



OFFICE OF THE BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT  
THE BRONX COUNTY BUILDING  
851 GRAND CONCOURSE  
BRONX, NEW YORK 10451

RUBEN DIAZ JR.  
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

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April 1, 2013

Vice President of Facilities  
Facilities Implementation  
2 Congress Street, Room 8  
Milford, MA. 01757

Re: Bronx General Post Office at 558 Grand Concourse

Dear Sir or Madam:

We write to offer our strongest objections to the proposed sale of the Bronx General Post Office facility at 588 Grand Concourse, as well as the proposed relocation of retail services currently available at this facility.

On February 6, 2013 at 10:00 AM, there was a public hearing at the Bronx General Post Office, at which dozens of individuals and organizations testified in opposition to both the relocation of Postal Service retail services and closure of the building. We are appalled that, despite requests for further community consultative processes at that hearing, the United States Postal Service has seen fit to issue a final sale determination, rather than pursue engagement with community stakeholders, including elected officials.

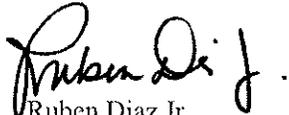
In fact, the Postal Service seems to have taken the opposite approach. At the February hearing, the United States Postal Service was unable to demonstrate that a community consultative process had been instituted as part of the community notification process. Moreover, the United States Postal Service's subsequent refusal to host an evening hearing in the affected community or accept comments on this proposal via electronic means, when taken together, seem designed to minimize public input during this important process. Lastly, there has been no consideration of maintaining postal retail services at the current historic Bronx GPO.

Together, we remain adamantly opposed to closing this vital and historically significant resource. We cannot imagine that anyone with any knowledge of the importance of this building to Bronx County would consider the relocation of its retail services and its closure. The building sits at the intersection of East 149th Street and the Grand Concourse and Boulevard, two of the principal thoroughfares of the borough. Additionally, the building was designated by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission in 1976 and is listed on the National and State Registers of Historic Places as well. A portion of the Grand Concourse and Boulevard has also been designated as a Special Grand Concourse Preservation Zoning District.

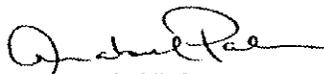
The building's design, including its grand interior and artistically significant murals make transacting business at this flagship facility an ennobling experience and a succession of interior and exterior public spaces of great pride to the borough. The building serves as a focal point for critical residential and transportation services, and is an institutional and commercial nexus for the borough. Its loss would have severe implications for the entirety of the Bronx. We cannot and will not accept that the Postal Service could come to such a deleterious determination affecting such an important part of our Bronx heritage.

We urge you to reconsider this decision at once.

Sincerely,



Ruben Diaz Jr.  
Bronx Borough President



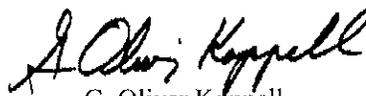
Annabel Palma  
NYC Council



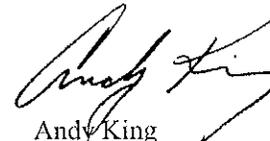
Joel Rivera  
NYC Council



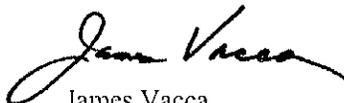
Melissa Mark Viverito  
NYC Council



G. Oliver Koppell  
NYC Council



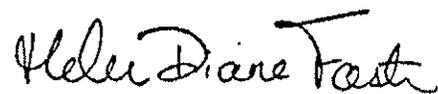
Andy King  
NYC Council



James Vacca  
NYC Council



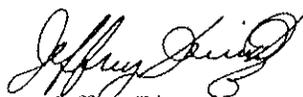
Fernando Cabrera  
NYC Council



Helen Diane Foster  
NYC Council



Maria Del Carmen Arroyo  
NYC Council



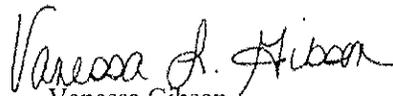
Jeffrey Dinowitz  
NYS Assembly



Nelson Castro  
NYS Assembly



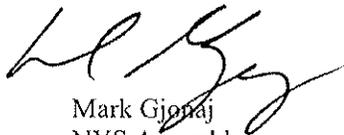
Carl Heastie  
NYS Assembly



Vanessa Gibson  
NYS Assembly



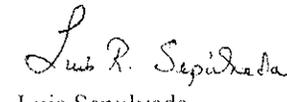
Eric Stevenson  
NYS Assembly



Mark Gjonaj  
NYS Assembly



Michael Benedetto  
NYS Assembly



Luis Sepulveda  
NYS Assembly



Marcos Crespo  
NYS Assembly



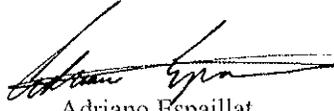
Carmen Arroyo  
NYS Assembly



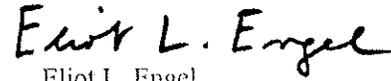
Rev. Ruben Diaz  
NYS Senate



Jose M. Serrano  
NYS Senate



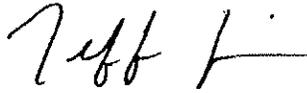
Adriano Espaillat  
NYS Senate



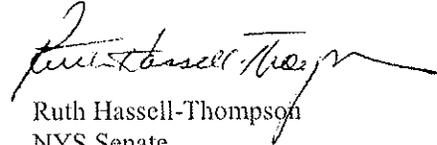
Eliot L. Engel  
House of Representatives



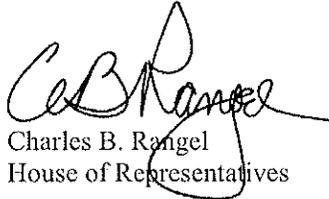
Gustavo Rivera  
NYS Senate



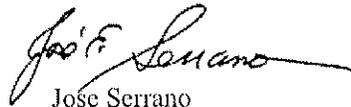
Jeffrey D. Klein  
NYS Senate



Ruth Hassell-Thompson  
NYS Senate



Charles B. Rangel  
House of Representatives



Jose Serrano  
House of Representatives

cc: Patrick R. Donahoe  
Postmaster General and Chief Executive Officer

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senate

The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senate

The Honorable Harold Rogers  
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Nita Lowey  
Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Ander Crenshaw  
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government  
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings  
Ranking Minority Member, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

The Honorable Tom Carper  
Chairman, Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg  
Mayor  
New York City