



# The Detroit Postal Worker

A NEWS BULLETIN FOR APWU MEMBERS

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American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO - Detroit District Area Local

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# DUMP DEJOY & HIS 10 YEAR PLAN

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*Striving to Maintain Democracy, Equality and Integrity for all People*

## The Postal Service: What now?

	Postmaster General Louis DeJoy's vision:	A public vision:
<b>Delivery</b>	<b>Reduce door-to-door delivery.</b> Push more customers into "cluster mailboxes." To cut costs, delay the mail more and more.	<b>Defend our commitment to deliver on time to every household.</b> Maintain the service standards that seniors, people with disabilities, veterans, and millions of other Americans depend on.
<b>Post offices</b>	<b>Reduce window hours at post offices,</b> creating even longer lines for customers. Lease space to private companies, inviting privatization of postal work.	<b>Expand service into the evenings.</b> Open more windows to reduce the wait during peak hours. <b>Add services such as free broadband access,</b> fishing and hunting licenses, document shredding, driver's license renewal, and census support.
<b>Postage</b>	<b>Charge higher prices for postage to Hawaii, Alaska, and Puerto Rico.</b> Then raise the rates for rural areas too.	<b>Maintain universal service and universal rates</b> for every corner of the U.S., including for the "last mile" of delivery.
<b>Banking</b>	<b>Do nothing about "banking deserts"</b> where check cashers and payday lenders extract \$100 billion a year in exorbitant fees from low-income residents.	<b>Allow post offices to offer basic financial services</b> such as low-cost checking and savings accounts, ATMs, and mobile banking, creating \$9 billion a year in revenue, by enacting the Postal Banking Act sponsored by Senators Gillibrand and Sanders.
<b>Network</b>	<b>Close and consolidate post offices and mail plants,</b> breaking up a valuable infrastructure and delivering a blow to communities.	<b>Preserve the network of 31,000 post offices and hundreds of mail processing plants.</b> Use them to aid emergency response in crises, as well as to deliver the mail.
<b>Jobs</b>	<b>Cut jobs and services.</b> Expand the lower-paid part-time workforce. Bust the postal unions. <b>Disregard worker safety.</b> Force mandatory overtime, speedup, and after-dark delivery—with some carriers working up to 16-hour days and going weeks without a day off.	<b>Hire more postal workers,</b> at full union wages and benefits, to alleviate the severe understaffing. Go back to reasonable work hours. <b>Defend good jobs in every neighborhood.</b> The Postal Service is the country's largest union workforce, and an important source of livable-wage jobs for Black workers (21 percent of the postal workforce), veterans (18 percent), and women (40 percent, compared to 20 percent at UPS).
<b>COVID</b>	<b>Make no serious plan for the coronavirus surge.</b> Keep cases and exposures secret. Don't enforce masks. Tell people their paid leave is all used up, even when they need to quarantine or take care of their kids.	<b>Provide fully paid COVID leave for as long as it is needed.</b> Mandate masks. Improve contact tracing. Allow those who can to work from home. Do better deep cleaning. Provide clear info when workers have been exposed or put at risk.
<b>Climate</b>	<b>Ignore climate concerns.</b> Keep using decrepit 30-year-old delivery vehicles that sometimes burst into flames.	<b>Invest in a greener Postal Service, with a fleet of electric vehicles to deliver the mail.</b> At post offices, add solar panels and electric-car charging stations.
<b>Finances</b>	<b>Cut costs to maximize profits.</b> Sell off resources and services piece by piece.	<b>Focus on public service, not profit.</b> The Postal Service is guaranteed to the people by the Constitution. Save \$5 billion per year by repealing the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act, which created a fake budget crunch by requiring extreme prefunding of retiree health benefits. Pass Medicare for All, alleviating the health care cost burden on the Postal Service.
<b>Accountability</b>	<b>Answer to no one.</b> Unilaterally dismantle sorting machines, remove mailboxes, close facilities, reduce hours, change policies, and delay the mail.	<b>Establish a public commission</b> to study innovations, welcome suggestions, and make recommendations. Examine creative ways to serve communities and build local resilience.
<b>Trust</b>	<b>Sabotage the Postal Service from within.</b> Erode the public trust. Pave the way for privatization.	<b>Maintain confidence in the Postal Service to do what it has always done:</b> deliver medicines, Social Security checks, ballots, business mail, and packages on time.

For more information and to help: [bit.ly/SaveOurPostalService](https://bit.ly/SaveOurPostalService)