

Resolution _____

A resolution of the City Council Supporting Mail Processing in Missoula and Opposing Plans to Move Processing Out of Montana

WHEREAS, the United States Post Service (USPS) has provided mail service to the community of Missoula and the surrounding area for well over a century;

WHEREAS, for many decades the USPS location in Missoula has been a Processing and Distribution Center for Western Montana, providing excellent service and delivery of essential mail and goods to Missoula and the surrounding community and over 100 Missoula and Western Montana residents are employed at the Missoula Processing and Distribution Center;

WHEREAS, Western Montana is an isolated rural area, surrounded by mountain ranges and rivers, and it experiences intense winter weather which periodically impacts travel to and from this area, and the city of Missoula serves as an urban hub for economic, health care, and entertainment for the region.

WHEREAS, relocating the Processing and Distribution Center from Missoula to Spokane, which is 200 miles away from Missoula and across two mountain divides, will negatively impact mail delivery to Missoula and Western Montana, due to the distance and inclement winter weather which impacts travel across mountain ranges and the State of Montana has already seen the number of Processing and Distribution Centers reduced over the last decade;

WHEREAS, the USPS delivers essential mail and goods to Missoulians and Western Montanans, and this timely delivery is crucial for businesses, medicine delivery, receipt of and payment of bills, and many more categories of important deliveries;

WHEREAS, numerous sectors of Western Montanans do not have access to electronic delivery of information, be it due to resources and lack of access to computers and the internet, or an aging population in which many elderly people do not have access to these electronic communication tools;

WHEREAS, timely and efficient delivery of important goods and mail to these vulnerable populations is highly important to maintain the health, safety and well-being of many in Western Montana;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Missoula, Montana, strongly supports the continued operation of the Missoula Processing and Distribution Center in Missoula and urges the postmaster general to cease any

considerations of moving these crucial services of the Processing and Distribution Center out of Western Montana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Missoula supports the employees of the United States Postal Service and requests that as part of the federal Delivering For America plan the USPS prioritize investments that help rather than hinder the ability of employees of the Missoula Processing and Distribution Center to do their jobs effectively with the appropriate and necessary resources.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on March 4, 2024.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Claire Trimble
Legislative Services Director/City Clerk

Andrea Davis
Mayor