

FRED UPTON
6TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
RANKING REPUBLICAN MEMBER
COMMUNICATIONS, TECHNOLOGY,
AND THE INTERNET



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

The Honorable John E. Potter
Postmaster General
U.S. Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20260-0010

DC OFFICE:

2183 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2206
(202) 225-3761
FAX: (202) 225-4986

MICHIGAN HOME OFFICES:

157 SOUTH KALAMAZOO MALL
SUITE 180
KALAMAZOO, MI 49007
(269) 385-0039
FAX: (269) 385-2888

800 CENTRE, SUITE 106
800 SHIP STREET
ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085
(269) 982-1986
FAX: (269) 982-0237

www.house.gov/upton
E-MAIL: tellupton@mail.house.gov

October 19, 2010

Post Master Potter:

As you know, the Post Office in St. Joseph, MI is under consideration for a Delivery Unit Relocation Study. I respect your efforts to ensure the USPS remains fiscally viable, but at the same time, believe it is equally important to maintain the high service standard that currently exists in St. Joseph and Benton Harbor. The community in St. Joseph has been very vocal about the proposed study and its implications. For your convenience, I am attaching a letter from the St. Joseph City Commission expressing their concerns regarding this issue.

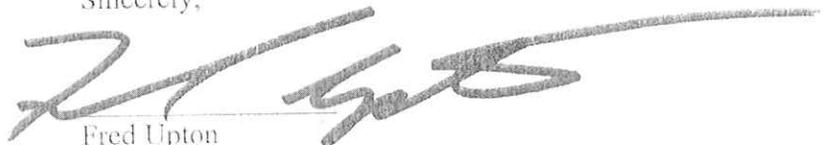
In an effort to ensure this process is open, fair, and in the best interest of the taxpayers, I am requesting the following information:

1. What are the criteria USPS is using to calculate cost savings for consolidating carrier operations between St. Joseph and Benton Harbor?
2. How does USPS calculate the profitability for a post office, and how do the profits of the St. Joseph and Benton Harbor Post Offices compare with other post offices in the region and nationally?
3. How would the proposed change affect the profitability of the St. Joseph Post Office?
4. What are the proposed savings from the consolidation?

Further, I would like you to confirm, regardless of the proposed study's outcome, that both the St. Joseph and Benton Harbor Post Office facilities will remain open in the long term plan as they currently exist – including full retail services at both facilities, and with no change to mail delivery times, mail carriers, and left notice items.

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Fred Upton
Member of Congress