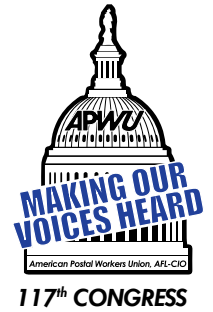




American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

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



ISSUE #4

INVESTING IN POSTAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Why it's Important, What's Standing in Our Way, 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 pre-funding mandate accounts for 88% of USPS's annual losses, siphons resources away from USPS operations, and prevents USPS from investing in cost-saving reliability enhancements in its infrastructure.

What's the Solution?

There is overwhelming bi-partisan agreement in Congress that **the pre-funding mandate must be repealed.** While a critical first step, even if it were repealed tomorrow, the effects of this failed policy would remain for years in the form of maintenance and capital improvements USPS has been unable to make. That's why we must also make crucial financial investments in our public Postal Service.

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 117th 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.

Contact the APWU Legislative and Political Department at (202) 842-4211 for more information
A complete list of APWU Legislative Priorities is available at apwu.org

UPDATED: OCTOBER 2021

