

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 13, 2025

Postmaster General Louis DeJoy  
United States Postmaster General  
U.S. Postal Service Headquarters  
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW  
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Postmaster General DeJoy:

Tomorrow marks two years since our constituents in Chimayó, New Mexico lost their beloved post office to a fire, causing irreparable damage to the community. The post office had long been the heart of this small, rural, and vibrant community. Your failure to rebuild or relocate the Chimayó Post Office shows a complete lack of leadership and ignores your responsibilities to this beautiful community. Our congressional delegation continues to urge you to take action and find a permanent location for USPS operations in Chimayó.

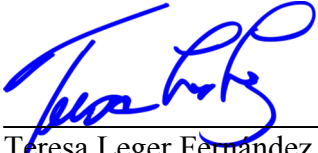
Since the Chimayó Post Office burned down on February 14, 2023, we have repeatedly urged USPS to return operations to Chimayó. Too often, our requests and those of the community seem to fall on apathetic ears. On numerous occasions, we have raised the need to replace the post office and held public meetings to bring residents and postal patrons together. On May 31, we sent a [joint letter](#) expressing concerns about the absence of postal services in Chimayó. One year after the disastrous fire, we once again called on USPS to publicly communicate its commitment and timeline for a new, permanent post office with the community. In a response letter dated March 6, 2024, the Senior Government Relations Representative asserted that a new post office takes a minimum of 12 to 18 months as outlined in the Code of Federal Regulations. The Chimayó postal office search has far exceeded this timeline.

Given the countless letters, community gatherings, and consistent inquiries from our offices on the matter, we are disappointed in the lack of attentiveness from USPS to the Chimayó community. While we understand such processes take time, two full years have passed and our community has received only vague assurances in response to our repeated inquiries. Since Chimayó community members do not hear from you, they do not believe you. They often raise feeling ignored and disrespected.

On January 24th, 2025, USPS informed Congresswoman Leger Fernández's office that it is evaluating the "only viable location" for the new post office and to "expect a final determination by the end of March 2025." However, we have not been provided with any clarity on the term "viable" in this context. Does it imply that the project will move forward, or does it suggest that if the location is not selected, the effort will be discontinued entirely? We will not accept a situation in which, two years after the fire, no suitable location has been identified, and we expect clear communication on the matter without further delay.

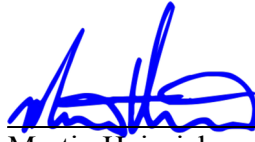
Further, it is completely unacceptable to permanently relocate the Chimayó Post Office to Santa Cruz due to the additional distance and the overcrowded nature of the facility, which now serves both communities. The Chimayó Post Office has been the heart of this community for generations, much like post offices in other small towns. Two years without postal services is too long. It is imperative that USPS prioritize returning a full service post office to Chimayó as it is a vital hub of that beautiful community. We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to your positive response.

Sincerely,



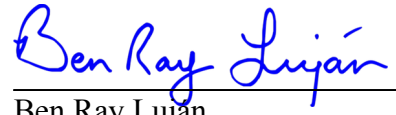
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Teresa Leger Fernández  
Member of Congress



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Martin Heinrich  
United States Senator



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Ben Ray Lujan  
United States Senator