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CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
SOMERVILLE, MA

June 16, 2020

Mr. John J. Long
City Clerk
City of Somerville
93 Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02143-1740

RE: #210182

Dear Mr. Long:

This responds to your June 4 letter to the Postmaster General, transmitting a copy of Resolution 23032, regarding U.S. Postal Service operations.

The Postal Service is working diligently to meet the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the safety and well-being of our employees and customers is our highest priority. We have been marshalling all possible resources to direct employee, operational, business, and customer continuity efforts during this time of national emergency. We are following the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other public health authorities as we continue to provide our vital services to the public in a safe and efficient manner.

The Postal Service has experienced only minor operational impacts due to the pandemic, and we have taken a number of measures to ensure the continuity of service. Some postal facilities have undergone temporary shut downs due to employee availability; however, the Postal Service has responded decisively by shifting resources and volume at our mail processing locations to keep the mailstream flowing. Whether in rural, suburban, or urban areas, delivery managers constantly monitor the postal network for any potential delays in mail and parcels, and they help neighboring offices experiencing staffing shortages and authorize overtime when necessary. In addition, the Postal Service has increased hiring of employees to provide assistance and meet staffing needs in hard-hit areas.

We contacted Greater Boston District officials, who report there have been no suspensions in facilities servicing Somerville. Moreover, we were assured that district officials are closely monitoring the situation and will mitigate any threats to the continuity of operations in the event that a postal facility is suspended due to COVID-19. Nevertheless, should the Somerville City Council have any further concerns, Greater Boston District Consumer and Industry Contact Manager George Kippenhan would be pleased to assist and can be reached at (617) 654-5780.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nadine Munson".

Nadine Munson
Manager, Government Relations Correspondence