

Export Borough

6022 Kennedy Ave
Export, Pennsylvania 15632
Phone - 724-327-3611
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Established 1911
www.exportpennsylvania.com

Michael Calder, Mayor
Borough Council:
Barry Delissio, President
David Pasuzzi, Vice Pres.
Melanie Litz
John J. Nagoda
Stanley A. Mahinske
Louis M. Orsini
Donna Thatcher.
Wesley Long, Solicitor
Marlene Mahinske, Secretary
Mike Stack, UCC Official

Postal Regulatory Commission
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March 1, 2010

Ruth Goldway, Chair
Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Ave, NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268-0001

Dear Ms. Goldway:

Attached please find copies of letters that were written to me regarding the closure of Export Post Office. Most letters are addressed to me, or District Manager Mr. Charles McCreadie. There is also a letter from the original landlord of the building that formerly housed the Post Office here in Export, as well as other property owners approached for a possible relocation of the Post Office. Also letters of support from neighboring Murrysville, where our post office has been unofficially "consolidated".

The community at large is still very much in support of a Post Office here in Export and do not understand why such a busy, vibrant office was so abruptly closed. Yes, there appeared to be a dispute with the landlord, but other properties were certainly available. It bothers me that the lease was not even discussed until a week before its expiration. It seems like the Post Office used the lease expiration as an excuse to consolidate with neighboring Murrysville.

We have had a Post Office here in Export since the turn of the 20th century. We were a level 18 office with 8 rural routes. To completely close an office of this size and status without more effort by the Post Office is unexplainable.

Export will celebrate our 100 year anniversary in 2011. I can't imagine our town without a Post Office! After all these years, and now nothing. I hope this investigation will bring about changes and re-establish a Post Office in Export. We will provide any information needed to further this effort. We, Export Borough Council, are willing to do whatever it takes to bring back our Post Office. We have not even been given an opportunity to appeal a closure, since there has not been one. It is still officially suspended. Thank you for the opportunity to submit these facts.

Sincerely,

K. Melanie Litz, Councilperson

Post Office Committee Chair

February 24, 2010
EXPORT POST OFFICE INFO

Delmar Leasing Corp. had a 45-year lease with the USPS with an average monthly rental price of \$436.57 with Delmar being responsible for the water bill, sewer bill, and all repairs. Any repairs that weren't made fast enough for the USPS would be taken from the rent no matter the cost or necessity of the repair. The postal service has been unfair with landlords for many years. As a good faith gesture Delmar extend the Export Post Office lease on a month-to-month basis on the last day of the original lease 8/31/07. In return the USPS had Delmar waste time and money getting bids and planning for the renovations. While the USPS knew that they had no plans of staying.

In late July 2007 Delmar Leasing Corp. entered into negotiation with the USPS (Geoffrey Gregg) for a new lease agreement for the Export Post Office. The current lease expiration date was 8/31/07. Mr. Gregg presented Delmar with a proposed new lease on 8/24/07 with a list of renovations to be completed by Delmar as part of the new lease. With time running out Delmar signed a month-to-month lease on 8/31/07 to allow time to collect bids for the renovations and negotiate the new rental terms. Over the next several months Mr. Gregg supplied postal specification for the renovations and bid were collected. From November 07 thru January 08 several attempts were made to negotiate a new lease agreement with no success. From January 08 thru March 08 Delmar had no contact with the USPS or Mr. Gregg. In April Mr. Gregg call to discuss the Manor Post Office lease and he was told no negotiations would be made on Manor until Export's lease negotiation were complete. At that time Delmar was told that USPS would not be renewing a lease for Export and that they already had funding and were in the process of finding a new location. Also Mr. Gregg said that since the heavy rains and flooding that took place on 8/9/07 the post office didn't wanted to be located in a flood zone. (No flood water has ever entered the building) Delmar sent a letter terminating the lease effective 6/30/08.



Mark Spagnol
Delmar Leasing Corp.

EXPORT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
5821 Washington Avenue
Export, PA 15632

February 21, 2010

Melanie Litz
Export Borough Council Woman
Export, PA 15632

Dear Melanie,

Here is a little history about our first attempt to have the Export Post Office relocate to our property. It was in May or June of 2007 at a fire department meeting that I asked the membership if they would be interested in renting our building to the post office. Several questions were asked by the members about why I was asking. 1) Is the post office looking for a place? 2) What would we have to do? 3) What kind of money are we talking about? My answer was simple. I just stated that by going to the post office you could see that they were overcrowded and the parking lot is always full. I told them my dad had been a rural carrier in that office when it first opened there and that there were only 3 rural routes and post office boxes inside. Now they have a city route, 6 or 7 rural routes, all type of counter business and still in the same building. I also stated that they rent the building from a private business and I have no idea when the lease would be up or even if my idea would be a possibility. Only by asking the postmaster or telling her of the idea would we know, or perhaps when the lease would be up for renewal with the current landlord, we could have the opportunity to bid on the lease. I received the memberships permission to inquire about what we talked about. Sometime within the several weeks that followed I stopped in the office to talk with the postmaster and tell her about the memberships idea. Her name is Mary Ellen. I introduced myself to her and told her what I was there for. It turns out she was thrilled. She has been looking for a new location. Mary Ellen went on to tell me she has been looking for quite a while and she had asked several local businessmen and realtors about any possible new locations. We had a very productive meeting. It turns out she said that her office was crowded with all the building expansions in the area and that parking is a problem. She went on to show me some of the outside conditions that needed repaired. When I left she was going to contact people in the post office department to let them know of our conversation. A short time after that I received a call from a gentleman by the name of Geoffrey Gregg from Greensboro, North Carolina. He and I talked about what the fire department had to offer. Several points he had brought up was that the lease they currently had would be up very shortly and that the current office was in need of many repairs as well as it being too small for them. He asked that I take some photos and send to him via email. I did that that evening, with a follow-up phone call. Again he seemed pleased with what he saw. I had asked him about the possibility of renting from us (the fire department). His reply was that when it comes to renting, non-profit organizations or volunteer organizations sometimes do get a preference over the private sector claiming that it makes good public relations with the community and with the post office. He also wanted more photos of the buildings interior and was having someone from the Pittsburgh office meet me on Saturday. Saturday came and Mary Ellen showed up stating that the person from the Pittsburgh office could not make it at that time.

So she took the photos. She also gave me a piece of paper from Mr. Gregg asking if an environmental report was prepared on the property. (A copy of the email is attached) The following week I was able to receive services from Mr. Peter J. Hutchinson of The Hutchinson Group, Ltd. He volunteered his time for the fire department. I sent the samples of the materials to R J Lee Company in Monroeville, PA to be tested. The finding of asbestos was limited to one area—a tile floor approximately 100 square feet. I then called Mr. Gregg with this information. At that time, he informed me that the post office was going with a month-to-month lease with their current landlord and that the landlord had made a commitment to do all needed repairs. I was somewhat puzzled by this and had asked him if we had done something for him not to continue with the fire department's location. He said we hadn't and if things did not work out with the current landlord he would get back in touch with us. At that time, I thanked him for his time and the opportunity to work with him and Mary Ellen. You know Melanie; I was always bothered by this. Even if all the repairs were done to the building it would still be crowded and the parking lot still too small. I just could not understand the quick ending to something that seemed so right for everyone. And then a short year later, the Export Post Office was closing, moving. What happened with Mr. Gregg getting back in touch with us? Next thing I know, the post office is having a public meeting telling the postal patrons how they were going to locate a new post office in Export. The process that they were going to go through and that the time schedule was 60 days to advertise for a locations, 30 days to look at proposals, and then 30 days to make a decision on the location. (I think I have the time schedule right, or at least very close to being right.) At this period of time I was not very active with the fire department. I still went to some meetings and at one meeting, the president of the fire department, Mr. Terry Seighman, stated that the fire department had a commitment from the post office and was waiting for only one signature to complete the transaction.

Now it is February 2010 and that transaction never took place. I, my family, and a whole lot of people I talk to (and not only from Export) are very happy that you and your council members continue to try to get a post office back in Export. I know a lot of people are feeling the inconveniences of the closing of the Export Post Office, not only in Export but in Murrysville and surrounding communities as well. Because the post office in Murrysville is now becoming too small, the parking lot too small and difficult in finding a place to park. There counter business is overwhelming and the waiting is longer for services.

In closing, I want you and Export council to know that in 2010 I was elected President of the Export Volunteer Fire Department. And at our membership meeting, we took a vote, which passed unanimously, that we still have our building available for a post office and are willing and able to work with you, council, the mayor and the post office department to get a post office back in Export where it belongs. Again I cannot help but believe that this would be a win-win for the post office department, the fire department, and all postal patrons.

Sincerely,



Joe Zaccagnini
President, Export Volunteer Fire Department

Dura-Bond Industries

Post Office Drawer 518, 2658 Puckety Drive, Export, PA 15632
phone: 724.327.0280, fax: 724.327.0113, www.dura-bond.com

November 20, 2009

Melanie Litz
5885 Filmore Avenue
Export, PA 15632

RE: EXPORT POST OFFICE

Dear Ms. Litz,

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with an outline of my interactions with the United States Postal Service to secure a new location for the Export Post Office which was closed due to an alleged problem with the lessor of their building. As you recall, this problem did not surface until the last minute and provided the USPS the reason to close Export and consolidate with Murrysville.

As a landowner in downtown Export, we were approached by Mr. David Reese of Commercial Choice Realty, Inc. inquiring about the downtown parking lot and whether we would consider providing space for a new modular unit post office. Mr. Richard Hancock represented the Postal Service and also reviewed the space. We offered the space with all utilities for a rate of \$560.00 per month, with the money from the rent being donated back to the Boro. We submitted our offer on September 3rd 2008. We never heard back from anyone at the Postal Service and we considered our bid rejected. We made every effort to work with the Postal Service and even offered the property free in order to retain our post office, but we never heard from anyone. It seemed the words of Mr. Richard Hancock who assured Export a new post office were simply that, words and no action.

As a businessman in Export, we generate and receive a great deal of mail. We get and send certified, small packages and use priority services. Losing the post office has resulted in a very long drive to the facility in Murrysville and consumes about ½ hour to 45 minutes per day depending on how long the lines are in the post office which can be extremely long. Export also has an elderly population and when the post office was in town, they could walk to the facility with no problems and conduct their business. Now, they have to either find someone to do their business or find a ride to Murrysville. Not a good situation.

Export's post office had a very large footprint and served the area very well. In fact, many Murrysville residents patronized Export due to its convenience and good service. Export also was a profitable facility unlike some places still operating today and being kept open at tax payer's expense. It just doesn't make sense.

Page 2
November 20, 2009

Export has a long heritage, forged by hard working people who came here to make a better life for themselves and their families. The post office was a source of pride for them and our identity to the world. Losing our post office was a blow to the pride of the local residents and one they can't comprehend given the way the decision was reached and the fact they were profitable as one entity. We need to get our post office back and the government should step-up and do what is right.

Dura-Bond will work with you Melanie to continue the effort to re-establish our post office. Please call on me for any assistance I may be able to render. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Wayne Norris". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Wayne Norris
President- Dura-Bond Industries



MUNICIPALITY of MURRYSVILLE

4100 Sardis Road • Murrysville, PA 15668
Phone: (724) 327-2100 • Fax: (724) 327-2881

Robert J. Brooks
Mayor

James R. Morrison
Chief Administrator

Council

Joan Kearns
Council President

Regis Synan
Council Vice President

Nancy Kacin

Jeffery L. Kepler

Dennis Pavlik

David R. Perry

Ron Summerhill

January 25, 2010

Mr. Charles McCreadie
1001 California Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15290-9996

The Honorable Jason Altmire
2110 McLean Street
Aliquippa, PA 15001

**Re: Borough of Export
Post Office**

Dear Mr. McCreadie and Congressman Altmire:

On behalf of the Council of the Municipality of Murrysville, I write in support of Export Borough's efforts to re-establish a full service post office within their community. Over 35 percent of Murrysville's residents received their mail from this facility when it was operational.

A post office, in many respects, is the focal point of the community. It serves as meeting place, provides local employment, and gives the community an identity. The efforts put forth by the residents of the Borough and its elected officials have the total support of the Council of the Municipality of Murrysville.

Sincerely,

Joan C. Kearns
President of Council
Municipality of Murrysville

JRM:cdw

c: Municipality of Murrysville
Robert J. Brooks – Mayor
Council
James R. Morrison – Chief Administrator

Export Borough
Melanie Litz – Chair, Post Office Committee

JOHN E. PALLONE

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P.O. BOX 202054
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2054
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E-MAIL: jpallone@pahouse.net

5821 WASHINGTON AVENUE
EXPORT, PENNSYLVANIA 15632
PHONE: (724) 327-7430



House of Representatives COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

EDUCATION
FINANCE
JUDICIARY
SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ON
CRIME AND CORRECTIONS
DEMOCRATIC POLICY
TOURISM AND RECREATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

COPY

February 24, 2010

Mr. Charles McCreadie
District Manager
General Mail Facility
1001 California Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15290

Dear Mr. McCreadie:

I am writing with expressed interest and support for re-establishing and re-opening of the Export Branch of the Murrysville U.S. Post Office. The Murrysville Post Office is physically located along Route 22, a limited access four-lane highway with a high traffic flow and difficult access.

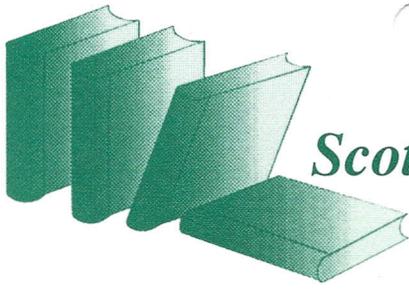
The re-establishment of the Export Post Office Branch will serve the local community allowing for easy access for residents and businesses in the area. Additionally, the Export Post Office will provide safe and convenient access to the senior community while adding to their independent living.

Re-establishing the Export Post Office will result a positive showing of local support for the region. I am confident that you will not be disappointed with the benefits of the re-opened Export Post Office.

I wish to thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Very truly yours,

Handwritten signature of John E. Pallone in black ink.
John E. Pallone



Scott A. Duff
Publications

P.O. Box 414
Export PA 15632
phone: (724) 327-8246
fax: (724) 327-4192

May 28, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

I recently became aware of the possibility that Export could lose its post office at the end of June. This would present a terrible image for our town in general, will be a great imposition for the citizens, and will have far reaching financial ramifications for the business owners of Export.

The impact to the citizens of Export is obvious; I will specifically address some impacts as a business owner in Export. I have a box the post office and I pick up my mail six days a week and about 50 weeks a year. Driving to the Murrysville Post Office instead of one in town would be a significant addition in miles driven and gasoline used. A round trip from the current location of the Export Post Office to the Murrysville Post Office is five miles. Five miles a day times six days per week times 50 weeks is 1500 miles a year. In fuel costs alone this is an additional cost to my business of \$300 to \$400 annually. Multiply that 1500 miles times the number of business owners, and residents for that matter, who visit the post office regularly and the number becomes very large. All while we are being encouraged by the Government to conserve fuel by driving less.

I established Scott A. Duff Publications based in Export in 1988. We publish books on the historical and technical military subjects. We have shipped books to all 50 states and to over 30 countries world wide. The cost to change catalogs, advertising, stationary, envelopes, and business cards is obvious. My situation includes an aspect that is less obvious, but will hurt me in gaining future customers. From January 1988 to date, we have shipped nearly 400,000 books. Each of those books has my Export address printed on the copyright page. Many new customers find us by using this information after looking at a friend's book, often many years after that book was sold. An address change will hurt us as mail forwarding does not last forever. I can substantiate this by comparing it to when our area code was changed. It took many years for some new customers to find us, and I am certain that some never did find us.

I hope that there is a solution to keeping a post office in the Borough of Export. In addition to the additional gasoline used, negative financial impact to business, and inconvenience to residents, it would be a disheartening slap in the face to Export as a town. Thank you for your efforts in preventing this from happening.

Respectfully,

Scott A. Duff

Visit our website at: www.scott-duff.com

specializing in historical and technical military subjects

January 20 2010

Dear Ms. Litz,

I wrote some back to Jason Altmire about my unhappiness at finding our Export Post Office would no longer be in existence - and I did receive a reply!

Now, I am sending you his letter, and though I do not have a copy of my letter, you can see my objections - Export needs its post-office !!!

Penn-Franklin today (front page) tells us of efforts that are going on - Hurrah!

With spaces available, and the need, there should be no question about restoring this service - I will be hopeful - Thanks to all ^{who} are doing what they can - Incidentally, I also left a call with our local Senator - no reply back on that, however.

Sincerely,

Jacquelyn (Mrs. Arnold) Wimer
5811 Torrance Drive
Export, PA

22 February 2010

Charles McCreadie
Western Pennsylvania District Manager
US Postal Service
1001 California Avenue
Pittsburgh PA 15290

Dear Mr. McCreadie:

I understand that there will be a meeting in your office on Friday, February 26, 2010, regarding the Export Post Office which was closed in June 2008 and the possible re-opening of that post office.

As a resident of Export, Pennsylvania, I ask for your support in re-opening the Export post office. I attended the town hall meeting in July 2008 where closing the post office and providing a retail center in its place was discussed. As of this date we have no post office and no retail center.

I offer the following to support this request:

1. Having a post office retains the sense of "community" and the Export post office was within walking distance for the majority of the residents. That is particularly helpful to the senior citizens who live here and it is also environmentally friendly compared to making the drive to the Murrysville Post Office.
2. The Export post office also had the earliest pick-up of mail in the area: 6:30 a.m. at the outside post office box. Mail in Murrysville doesn't go out until 2:30 p.m. Additionally we have heard that the Export mail box will soon be removed, which adds insult to injury.
3. The Export/Murrysville area continues to grow and as such a larger demand for services will be made at the Murrysville Post Office.

At the very least, please put discussions back on the table for a retail center in Export. We need it and we will support it.

Sincerely,

Angela Warfsman
204 Georgetown Lane
Export, PA 15632

cc: Rep. Jason Altmire

Charles McCreadie
Western Pennsylvania District Manager
US Postal Service
1001 California Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15290

Dear Mr. McCreadie:

I would like to offer my enthusiastic support for reopening the Export Post Office as a full service location. I am a senior citizen who has a Murrysville address but lives an equal distance from both the Murrysville and Export Post offices.

Although the Murrysville Post Office is a modern facility with all the requisite amenities, it is not my post office of choice. In order to access the Murrysville post office, one must navigate a very busy route 22 and the access road requires a dangerous right turn very near to an intersection by a busy Sheetz gas station and a bank . An alternate entrance accesses the post office from the back, but it is still more inconvenient than that of the Export Post Office

Since the closing of the Export Post Office, the Murrysville Post Office's parking has become a problem because the extra employees that were transferred to the Murrysville location have had no place to park other than the patron's lot. These employees seem to be working behind the scenes and work the later shifts because of extended hours at the Murrysville site. These extended hours are appreciated by many, I am sure, but I would willingly forgo that in order to have an office in Export.

Export and Murrysville have a large population of retirees who prefer to do their business during the daylight hours and not be exposed to the hassle of a high traffic road. In addition, in the spirit of good public relations, two smaller post office locations would make good sense. Getting to know your postal workers goes a long way in promoting the USPS as the service of choice. Export was extremely user friendly and their employees were always helpful and courteous.

Murrysville experiences long lines often, the employees become stressed and rushed, and the patrons become impatient. Big is not always better. It may seem more efficient, but in reality, customer relations suffer, and your client base declines.

I urge you to reinstate a full service post office in Export. It will be the right decision.

Sincerely,

Judith D. Johnson
724-327-3331

CC: Rep. Jason Altmire

BRING BACK THE EXPORT POST OFFICE

We the undersigned call on the United States Postal Service to re-open the Export Borough Post Office, zip code 15632. The continual operational of a US Post Office in Export is essential for the viability of the community. We will be hard pressed to attract businesses, serve our senior population, and sustain the walkability of our community without an operational Post Office.

The Export Post office served over 4,000 customers. The neighboring Post Office in Murrysville, zip code 15668, is overcrowded, understaffed and inconvenient for not only Export residents, but the surrounding communities as well.

Please consider this petition when assessing the impact this closing will have on the community.

Printed Name	Phone	Address	Signature
1 MARY LOU STOVER	724-327-2301	6058 ITALY Rd	Mary Lou Stover
2 CHUCK OSLOSKY	724-6168-7667	5749 LINCOLN AVE	Chuck Oslosky
3 Jack Lindsey	724-325-2564	65 MAPLEWOOD CT	Jack Lindsey
4 Rick Fern	724-494-3131	7500 NOCA RD	R Fern
5 Edward Woehler	724-961-0981	5750 LINCOLN AVE.	E Woehler
6 Jerry Hamon	724-387-0331	3962-420 MURPHY	Jerry Hamon
7 Sherry Stover	724-733-2680	1019 CARRISON LANE	Sherry Stover
8 DENNIS A. MURRAY	724-466-1883	118 BARRINGTON	Dennis Murray
9 Ken RIPLE	724-771-4089	2655 PUCKET PR	Ken Rippe
10 DON KOHOSK	724-468-5926	208 W. 96th ST	Don Kohosk
11 DON CLINE	724-325-2648	5046 Old Wm Penn	Don Cline
12 TIM FOX	724-733-7048	5055 Impulse	Tim Fox
13 DAN HAYNES	724-396-7213	2885 ARLOWHEAD CT.	Dan Haynes
14 JOHN PLECEVIC	724-733-4192	708 ILLINOIS WY	John Plecevic
15 MELISA LEWIS	724-733-4337	5275 ASHBURGH RD MURRYSVILLE	Melisa Lewis
16 A. M. FETHEROLF	724-327-4405	4356 REYNARD DR MURRYSVILLE	A.M. Fetherolf
17 MARTIN BENDER	412-527-9168	430 ALPINE VILLAGE DR	Martin Bender
18 JOE NICOLETTI	724-325-3645	5835 NAHONT RD	Joe Nicoletti

* Total Signatures = 462
Will furnish additional pages upon request