

MARK DESAULNIER
11TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND
THE WORKFORCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND
WORKFORCE TRAINING
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WORKFORCE PROTECTIONS
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GOVERNMENT REFORM
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC ASSETS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE, BENEFITS, AND
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

327 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
PHONE: (202) 225-2095
FAX: (202) 225-5609

101 YGNACIO VALLEY ROAD, SUITE 210
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596
PHONE: (925) 933-2660
FAX: (925) 933-2677

440 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, 2ND FLOOR
RICHMOND, CA 94804
PHONE: (510) 620-1000
FAX: (510) 620-1005

February 17, 2017

Ms. Alicia Gallo
Richmond Main Street
1015 Nevin Avenue #105
Richmond, CA 94801

Dear Ms. Gallo:

Thank you for contacting me regarding the post office on Nevin Avenue in Richmond. I appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts with me on this important matter.

The Bay Area has one of the most dynamic economies in the country, and the issues faced in our community are not only examples of a more pervasive problem, but have an impact on the entire region. As the only member of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee from the Bay Area, I am working to improve accountability and transparency in government. The recent decisions made by the United States Post Office (USPS) to begin the process of selling the Nevin Avenue Post Office and moving its retail operations without providing sufficient notice to public officials and constituents exemplify the need for change.

Since taking office in 2015, my office has continued to hear from constituents repeatedly about problems with the post office in our district. I have reached out to the USPS several times in writing, over the phone, and in person to fix these problems. Unfortunately, despite the dedicated work and many positive interactions I have had with the USPS rank-and-file letter carriers, USPS management in the Bay Area has proven inadequate.

Like you, I was frustrated when we learned that a sign had been posted on the Nevin Avenue Post Office alerting customers that the USPS intends to sell the post office. I have spoken directly with the Postmaster General about this issue and followed up with a letter laying out my specific concerns. Additionally, my office has been engaging with USPS to uncover how and why this decision was made, but have not yet received an adequate response.

The lack of notice given to the public and local officials is unacceptable. Please know my office will continue working to address the issues with the USPS in our district. We will defend this historic post office. To that end, I have introduced a bill to rename this very post office after Richmond's first African American Postmaster, Harold D. McCraw, Sr.

Again, thank you for contacting me. If I may be of assistance to you in the future, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark DeSaulnier". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress