



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)  
Email: [info@VeniceNC.org](mailto:info@VeniceNC.org)



June 19, 2012

## MOTION to Petition Elected Leaders to Take Action to Retain Historic Venice Main Post Office and Those in Other Communities Across the Nation

### Whereas:

Post offices have provided essential information exchange since our country's founding, becoming town centers important to the unity of their communities and with the buildings becoming historic landmarks, and

The United States Postal Service (USPS) has been shackled since 2006 by uniquely crafted, uniquely implemented legislation introducing a pre-funding obligation whose excessive burden is borne by no other public agency and no private business, and

The USPS is our nation's most trusted public service, satisfying its by-law Universal Service Obligation to serve all Americans, regardless of geography, at uniform price and quality, and reaching more Americans than every other information exchange at any cost, yet

The USPS has failed in its due diligence obligation to justify and/or validate closure of Venice Main Post Office or to protect Venice Main Post Office's historic resources in the event of sale, and

Venice Main Post Office and its customers have already been severely impacted by a service reduction such that the facility operates out of compliance with USPS regulations, and the USPS's action to relocate a percentage of current Venice Main Post Office services exacerbates the agency's non-compliance and further harms Venice Main Post Office customers, and

The USPS is our nation's third largest employer, and is one of our nation's largest employers of minorities, led by African-Americans, who make up 21% of Postal workers, and the USPS is our nation's single largest employer of veterans, who make up 130,000, or 22% of its ranks, and nearly 49,000 of whom are disabled, and

Current plans to close ten percent of Postal revenue centers, with further plans to close fifty percent of Postal revenue centers will decrease Postal revenue while disproportionately harming American minorities and veterans, and

Currently proposed Congressional legislation would: destroy 200,000 public service jobs, threaten a 1.3 trillion dollar mailing industry that employs 7.5 million private-sector workers, threaten small businesses, rural customers, elderly customers and medicine recipients by ending Saturday delivery, force closure of thousands more post offices, severely reduce Postal revenues by slowing mail service, alienate millions of Americans in thousands of communities by withdrawing their town centers, while ignoring the single cause of the Postal Service's manufactured crisis, and



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The USPS is financially sound and would rank as number 35 on the 2011 Fortune 500 if it were a private agency, and produces its own positive cashflow, without cost to taxpayers, solely from sales of stamps and related products, and

The USPS is our government's only guarantee to provide all Americans with equal, affordable and free speech access to information exchange, and must continue to satisfy its Universal Service Obligation, and

Venice Main Post Office is one of hundreds of historic post offices and thousands of regular post offices that are essential to the civic life of small towns and large cities across the nation, and

Halting postal facility closures, relocations and consolidations will save livelihoods and, potentially, lives of public servants and customers during this Great Recession while providing much-needed stimulation for our country's economy, and

Acknowledging through action that the unparalleled economic and intrinsic value of our country's most trusted public service can benefit our country's Congressional public servants,

Venice Neighborhood Council, on behalf of a community united from all areas of the political spectrum, now therefore calls upon

**Councilperson Bill Rosendahl, Los Angeles City Council, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Assembly Member Betsy Butler, Senator Ted Lieu, Congresspersons Janice Hahn and Henry Waxman, Governor Jerry Brown and Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein to respond in a like united action to petition President Barack Obama to execute and sign an Executive Order to:**

- 1) Direct the Postmaster General to bring to an immediate end all sales, closures, consolidations and relocations of historic post offices, and
- 2) Direct the Postmaster General to end closures, consolidations and relocations of all other postal facilities.
- 3) Relieve the USPS of its unique and undue pre-funding burden,
- 4) Refund all currently held USPS overpayments.