

BEFORE THE
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

PUBLIC INQUIRY ON CHANGES ASSOCIATED
WITH THE DELIVERING FOR AMERICA PLAN

Docket No. PI2023-4

**NOTICE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE OF SUPPLEMENTAL
RESPONSE TO QUESTION 4 OF CHAIRMAN'S INFORMATION REQUEST NO. 4**
(October 26, 2023)

The United States Postal Service (Postal Service) hereby provides notice of additions to the response to Question 4, subpart a. of Chairman's Information Request (ChIR) No. 4 in the instant docket, originally submitted to the Postal Regulatory Commission on October 23, 2023.

The response submitted on October 23, 2023, made the following representation regarding the level of sortation completed at Sorting and Delivery Centers (S&DCs): "All S&DCs will sort packages to the carrier route level, sort 5-digit letters and flats to the carrier route level, and carriers will sort manual letters and flats to delivery point sequence." This statement, while accurate, may give the impression that all 5-digit letters and flats, including those 5-digit letters and flats subject to automated processing, will be sorted to the carrier route level. However, only manually processed 5-digit letters and flats will be sorted to the carrier route level. The emended text of the response to ChIR No. 4, Question 4, subpart a. therefore clarifies that S&DCs will sort *manual* 5-digit letters and flats to the carrier route level.

The response also provided that “RPDCs will sort destinating parcels to the 5-digit and cross-dock destinating 3-digit sorted letters and flats to an LPC.” The text of the response to ChIR No. 4, Question 4, subpart a. has been emended to clarify how mailer-prepared mail will be handled at RPDCs.

The response further noted that “LPCs will also cross-dock 5-digit sorted packages to delivery units.” This representation is accurate, but not exhaustive. In addition to cross-docking 5-digit sorted packages to delivery units, LPCs may cross-dock carrier route bundles of flats prepared on delivery sort containers to delivery units. The text of the response to ChIR No. 4, Question 4, subpart a. has accordingly been emended to account for this level of sortation carried out at LPCs.

The additions are highlighted in gray on the attached revised pages, which are meant to replace the Postal Service’s original response to ChIR No. 4, Question 4 in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

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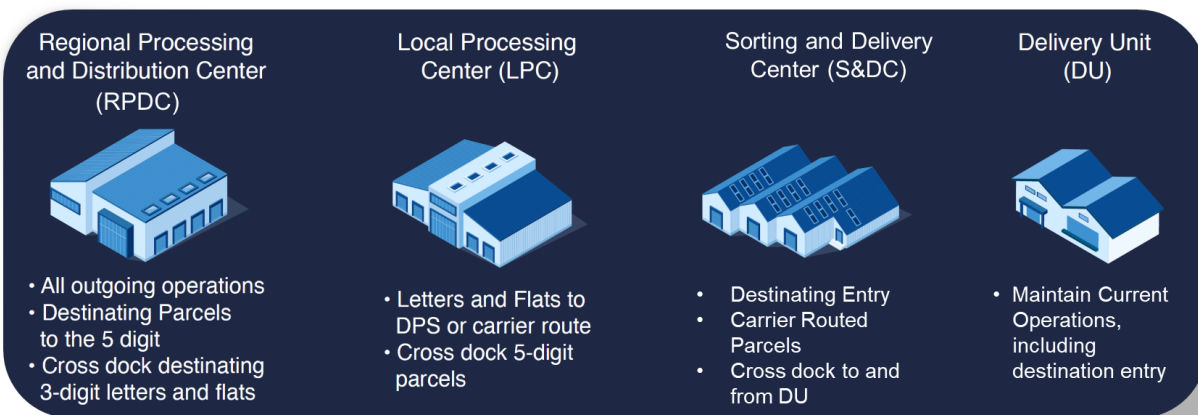
USPS Supplemental Response to Chairman's Information Request No. 4, Question 4

1. Discussing regional processing and distribution centers (RPDCs) and local processing centers (LPCs), the Postal Service states “[t]he RPDCs are intended to handle originating operations (for letters, flats, and packages) for a designated region, as well as destinating package operations for the region . . . [and t]he intended function of the LPC is to handle destinating letter and flat sortation operations for designated 3-Digit ZIP Codes within the region, and to also serve as an aggregation point for packages moving to the delivery network.” Response to CHIR No. 1, question 1.
 - a. Please describe what levels of sortation (or depth of sort) will be completed at each new facility type, RPDC, LPC, and sorting and delivery center for letters, flats, and packages. If the levels of sortation are not standardized across a facility type, please make a note of this in the response and describe all possible levels of sortation done at each facility type for each mail shape.
 - b. Please describe in detail what aggregation point for packages means and include a list of package-specific Management Operating Data System operations.
 - c. Please confirm that because the RPDCs are intended to handle originating operations for letters, flats, and packages, mail entered at other facility types will not be processed or sorted at those facilities before being transported to the RPDC. If not confirmed, please explain.

RESPONSE:

- a. RPDCs will sort outgoing volume for all letters, flats, and packages to the 3-digit. RPDCs will sort destinating parcels to the 5-digit and cross-dock destinating 3-digit (or finer mailer-prepared containers, e.g., 5-digit) sorted letters and flats to an LPC, after performing a tray or bundle sort if needed. LPCs will sort destinating letters and flats to delivery point sequence and 5-digit. LPCs will also cross-dock 5-digit sorted packages to delivery units, and may cross-dock carrier route bundles of flats prepared on delivery sort containers to delivery units. All S&DCs will sort packages to the carrier route level, sort manual 5-digit letters and flats to the carrier route level, and carriers will sort

manual letters and flats to delivery point sequence. Most S&DCs will sort packages to the 5-digit and cross-dock 5-digit letter, flats, and packages to other downstream delivery units. These levels of sortation are encapsulated in the illustration below:



b. Aggregation point for packages means the merging of destinating mail and destinating packages onto the same truck intended for a downstream facility. For the requested package-specific Management Operating Data Systems operations, please see USPS-LR-PI2023-4-2, filed in association with this response.

c. Confirmed.