

August 16, 2023

ITEM TITLE: DISCUSSION AND ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 2023-69 DENOUNCING ANY MODIFICATIONS OF SERVICE OR OPERATIONS TO THE IMPERIAL BEACH POST OFFICE. (0150-40)

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT:

City Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The City has been made aware of operation modifications at the Imperial Beach Post Office as part of the USPS Sorting and Delivery Center initiative. USPS leadership has declined to meet with the City of Imperial Beach and the City Council has directed staff to prepare a Resolution denouncing any modifications of service or operations to the Imperial Beach Post Office.

RECOMMENDATION:

City Council discussion and adoption of Resolution No. 2023-69 to denounce any modifications of service or operations to the Imperial Beach Post Office.

OPTIONS:

- Adopt Resolution; or
- Adopt Resolution with modifications; or
- Reject Resolution; or
- Request additional information and an additional report.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

In June, the City was contacted by postal union representatives and separately received a complaint from a member of the public about changes to Post Office operations. City staff reached out to the Postmaster to discuss Post Office operations. City staff did not receive a response from the Postmaster and reached out to an out-of-state USPS Strategic Communications Specialist. The City was informed that local USPS leadership declined the City's request to discuss operations and was provided with a general statement describing the USPS Sorting and Delivery Center initiative, which was unveiled in the fall of 2022 in Athens, Georgia, and would be taking place in the Imperial Beach community by co-locating postal carriers in Chula Vista where the mail is sorted. Following this response, a community rally was held at the Imperial Beach Post Office, where many members of the public expressed their concerns about any modification of operations.

Following this public response, a separate out-of-state USPS representative contacted the City describing the Sorting and Delivery Center initiative. The City requested that local USPS leadership address the community directly and respond to questions. The Office of Representative Vargas was contacted by the Mayor and has been in communication with USPS,

though the City has not yet received formal communication from local USPS leadership. Due to the lack of transparency and public input, the City Council directed staff at the August 2, 2023 City Council meeting to prepare a Resolution that denounces any modifications to service or operations at the Imperial Beach Post Office.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

Not a project as defined by CEQA.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

ATTACHMENTS:

ATT 1 - Resolution 2023-69