


**IN SUPPORT OF A CONTINUED PRESENCE OF A
DOWNTOWN POST OFFICE RETAIL FACILITY**

- WHEREAS, The United States Postal Service is considering the location of a new post office to replace the current downtown post office located at 206 East Fourth Street and prefers, in order to attain efficiencies, that the new facility combine the retail as well as non-retail operations at one site; and
- WHEREAS, The United States Postal Service is soliciting community feedback on site proposals for the new post office; and
- WHEREAS, The City of Bloomington, its business community and its citizens have consistently urged the United States Postal Service to keep a retail facility in the Bloomington downtown with a scope and level of service (e.g. staffing and post office boxes) similar to the existing facility, even if it means that the non-retail operations are sited elsewhere; and
- WHEREAS, The City's downtown post office has been at its current location since 1959; and
- WHEREAS, for decades, the public and private sectors of the community have worked together, investing time and money in order to maintain the downtown as a dynamic and thriving center of community life, and, unlike many other cities, are seeing their efforts succeed; and
- WHEREAS, A downtown retail post office is an essential service and is a key component of our community's economic, environmental and cultural vitality; and
- WHEREAS, The current post office is an economic engine for our downtown in which the post office and nearby businesses mutually reinforce each other: visitors to the post office often shop, eat and do business at local establishments and, in turn, these local businesses are major consumers of postal services; and
- WHEREAS, As residents go about their daily lives, they've come to rely on the handy and friendly presence of a downtown post office retail facility and with the growth of several business, residential and arts initiatives in our downtown, this reliance will only grow; and
- WHEREAS, A downtown post office retail facility is key to the City's ethic of sustainability because, unlike a suburban site where up to 50% of the carbon impact is created by commuters, a centrally located facility allows citizens to walk, bike or take the downtown public transportation to and from the post office as well as other downtown establishments, thereby reducing vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions for as long as the facility continues to offer its services; and
- WHEREAS, A downtown post office also helps the City maximize the value of existing infrastructure by keeping essential services consolidated downtown; and
- WHEREAS, The United States Postal Service has worked closely with the City of Bloomington in reaching out to identify suitable sites in the downtown; and
- WHEREAS, The City of Bloomington appreciates this spirit of cooperation and looks forward to working with postal officials to reach a pragmatic solution to help keep Bloomington's post office retail facility downtown;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, MONROE COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT:

1. The City of Bloomington calls upon the United States Postal Service to relocate its retail and non-retail operations to a site within the downtown, approximately between Second Street and Eleventh Street and between Indiana Avenue and Rogers Street.
2. If that is not possible, then the City of Bloomington calls upon the United States Postal Service to offer, at a minimum, a new location within the downtown that provides a similar scope and level of the retail services, including staffing and post office boxes, as is currently being provided at the East Fourth Street site.
3. The City Clerk shall distribute copies of this resolution to the Indiana Congressional delegation and the United States Postmaster General.

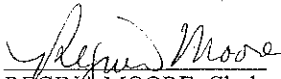
PASSED and ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this 16th day of JANUARY, 2008.


SUSAN SANDBERG, President
Bloomington Common Council

SIGNED and APPROVED by me upon this 17th day of JANUARY, 2008.


MARK KRUZAN, Mayor
City of Bloomington

ATTEST:


REGINA MOORE, Clerk
City of Bloomington

SYNOPSIS

This resolution is sponsored by Councilmembers Sturbaum, Sandberg, Ruff and Rollo and calls for the United States Postal Service to keep its retail facility in the Bloomington Downtown. Pointing to the long history of a downtown post office, the resolution declares that a downtown post office is an essential community service and a key element of the City's cultural and economic vitality. The resolution also directs the City Clerk to send copies of the resolution to the Indiana Congressional Delegation and United States Postmaster General.

Note: The resolution was revised after distribution on January 11, 2008, but before introduction on January 16, 2008 by replacing the words "sustainable growth" with "sustainability" as they appear in the ninth whereas clause.

Signed copies to:

controller
legal (10)
webmaster
CA/CAC3
Clerk
deputy clerk

Indiana Congressional Delegation (4)
US Postmaster General
Chamber of Commerce
Comm. for Bluffton District
Bloomington Postmaster

me, Drury, real estate services
manager of real estate for USPS, Menden
Real Estate Services for USPS, Schroeder