



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: September 11, 2012
To: Honorable Mayor & City Council
From: Cheryl Friedling and David Lightner
Subject: United States Postal Service - Proposed Relocation of Beverly Hills Post Office
Attachments: Correspondence dated May 18, 2012

INTRODUCTION

The United States Postal Service (USPS) continues to struggle with fiscal challenges, including new technologies (such as electronic mail) and growing pension obligations.

In an effort to control costs, the USPS in the Western Region (Pacific Facilities Service Office) has conducted a study and is currently exploring opportunities to optimize its financial position by selling assets and relocating retail postal services to more cost-effective facilities throughout the region.

As part of the process, the USPS sent correspondence dated May 18, 2012 to the Mayor informing the City of its relocation activities related to the current Post Office building at 325 North Maple Drive in Beverly Hills.

A subsequent meeting was requested by the City, which was held on June 28, 2012. During this meeting with Councilmember Gold, staff and Beverly Hills Postmaster Koula Fuller, USPS officials outlined the process/timeline the USPS is using, along with a discussion related to community and service impacts which could affect local postal patrons.

DISCUSSION

Ms. Diana K. Alvarado, Manager of Property Management of the USPS Western Region and Mr. Tom Samra, an officer of the USPS from Washington, D.C. will

present information to the City Council regarding the status of this effort. Mr. Samra met Mayor Brien and City Manager Kolin during the recent City delegation visit to Washington, D.C.

The USPS has also scheduled a "town hall" meeting to present information to the community on September 27th at Beverly Hills High School.

FISCAL IMPACT

None at this time.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council review the presentation by the US Postal Service officials.

Cheryl Friedling 
David Lightner 

Approved By

Attachment 1



May 18, 2012

The Honorable Mayor Brien, M.D.
455 North Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Dear Mayor Brien:

Despite significant cost reductions, the Postal Service continues to experience a net loss. Economic drivers that generate mail volume continue to reflect the sluggish economy, and changes in customer behavior indicate the ongoing migration of electronic communications.

In an effort to control and cut costs, an optimization study has been recently approved by the Pacific Area Vice President of Operations to "right size" our current operation located at 325 N Maple Drive to a smaller building (location to be determined) that will continue to provide retail services to the community of Beverly Hills located within the 90210 ZIP Code area. The study calls for the delivery to be relocated to the Los Angeles-West Branch located at 820 N San Vicente Boulevard. The proposed new retail facility will offer the community of Beverly Hills with an upgraded, modern facility that will provide the level of service expected by our customers.

The Postal Service is bound by the Community Relations Regulations contained in the Code of Federal Regulations which is based on 39 CFR 241.4. We must follow a specific process whenever relocating a retail operation in order to keep the governing officials and the public apprised of our project progress. The first step in the process is to meet with the governing official to review the project requirements.

The Postal Service wishes to work in partnership with your community. Therefore, we ask your assistance and cooperation to discuss this project as soon as possible. If you or your designee could contact me at (415) 550-5117 or email diana.alvarado@usps.gov to set up a meeting, it will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your participation in this process and we look forward to working with you and your staff as this project develops.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diana Alvarado", written over a horizontal line.

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CC: Jeff Koilin, City Manager