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August 14, 2020

The Honorable Louis DeJoy
Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Postmaster General DeJoy,

I am writing to you regarding recent reports of the removal of residential collection boxes in several Montana communities and concerns I have heard about the impacts of those actions on service times for Montanans. The United States Postal Service (USPS) is an essential service for Montanans in both urban and rural towns and is relied upon by Montana veterans, the elderly, and rural communities across the state. I ask you to provide additional information regarding the status of collection boxes in Montana and ensure that any actions do not negatively impact service times.

As you know, Montanans rely upon USPS for the timely delivery of everything from vital prescriptions, bill payments, and other essential services. It is critical that USPS maintains a high standard of service and any actions that are taken support that mission. Recently, I have received concerning reports that collection boxes have been removed in many Montana communities, including in Billings, Bozeman, Missoula, and Livingston and the potential that the removals of collection boxes could result in delayed mail delivery and reduced mail options for Montanans. If so, that is unacceptable, and I request additional information about why these boxes have already been removed, any future plans the USPS has for other collection boxes in the state, and if these changes will affect delivery times.

I am a strong supporter of the USPS and ensuring it continues to serve Montanans from all corners of the state and I cannot emphasize enough how important your agency is for linking Montanans to the world. The USPS connects families, enables rural small businesses to compete on the global stage, and further connects medical professionals with their patients. Ensuring the Postal Service is able to maintain timely deliveries during, and long after, the COVID-19 pandemic are over remains one of my top priorities. I look forward to your reply

Sincerely,



Steve Daines
United States Senator