



# National Postal Mail Handlers Union

**Paul V. Hogrogian**  
*National President*

**Kevin P. Tabarus**  
*National Secretary-Treasurer*

**June Harris**  
*Vice President  
Central Region*

**John A. Gibson**  
*Vice President  
Eastern Region*

**David E. Wilkin**  
*Vice President  
Northeastern Region*

**Lawrence B. Sapp**  
*Vice President  
Southern Region*

**Don J. Sneesby**  
*Vice President  
Western Region*

October 30, 2023

To: Local President Gibson  
Regional Directors/Representatives  
National Executive Board

Fr: Eugene Horton   
Contract Administration Representative

Re: **USPS notifies the NPMHU of the results of the Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) studies conducted in Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania (PA)**

Dear Brother Gibson:

Please find enclosed a copy of the above-reference USPS notifies the NPMHU of the results of the Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) studies conducted in Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania (PA).

According to the Postal Service, the initial results of the review conducted support the business case to keep this facility open and modernized as a Local Processing Center. The next step is to provide notice of a public meeting to the public. Enclosed are the following communication materials that are intended to be communicated today for this location:

- Stand-Up Talks (SUT) to employees
- Notices of Public Meetings
- Press Release

Please disseminate this information as you deem appropriate. Should you have any questions contact the Contract Administration Department.

Cc: Paul V. Hogrogian, National President  
Kevin P. Tabarus, National Secretary-Treasurer  
Teresa L. Harmon, Manager Contract Administration

LABOR RELATIONS



October 30, 2023

Mr. Paul Hogrogian  
National President  
National Postal Mail Handlers Union  
815 16<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite 5100  
Washington, DC 20006-4101

Certified Mail Number  
9589 0710 5270 0684 7727 64

Dear Paul:

This is in further reference to the Postal Service's October 18 correspondence (enclosed) announcing its intent to conduct Mail Processing Facility Reviews (MPFR) at four locations. These reviews were conducted at the following locations to determine whether efficiency and/or service could be improved by consolidating mail processing operations into other mail processing facilities:

- Columbia, Missouri Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) to St Louis, MO P&DC
- Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania P&DC to Harrisburg, PA P&DC
- Tallahassee, Florida P&DC to Jacksonville, FL Network Distribution Center (NDC)
- Wilmington, Delaware P&DC to Philadelphia, PA P&DC

The initial results of all four facility reviews support the business case for keeping each facility open and modernized as a Local Processing Center. The next step is to provide notice of a public meeting to share the initial results of the study and to allow members of the community to provide additional feedback. Enclosed are the following communication materials that are intended to be communicated today for each of the four locations:

- Stand Up Talks (SUT) to employees
- Notices of Public Meetings
- Press Releases

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bruce A. Nicholson".

Bruce A. Nicholson  
Director  
Labor Relations Policies and Programs

Enclosures

LABOR RELATIONS



October 18, 2023

Mr. Paul Hogrogian  
National President  
National Postal Mail Handlers Union  
815 16<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite 5100  
Washington, DC 20006-4101

Certified Mail Number  
7022 3330 0000 9612 7681

Dear Paul:

This is an informational notice of the Postal Service's intent to conduct Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) studies in:

- Columbia, Missouri (MO)
- Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania (PA)
- Tallahassee, Florida (FL)
- Wilmington, Delaware (DE)

In accordance with Handbook PO-408, *Mail Processing Facility Review*, an MPFR determines the feasibility of changing mail processing operations to improve operational efficiency and/or service. An MPFR involves the consolidation of all originating and/or destinating distribution operations from one or more Post Offices/facilities into other automated processing facilities for the purpose of improving operational efficiency and/or service. The intent is to use Postal Service equipment, facilities, staff work hours and transportation more efficiently.

Specifically, feasibility studies will be conducted at the following facilities to determine whether efficiency and/or service could be improved by consolidating mail processing operations into other mail processing facilities:

- Columbia, MO Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) into St Louis, MO P&DC
- Lehigh Valley, PA P&DC into Harrisburg, PA P&DC
- Tallahassee, FL P&DC into Jacksonville, FL Network Distribution Center (NDC)
- Wilmington, DE P&DC into Philadelphia, PA P&DC

Enclosed is a Service Talk and Press Release that will be provided to employees in the four facilities that will be studied.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bruce A. Nicholson".

Bruce A. Nicholson  
Director  
Labor Relations Policies and Programs

Enclosures



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Oct. 30, 2023

## POSTAL NEWS

Contact: Mark Lawrence  
[mark.e.lawrence@usps.gov](mailto:mark.e.lawrence@usps.gov)  
[usps.com/news](https://usps.com/news)



### **USPS Proposes Improvements to Lehigh Valley Processing Facility**

*Facility to remain open and modernized as a Local Processing Center*

*Public meeting to be held November 30*

*USPS investing heavily in efforts to modernize nation's aging postal network  
and achieve goal of 95% on-time delivery nationwide*

LEHIGH VALLEY, PA — The United States Postal Service is conducting a Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) of processing operations at its Lehigh Valley Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC). The review was initiated to evaluate moving some of the mail processing operations from the Lehigh Valley P&DC to the Harrisburg P&DC.

The Postal Service is investing heavily in its operations as it moves to modernize the nation's aging and outmoded postal network and achieve the organization's goal of 95% on-time delivery nationwide. The initial results of the facility review support the business case for keeping the Lehigh Valley facility open and modernizing the facility as a Local Processing Center (LPC). The Lehigh Valley LPC will be a critical node in connecting mail to the state and region. Additionally, the business case supports transferring some mail processing operations to the Harrisburg P&DC.

A public meeting will be held Thursday, November 30 at 3:00 PM at the Movie Tavern Trexlertown, 6150 Hamilton Blvd, Allentown PA 18106 to share the initial results of the study and to allow members of the community to provide additional oral feedback. A summary of the MPFR will be posted on [about.usps.com](https://about.usps.com) at least one week prior to the public input meeting. Members of the local community may submit written comments at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-lehigh-valley-pa> through December 15, 2023. The public's input will be considered prior to a final decision.

The Postal Service will continue to work closely with its unions and management associations throughout the facility review process. This MPFR, currently in review at USPS Headquarters and its Regional Office, is subject to change. The Postal Service will continually monitor the impact of any changes that are implemented and will adjust plans as necessary and appropriate.

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**Please Note:** The United States Postal Service is an independent federal establishment, mandated to be self-financing and to serve every American community through the affordable, reliable and secure delivery of mail and packages to nearly 165 million addresses six and often seven days a week. Overseen by a bipartisan Board of Governors, the Postal Service is implementing a 10-year transformation plan, [Delivering for America](#), to modernize the postal network, restore long-term financial sustainability, dramatically improve service across all mail and shipping categories, and maintain the organization as one of America's most valued and trusted brands.

The Postal Service generally receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

For USPS media resources, including broadcast-quality video and audio and photo stills, visit the [USPS Newsroom](#). Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Pinterest](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Subscribe to the [USPS YouTube channel](#), like us on [Facebook](#) and enjoy our [Postal Posts blog](#). For more information about the Postal Service, visit [usps.com](https://usps.com) and [facts.usps.com](https://facts.usps.com).

# **Stand-Up Talk**

**October 30, 2023**

## **Mail Processing Facility Review Public Meeting to be held re: Lehigh Valley P&DC**

We notified you on October 18, 2023, that we were beginning a Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) at the Lehigh Valley Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) to determine if transferring some mail operations into the Harrisburg P&DC would be effective operationally.

As you are likely aware, the Postal Service is investing heavily in processing operations as it moves to modernize the nation's aging and outmoded network and achieve the organization's goal of 95% on-time delivery nationwide.

**The initial results of the facility review support the business case for keeping the Lehigh Valley P&DC facility open and modernized as a Local Processing Center.** The Lehigh Valley P&DC will play a critical role in connecting mail to the Harrisburg P&DC. Additionally, the business case supports transferring some mail processing operations to the Harrisburg P&DC

The Postal Service will hold a public meeting to explain the proposed changes on Thursday, November 30 at 3:00 PM at the Movie Tavern Trexlertown, 6150 Hamilton Blvd, Allentown PA 18106. Attendance will be voluntary and off-the-clock for employees who choose to attend.

Any proposed changes must be approved by the Regional Vice President and Vice President, Processing and Maintenance Operations before they can be implemented. Comments on the proposal from employees and the public will be considered before any decision is made.

You can submit your comments on the study up to 15 days after the public meeting.

Comments may be submitted to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-lehigh-valley-pa>.

We will keep you informed about any future developments regarding this MPFR proposal.

**Mail Processing Facility Review  
Notice of Public Input Meeting  
Lehigh Valley PA P&DC to Harrisburg PA P&DC**

Oct. 30, 2023

As part of its 10-year strategic Delivering for America plan to modernize the nation's aging postal network, the U.S. Postal Service initiated a Mail Processing Facility Review (MPFR) to evaluate moving some of the mail processing operations from the Lehigh Valley Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) to the Harrisburg P&DC. Results from the initial review support the business case. However, this MPFR, currently in review at Postal Service headquarters and its regional office, is subject to change.

A public meeting will be held to share the initial results of the study and to allow members of the community to provide additional oral feedback. The public's input will be considered prior to a final decision. The meeting will be held on Thursday, November 30 at 3:00 PM at the Movie Tavern Trexlertown, 6150 Hamilton Blvd, Allentown PA 18106. A summary of the MPFR will be posted on *about.usps.com* at least one week prior to the public input meeting.

Below are some preliminary highlights from the study:

**Business Case**

The Postal Service is investing heavily in operations as it moves to modernize the nation's aging and outmoded postal network and to achieve the organization's goal of 95% on-time delivery across all mail products.

The initial results of the facility review support the business case for keeping the Lehigh Valley Processing and Distribution Center open and modernizing the facility as a Local Processing Center with simplified processes and standardized layouts. Additionally, the business case supports transferring some mail processing operations to the Harrisburg P&DC.

**Future of Facility**

The Lehigh Valley Processing and Distribution Center will remain open and will be modernized. It will be repositioned as a Local Processing Center for destinating mail processing.

**Local Customers**

- Retail and other services currently available at the Lehigh Valley Processing and Distribution Center will not change.
- Business mail acceptance will remain the same.
- A local postmark will continue to be available at retail post offices.
- Delivery times of mail to residence and businesses should not change because of this review.

**Commercial Mailers**

- Mailers who presort mail will continue to receive appropriate postage discounts.
- Mailers who drop ship to Destination Sectional Center Facility (DSCF) can expect no changes if the MPFR is approved.

Please go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-lehigh-valley-pa> to submit written comments. All written comments must be received by December 15, 2023.