



## CITY of NAPA

August 19, 2015

Mr. Dean Cameron  
United States Postal Service  
1300 Evans Avenue, Suite 200  
San Francisco, CA 94188-8200

RE: Napa Franklin Station  
1351 Second Street  
Napa, Napa County, CA 94559-9991  
National Register Information System #85000133

MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL  
955 School Street  
Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 660  
Napa, California 94559-0660  
Voice Mail: (707) 258-7876  
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Dear Mr. Cameron:

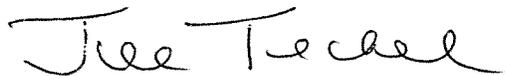
This letter is to formally request that the United States Postal Service (USPS) postpone its August 26, 2015 public meeting to identify a long term site for retail postal services in downtown Napa. The scheduled meeting is premature and is likely to preclude fully informed and meaningful public comment on the relocation project and feasibility of repairing the earthquake-damaged structure for occupancy by USPS. Prior to holding a meeting on relocation we urge USPS to address the following specific concerns:

- The USPS has not publically disclosed its assessment of the cost to repair and reoccupy the building. Without this information it is impossible for the public to understand the extent of damage and possible options for repair that may eliminate the need for permanent relocation. Public disclosure of damage and cost estimates is necessary both for purposes of transparency and facilitating informed public discussion and comment.
- The USPS has initiated a process to sell the Napa Franklin Station property. A future purchaser of the property may be interested in leasing back space to the USPS at a competitive rate so that retail postal service operations can be continued on the property, eliminating the need for permanent relocation - a scenario that the City and community would be highly supportive of. Holding a public meeting on relocation prior to knowing whether there is sufficient private sector interest in the property may preclude the public's opportunity to consider and comment on options that might be made possible through sale of the property to a private party.
- The USPS has initiated three separate processes related to the disposition of postal services and the Napa Franklin Station facility: a Section 106 Consultation for a

demolition undertaking; publication of a notice of intent to sell the property; and a "relocation project" to procure a long term permanent location for relocation of retail postal services. This has created an incredible amount of public confusion and mistrust – which does not lend itself to constructive communications. The City understands that USPS personnel attending the August 26, 2015 meeting will only be authorized to discuss the relocation project. Without having USPS personnel available to discuss the other processes at play, it will be difficult if not impossible for the public to understand the relationship or consequences that decisions in one process may have on another.

The Napa Franklin Station has been providing postal services to the community for over 80 years. With a temporary facility secured for the next three years, a sale process that will determine whether there is sufficient private sector interest in the property scheduled to conclude in the next 60 days, and no mandated timeline for holding this initial public meeting on relocation, there is no need to rush the process. The August 26, 2015 meeting should be postponed so that a more coordinated and informative process can be developed that allows for more meaningful public engagement.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jill Techel".

Jill Techel,  
Mayor

cc: Congressman Mike Thompson  
Tom Samra, Vice President, USPS Facilities  
Julianne Polanco, California SHPO  
Mike Parness, City Manager, City of Napa  
Rick Tooker, Community Development Director, City of Napa