

April 9, 2004

Honorable Jerrold Nadler, Member
United States Congress
201 Varick Street, Suite 669
New York, New York 10014

Re: Postal Reform

Dear Congressman Nadler,

Manhattan Community Board No. 4 would like to express our concern over the report submitted by the President's Commission on the United States Postal Services in July 2003. It is our understanding that the report's recommendations include the outsourcing of postal functions, the centralization of post offices and the ensuing closing of smaller facilities, such as those which serve the neighborhoods of Chelsea and Clinton, and the subsequent loss of postal worker's jobs.

We are especially concerned that the suggested restructuring of the Post Office might allow access to our mailboxes by non government employers, such as Fed Ex or UPS; that our mail may be handled by other than U.S. Government employees; that universal postal rates may be dissolved; that the postal workers right to collective bargaining may be curtailed; and that mail delivery may be erratic or late due to a lack of Government accountability.

The United States Post Office since it was founded in 1793 by Benjamin Franklin has provided great service to the people of the United States and to the communities of Chelsea and Clinton. It remains a miracle of efficient, affordable communication for all people; to this day delivering nationwide over 200 billion pieces of mail every year. We understand that postal reform legislation is currently being negotiated. We urge you to vote against legislation that includes the measures listed above.

Sincerely,



Walter Mankoff
Chair

cc Post Master General
Local Elected Officials
Gregory C. Wilson, American Postal Workers Union