

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3302

December 15, 2021

Mr. Andrew S. Neal
Government Relations Representative
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, DC 20260

VIA EMAIL

Dear Mr. Neal:

I write to you in further correspondence regarding the United States Post Office located at 806 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, North Carolina 27605. In accordance with the concerns I outlined previously, I request that the local postmaster initiate a request to change the name of the Post Office from the "Cameron Village New" Post Office to the "Oberlin Village Post Office."

Per your guidance, postal policy establishes that "a Post Office normally should bear the name of the community in which it is located," and that the local postmaster is responsible for initiating requests for a change to a Post Office name. As of the date of our last correspondence, you indicated that there were no plans to change the name of the Cameron Village Station.

As I noted in my previous letter, the current location of this Post Office, on a property owned by the Oberlin Baptist Church,¹ lies within the geographic boundary of Oberlin Village,² one of the last surviving antebellum settlements founded by a free Black person in the State of North Carolina. While it was previously located adjacent to a shopping center known as "Cameron Village," the shopping center was recently renamed the "Village District"—and regardless the Post Office is no longer located there.

My constituents and members of my community continue to be frustrated that the current Post Office name does not bear the name of the community in which it is located, and that it continues to commemorate the troubling, racist past of Cameron Village that I outlined in my previous letter. The name also creates confusion given its new location.

It is clear to me that a name change would be in accord with postal policy and best reflect the community I serve. As such, I strongly urge the local postmaster to initiate a request for a name change.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,



Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress

¹ See attached photographs, December 14, 2021.

² See attached map, *Oberlin Village Historic Overlay District*, Raleigh Historic Development Commission, March 26, 2018.