

Testimony of  
Mayor Chris Carn  
Mayor, City of Saratoga Springs, Utah

Before the  
U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources  
Subcommittee on Federal Lands

Hearing on H.R. 4716 – The Saratoga Springs Post Office Act

March 18, 2026

Chairman Westerman, Chairman Tiffany, Congressman Neguse, and members of the Committee,

I am Mayor Chris Carn of Saratoga Springs. On behalf of the residents of Saratoga Springs, and with the support of Mayor Paul Binns of Lehi and Mayor Jared Gray of Eagle Mountain, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of H.R. 4716, the Saratoga Springs Post Office Act.

Saratoga Springs is one of the fastest-growing cities in Utah and in the nation. When I moved to Saratoga Springs in 2005, our population was about 8,000; today, it exceeds 70,000. When I moved there, we had a gas station, a grocery store, and a Hollywood Video; today, we have more than 1,000 businesses. Over the past decade, with growth accelerating sharply in 2020, we more than doubled in size; today, thousands of new families continue to move into northwest Utah County each year.

In 2005, Saratoga Springs was a small lakeside community; in 2026, it is a major residential area with a growing economic hub. In 2005, we did not have a post office, and in 2026, we still do not.

Families and small businesses must travel outside city boundaries for routine postal services, creating a significant burden. The combined population of Saratoga Springs, Eagle Mountain, and Lehi now exceeds 227,000 residents; yet the closest post office serving this area of northwest Utah County remains in Lehi.

Residents of our three cities visit the Lehi Post Office an average of 6.6 times per year, with 1.8 members of each household making each trip; each visit lasts an average of 71 minutes. These numbers reflect not convenience, but strain on working families, seniors, and small businesses alike.

The Lehi Post Office serves more than 100 square miles and operates with only four retail windows, one of which is permanently dedicated to passport services. It processes more than 1.7 million parcels annually with a single dock door. The growth of our region has expanded dramatically; the postal infrastructure serving it has not.

H.R. 4716 offers a practical and forward-looking solution. By transferring 20 acres of unused Bureau of Land Management land near Mountain View Corridor, State Road 73, and the 2100

North connection to the United States Postal Service, and directing USPS to begin operations within two years, this legislation addresses a clear and growing service gap. It will benefit not only Saratoga Springs, but also Eagle Mountain, Lehi, and the broader northwest Utah County region. Reliable and accessible postal services are not a luxury. They are essential infrastructure for families, businesses, and the continued economic vitality of our rapidly growing communities.

I respectfully urge the Committee to advance H.R. 4716 so that residents and businesses in Saratoga Springs and northwest Utah County can finally receive the level of postal service that our growth demands.

Thank you.