sorting facility to the Crozet, Virginia Post Office (22932) some miles away. This move, originally scheduled for July, 2012, has now been “fast tracked” for implementation by May 19, 2012, through the USPS program identified as **Delivery Unit Optimization(D.U.O.)** by which the USPS is relocating services out of local Post Offices and consolidating them into centralized delivery offices. All of this is taking place with absolutely **NO PUBLIC NOTIFICATION** or opportunity for input from the local community. Though the USPS claims that the Greenwood P.O. is not being closed (at this time), it is abundantly clear to us that this interim relocation of services will undoubtedly lead to the ultimate full closure of our Post Office. Please know that the intent and spirit of this letter is to help you better understand that the Greenwood P.O. is: 1) well used and supported by the local community that it serves, 2) efficiently and profitably operated by high quality USPS personnel, 3) economically and functionally practical for the USPS to maintain this Post Office facility in its current configuration of operation.

The services targeted for removal are currently performed both **efficiently** and, to our understanding, **profitably** within the existing Greenwood P.O. With 143 active P.O. Boxes served and 152 Rural Route recipients (totaling approximately 300 delivery addresses), this is NOT an inconsequential number of customers who would be adversely effected by the planned changes in service. Additionally, to relocate these services to Crozet, Va., which is an already rapidly growing community itself, would necessarily overburden that facility in the near future requiring expensive costs for expansion at that location. The terms and conditions of the existing lease for the Greenwood P.O. in its current location are substantially to the benefit and advantage of the USPS. Finally, it is worth noting that the Greenwood P.O. has the added benefit of **significant additional expansion capability** (approximately 50 vacant P.O. Boxes), within the existing structure, to serve any growing demand within our zip code.

The primary and historical function of the Postal Service, as envisioned by the early founders of our great nation, was to establish a mechanism by which the citizens of this country could effectively communicate with one another and, most particularly, to facilitate that function throughout the far flung rural districts. To that end the USPS has maintained an historic presence in Greenwood, Va. for close to 160 years, dating back to the pre Civil War period of 1853, and is cited as a contributing resource in the recently established **Greenwood/Afton Rural Historic District**, now received and

accepted into the National Register Of Historic Places (***)PLEASE SEE ATTACHED LETTER FROM **ARCADIA PRESERVATION, LLC**(***)).

We are a small, rural community defined, in part, by our post office and zip code. We have been "Greenwood" since before 1853 when our post office first opened. If the USPS takes away our post office and zip code, I fear that our address will change as we disappear into an adjoining community, and Greenwood, Va. will cease to exist. We are respectfully asking for your assistance, in any way possible, to help reverse USPS plans as outlined in this letter. **TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE!!**

****** As you can see, I am enclosing a letter from Arcadia Preservation, LLC as well as a number of locally obtained petitions, in support of the Greenwood P.O., signed by fellow concerned citizens and customers of the USPS. ******

Thank you very much for your time and attention to our concerns. We would greatly appreciate and value your timely response to this letter.

With kind regards,

Scott B. Peyton

C.C. Senator Jim Webb
Senator Mark Warner
Congressman Robert Hurt
Mr. Jacob Cheeks
Mr. James K. Cari
Mr. David Fields