



OFFICE OF THE BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT  
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BOROUGH PRESIDENT

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September 23, 2009

Ruth Goldway, Chairperson  
Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue, NW  
Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

Dear Chairperson Goldway:

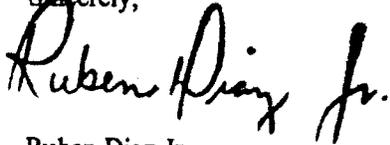
We hold deep concerns regarding the United States Postal Services proposed closure of seven post office facilities in the Bronx, amounting to 17% of all of the post offices in Bronx County.

The post office is not only a service location for the distribution of mail but the most local representation of the government and how it serves the people. In a pedestrian environment such as the Bronx the post office is used by virtually every citizen, from the oldest to the youngest and the richest to the poorest. We should recognize that the purchase of postal money orders is one of the most important financial services available to many of our shared constituents, who depend on them for paying the monthly rent and other bills. The closure of these offices will deprive those hardest hit from having easy access to these services, and make routine bill paying a greater hardship.

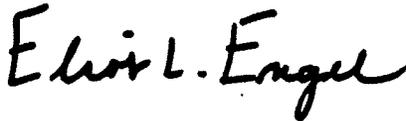
In addition to the hardship caused to many people in the Bronx by the threatened closure of these post offices, these proposed closures also ignore the new populations and communities springing up in the Bronx due to a robust redevelopment led by this community over the last several years. The proposed closure of Melcourt ignores the redevelopment of the Melrose Commons Area, which has seen the construction of over three thousand new housing units over the last few years, as well as the construction of the new Boricua College Campus. The closure of the Crotona Office would leave the vast Boston Road north/south corridor from East 167<sup>th</sup> Street to Bronx Park South without a postal outlet, in one of the most historically noted and resurgent areas of the Bronx. The Hillside Station closure would represent the most egregious hardship, as this facility is even further away than a half a mile from any other outlet and would affect over 300 post office box users. Additionally, residential growth in the Van Nest and Clason Point communities will rob these growing neighborhoods of an important local government service, resulting in a clog at other postal facilities.

In light of these points, we strongly request that the Postal Service reconsider the closing any of the seven proposed outlets in the borough.

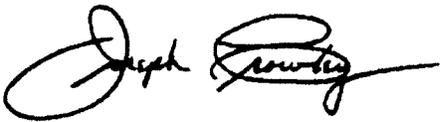
Sincerely,



Ruben Diaz Jr.  
Bronx Borough President



Hon. Eliot Engel  
17<sup>th</sup> Congressional District



Hon. Joseph Crowley  
7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District