

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
COMMERCE
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

August 3, 2020

Mr. Louis DeJoy
Postmaster General and Chief Executive Officer
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Room 4012
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Mr. DeJoy:

I am writing to ask you to explain recent operational changes to the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) that have resulted in mail being left behind at distribution centers in Wisconsin and across the country. My office has received the attached photos of mail being left behind at the Oak Creek, Wisconsin distribution center, including Amazon packages and Priority Mail. In addition, constituents have reached out to me noting they are already experiencing delays in receiving mail. The Postal Service is vital for small businesses, seniors and rural communities and the COVID-19 pandemic has made the mission of the Postal Service more important than ever, as letter carriers deliver life-saving medications to individuals isolated at home during this public health crisis and millions of Americans are voting with mail-in ballots in order to stay safe.

The postal workers cite a Postal Service memo you recently circulated to all employees, which directs letter carriers to leave mail for the next day if the mail has not been sorted in a timely fashion—contrary to employee training. These changes are purportedly needed to address cost overruns. In order to understand these proposed changes I ask that you provide a full explanation to Congress, the public and the entities that rely on the postal service the implications of these changes. Specifically, I call on you to answer the following questions:

- What impact will these changes have on the ability of the USPS to meet its mail service standards?
- What impact will these changes have on the USPS workforce?
- How will these changes impact USPS finances?

- Did you consult with businesses that rely on USPS delivery before making these changes?
- How will USPS ensure that people who receive their medication through the mail obtain medicine without delay?
- How will USPS ensure that mail-in ballots for upcoming elections are not impacted by this change?
- Will rural communities experience delays in service due to these changes?

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tammy Baldwin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator