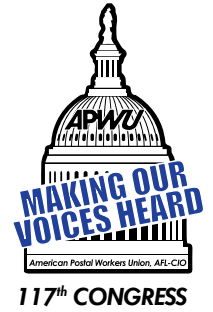




# American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

Mark Dimondstein, President  
Judy Beard, Legislative & Political Director  
APWU Legislative Hotline: 844-402-1001



## INVESTING IN POSTAL INFRASTRUCTURE

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### *Why it's Important and What We'll Gain*

**In order to continue serving America, the Postal Service desperately needs investment in its infrastructure.** Without significant new resources to upgrade its delivery fleet, facilities, and other infrastructure, USPS cannot maintain and grow the high-level of essential services the American people rely on from this vital public agency.

Amid a pandemic, postal workers continue to make exceptional efforts to support our nation's public health and economy by meeting the demand for home deliveries of food, medicine, and other essentials. Frontline postal workers have achieved this despite years of under-capitalization in USPS infrastructure. It's time to reverse course and invest in our public Postal Service.

#### **What's preventing USPS from making necessary investments?**

In 2006, Congress passed the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (PAEA) which required USPS to create a \$72 billion fund to pay for employee post-retirement health insurance more than 75 years into the future. The prefunding mandate accounted for 88% of USPS's annual losses, siphoned resources away from USPS operations, and prevented USPS from investing in cost-saving reliability enhancements in its infrastructure.

#### **What's the Solution?**

Thankfully, the landmark Postal Reform bill removed the burden of the prefunding mandate from USPS. However, while the mandate is gone, the legacy of this failed policy remains in the form of maintenance and capital improvements USPS had been unable to make. That's why we need additional funding to improve USPS' infrastructure.

**In the 116th Congress, H.R. 2, The Moving Forward Act, was introduced and passed in the House and included \$25 billion in infrastructure funding to modernize the Postal Service per the request of a bi-partisan Postal Board of Governors.**



**Now, in the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress, we urge the introduction of similar bills. Although we pushed for \$25 billion in funding for Postal Infrastructure, Congress has not yet made a decision on how much funding USPS will receive.**

**However, through our lobbying efforts, we have built a large amount of support for providing USPS with an electric fleet.**

**The Inflation Reduction Act allocated three billion for zero-emission delivery vehicles!**