



March 19, 2014

The Honourable Lisa Raitt
Minister of Transport
330 Sparks Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0N5

Dear Ms. Raitt:

We are writing to request your intervention related to Canada Post's recently announced 'Five Point Plan' that would eliminate home delivery of the mail to @5,000,000 households.

While we may acknowledge that the world is changing and that the postal service must adapt, the wholesale conversion to "community mailboxes" will leave many inconvenienced and will likely cause other problems for the broader community:

1. The elderly and the disabled will not be well served if they have to travel to "community mailboxes". Those with mobility limitations should not be penalized; neither should those who rely heavily on paper communications for banking and other matters.
2. The lack of security in the currently used "community mailboxes" implies that under this plan potentially many more Canadians will be exposed to direct theft of mail, and identity theft.
3. Provision for vehicle parking adjacent to the proposed "community mailboxes" in urban neighbourhoods will certainly cause more traffic congestion and reduce green space.
4. The move to "community mailboxes" will encourage added vehicle use and increase carbon emissions.

Many of the new 'costs' will not be borne by Canada Post, and so they may look like savings, however various public goods and broader values are diminished; these include inclusivity, healthy air quality, urban livability, and moderated carbon footprints.

We ask the Minister to take action on behalf of the larger public interests.

Sincerely;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ross Gentleman", written over a horizontal line.

Ross Gentleman
General Manager

CC: M. Pollack