



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

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November 15, 2011

District Discontinuance Coordinator
NORTHLAND PFC
100 South First Street, Suite 426B
Minneapolis, MN 55401-9990

Dear Colleague,

Please accept this letter as an expression of my concern with respect to plans to close the Seeger Square Postal Substation in Saint Paul.

I certainly understand, in these difficult financial times, the need to contain costs. We, in city government, have had to both raise additional revenue and reduce expenditures. But we have learned, through the process, how important it is to focus on the *value* of the services we offer to our citizens. That has usually meant preserving services in neighborhoods where people are least able to afford the cost of alternative services or travel to other service locations.

The Seeger Square Post Office serves such a neighborhood. People who use its services come from low to moderate income families. They are Hmong, Latino and Somali immigrants. They rely on public transportation or they walk or bike through their daily routines. And, unlike many other neighborhoods where people are able to access on-line services, the people who live around Seeger Square *use* their post office. They buy money orders to pay bills. They send and receive mail from other countries. They own small businesses that rely on direct mail. The USPS provides a highly valued service at Seeger Square—a service that makes a difference in the lives of its customers.

I strongly urge you to explore ways to avoid closing this Substation.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Coleman
Mayor

Cc: Senator Amy Klobuchar
Senator Al Franken
Representative Betty McCollum