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United States Senate

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October 17, 2016

Megan J. Brennan
Postmaster General and Chief Executive Officer
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Postmaster General Brennan,

I wanted to contact you about the impending closure of the post office in Amidon, North Dakota. It is critical that the U.S. Postal Service make every effort to ensure postal customers in the area can continue to access postal services now and in the future.

I understand that the Postal Service's lease for the current facility expires on December 31, 2016, that the lease will not be renewed, and that the Postal Service is not aware of other land or buildings available for lease. I appreciate the Postal Service's communication with my office on this matter, and believe it is essential that the Postal Service examine every possible option to keep a fully functioning post office in Amidon for the foreseeable future.

With that shared goal in mind, I request that you take the following additional measures to ensure everything is being done to protect postal customers in Amidon and the surrounding region:

- 1) Please extend the comment period for the community by at least 30 days, starting at a mutually agreed upon time, so that others have the opportunity to contact the Real Estate Specialist. It is essential that due diligence is done in regards to this option, as maintaining a fully functioning post office in Amidon is undeniably the best option for postal customers. The Postal Service needs to make all efforts to ensure the Amidon community knows of the extension of this comment period.
- 2) After this due diligence is done, and if there proves to be no additional land or building to lease for this facility, the Postal Service must develop a comprehensive plan for customers in the Amidon community that will show them how their mail needs will be met after the end of the year. In addition to having a location to pick up and send mail, customers should have access to all the postal services they would rely on in a typical postal facility.

Protecting the needs of postal customers are of the utmost importance to me, and I appreciate your speedy attention to this matter. As always, please contact Ashley Poling on my staff if you have any concerns in the interim at 202-224-4664.

Sincerely,



Heidi Heitkamp
United States Senate

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