



MAYFIELD
VILLAGE

MAYOR BRENDA T. BODNAR
mayfieldvillage.com

6622 Wilson Mills Road
Mayfield Village, OH 44143
440.461.2210 • Fax 440.461.7349
ContactUs@mayfieldvillage.com

March 27, 2023

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
United States Senate
801 West Superior Avenue, Suite 1400
Cleveland, OH 44113

Re: **U.S. Postal Service**

Dear Senator Brown,

As a local mayor in Northeast Ohio, I am concerned about the state of mail delivery in my community. I have had complaints that the mail is not delivered on time, and sometimes not delivered at all on any given day.

As many residents, particularly senior citizens, rely on the mail for important documents and packages, including bills, checks and medications, it is of great concern to me that mail delivery is impaired. I am sure you are already aware of the crucial importance of timely mail delivery.

I would like to report to my constituents on what is being done to remedy this situation, what progress is being made and when we can expect our mail to be delivered in a timely fashion. Accordingly, I ask that you please respond with any helpful information.

Thank you for your service to Northeast Ohio and to all of us in the great State of Ohio.

Sincerely,

Brenda T. Bodnar
Mayor

Diane Wolgamuth

From: Sherrod Brown <Senator_Brown@brown.senate.gov>
Sent: Saturday, July 8, 2023 12:06 PM
To: Brenda Bodnar
Subject: Reply from Senator Sherrod Brown

Dear Ms. Bodnar:

Thank you for getting in touch with me regarding the United States Postal Service (USPS). I appreciate you sharing your thoughts with me.

As one of our country's oldest institutions, the USPS and its workforce provide an essential service to all Americans - people depend on the USPS to get their paychecks, packages, and prescription drugs. Small businesses need the USPS to deliver their products, and voters need the USPS to support their ability to vote by mail. Rural communities rely on the USPS to connect them with family, friends, and businesses. And the COVID-19 pandemic has only increased Americans' reliance on the Postal Service and the challenges faced by USPS workers.

Since taking over as Postmaster General, Louis DeJoy has overseen the implementation of a series of harmful and unnecessary policies that have caused significant delays in mail delivery around the country. From the implementation of a hiring freeze to reducing overtime availability for USPS employees to removing high-speed sorting machines and mailboxes, DeJoy unnecessarily gutted the Postal Service. Many of his policy changes have resulted in significant mail delays for thousands of Ohioans waiting for their medications, paychecks, Social Security checks, and other critical items and have made it more difficult for USPS workers to do their jobs safely and effectively.

Recent Reporting indicates that there has also been a surge in postal robberies throughout Ohio after the USPS's misguided decision to halt the practice of having Postal Police Officers - members of the nation's first and oldest federal law enforcement agency, patrolling along mail carrier routes and around USPS collection boxes. This decision is making mail carriers and the communities they serve less safe and must be reversed. I wrote to Postmaster DeJoy and Inspector General Whitcomb Hull in November 2022, urging them to restore the patrolling functions of Postal Police Officers and take necessary steps to address the increase in mail theft and postal robberies.

In light of his refusal to be held accountable and his well-documented conflicts of interest, I have also called on Postmaster DeJoy to resign. It is imperative that the USPS have leaders that work to improve the organization, not actively undermine it and its workers.

While I remain frustrated that Postmaster General DeJoy has failed to step down from his position, I remain optimistic about the future of the USPS. In May 2021,

the Senate confirmed three nominees to serve on the governing board of the USPS. President Biden's three nominees to the Postal Service Board of Governors are committed to restoring the public's trust in the USPS. In March 2022, I was proud to vote in support of the *Postal Service Reform Act*, an important piece of bipartisan legislation that strengthens the USPS's financial outlook and operations. This legislation repeals the requirement that the USPS pre-fund its retirement program, requires six-day delivery service, and creates new transparency and accountability programs. The *Postal Service Reform Act*, which was signed into law on April 6, 2022, will help to alleviate the financial burdens of the USPS without raising costs for the millions of individuals and businesses that rely on its services.

If you are an individual in need of assistance with the USPS, please contact the Postal Service's Customer Care Center at 1-800-ASK-USPS (1-800-275-8777). Should you need immediate assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our office by calling 888-896-6446 or email casework@brown.senate.gov.

I will continue to work with my congressional colleagues and the Biden administration to pass measures that strengthen the USPS and its mission to bind the nation together through service to all communities and support USPS workers. Thank you again for getting in touch with me.

Sincerely,

Sherrod Brown
United States Senator

Stay connected with what's happening in Congress. Sign up here for regular updates on the issues you care about the most:
<http://brown.senate.gov/newsletter/landing>