

146 Monteval Road
Careywood, ID 83809
April 14, 2015

A2015-2

Shoshana Grove, Secretary
Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue, NW Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268

Dear Shoshana Grove,

I am writing concerning the closure of the Careywood, Idaho Post Office. I have heard that the Postal Regulatory Commission has opened an appeal case on the closure. First, I never received an official notification of the proposed closure of this post office earlier this year and had only heard of it through word of mouth. It is my understanding that we should have a 60 day notice of the closure. I do not think the closure of this post office was made through proper rules and regulations for a closure.

The closure of this post office is causing my husband and me personal hardships. Many people, like us, in our rural area, are retired and lived on fixed incomes. We live about 7 miles from the Careywood Post Office as it is. We do much shopping online since it is more convenient than to go into town. Sandpoint is 26 miles in one direction and Coeur d'Alene is 32 miles in the other. Since my husband and I shop online, we receive many packages. Now that the Careywood Post Office has closed, we will have to drive an additional 7-8 miles in one direction just to pick up a package. For us that means using almost 2 gallons of gasoline just to go to the post office. This is increasing our gasoline bill and I consider this somewhat of a tax that is imposed upon us just to pick up packages. The cost and time involved is truly an imposition and hardship on those of us on fixed incomes and who live in rural areas.

The post office in Careywood underwent recent changes for the better. There were upgrades and as I understand it, revenue had increased 40% since last fall when the new postmistress took over. Having a local post office is very important to our rural neighborhood.

I have heard that one of the reasons for closing this post office is that the new highway will go through this area. The southern section of the restricted access road 95 has been completed but it will be many years, perhaps not even in my lifetime, for the remainder of this project to be completed. First the most northern part needs to be done and that has not even been started and I have heard that the construction there is still years away from starting because of the lack of funding. The middle section where the Careywood post office is, will be the last part of the project. I do not feel this road project is a valid reason since the project is so many, many years away.

With additional people now going to the post office in Athol, ID where mailboxes are and where we pick up and mail packages, I have noticed more problems parking.

Having this local rural post office is important to me and many in the Careywood community. I would appreciate any help you can provide toward reopening the Careywood Post Office. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Cavanaugh
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