



Office of the Under Secretary
for Rural Development
Washington, D.C. 20250

May 16, 2025

THE HONORABLE PABLO JOSÉ HERNÁNDEZ
United States Senate
1419 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hernández:

Thank you for your letter sent on March 27, 2025, regarding the planned termination of leases for 11 Rural Development (RD) Rural Housing Service (RHS) offices across the country, as identified by your research.

The goal of the Secretary is to make the USDA the most efficient, effective, and customer-focused Department in the Federal Government. To achieve this goal, it is necessary to consider strategic realignment and reorganization of processes in order to streamline operations and program delivery, prioritize resources and ensure mission-critical responsibilities are carried out with integrity.

USDA fully supports President Trump's directive to eliminate wasteful spending and ensure taxpayer dollars are used effectively. USDA is optimizing building capacity and consolidating underutilized offices to reduce inefficiencies while continuing to prioritize frontline services for farmers, ranchers, and rural communities.

On February 6, 2025, USDA received a request from the General Services Administration (GSA) to review 45 GSA-leased locations with an RD presence that contained contract provisions with termination rights that were available for the Government to exercise unilaterally this fiscal year. USDA was asked to reply with a determination of whether the agency's ability to fulfill its mission will be irreparably compromised by a termination, and provide evidence thereof; and to indicate whether the location directly served the public and, if so, indicate the nearest alternative location where the public can obtain services. RD indicated in its response to USDA, which subsequently transmitted this information to GSA, that all but two of the locations were public-facing. RD did not have any objection to closing these two facilities.

On March 13, 2025, USDA received a revised list from GSA that identified 49 GSA-leased locations with an RD presence that contained contract provisions with termination rights that were available for the Government to exercise unilaterally this fiscal year. GSA indicated that it was moving forward with closing 47 of these locations; in two of these locations, GSA had issued a lease termination letter but subsequently rescinded it.

At the request of USDA's Office of Property and Environmental Management (OPEM), which handles communications with GSA, RD reviewed the list and determined that 43 of the 47 locations were mission critical. The remaining four were not considered mission-critical, as these offices were vacant or, in one case, only staffed by one part-time employee. OPEM transmitted RD's list of mission-critical locations, and a detailed list of the justification to keep these offices open, to GSA on March 24, 2025. Please see the appendix with a list of these offices.

RD has not received a response to its request to keep these locations open, and local GSA representatives have indicated at least some of these closures are moving forward.

RD will continue to work with GSA to either keep these mission-critical facilities open, or to find alternative means to deliver these services.

USDA will work with GSA to ensure any office that remains on the closure list meets all statutory requirements and proper notice is provided in advance to Congress.

If you have further questions or concerns, please have a member of your staff contact USDA's Office of Congressional Relations at (202) 720-7095 or ocr@usda.gov.

Sincerely,



Todd Lindsey
Deputy Under Secretary

Enclosure

CC:

Representative McBride
Representative Thompson
Representative Ocasio-Cortez
Representative Soto
Representative Mannion
Representative Ansari
Representative Plaskett
Representative Velázquez
Representative Torres

APPENDIX 1:

RD Office Name	Address	City	State	GSA Planned Termination Date	Termination Notice Sent by GSA	Termination Rescission Approval from GSA	Has Lease Termination been Rescinded by GSA?	RD requested GSA reconsideration?	Reason for not requesting GSA reconsideration
CORPORATE PLAZA, LEXINGTON, KY	771 CORPORATE DR	LEXINGTON-FAYETTE	KY	5/25/2025	2/24/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
WATERTOWN USDA	1720 4TH ST NE	WATERTOWN	SD	6/21/2025	2/20/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
ATRIUM BUILDING - PALMER, AK	800 E PALMER-WASILLA HWY	PALMER	AK	6/30/2025	2/24/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
BLUE HERON BUILDING	9173 W BARNES DR	BOISE	ID	6/30/2025	2/24/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
AMHERST OFFICE PARK	451 WEST ST	AMHERST	MA	6/30/2025	2/24/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
EAST PARK DRIVE	359 E PARK DR	HARRISBURG	PA	6/30/2025	2/24/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
YOUNG BLDG	32 S 100 E	MONTICELLO	UT	6/30/2025	2/24/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
SCHOOLHOUSE BLDG	481 SUMMER ST	ST. JOHNSBURY	VT	6/30/2025	2/24/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
CREEKSIDE BUSINESS PARK	11661 BLOCKER DR	AUBURN	CA	7/31/2025	Unknown	Pending	Pending	Yes	
ATTORNEY'S PLAZA	590 UNIVERSITY AVE	FAIRBANKS	AK	8/31/2025	2/25/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
STERLING CENTRE	4121 CARMICHAEL RD	MONTGOMERY	AL	8/31/2025	2/25/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
2197 S. 4TH AVENUE	2197 S 4TH AVE	YUMA	AZ	8/31/2025	2/25/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
LA GUARDIA	744 LA GUARDIA ST	SALINAS	CA	8/31/2025	2/25/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
COLLEGE PARK	1221 COLLEGE PARK DR	DOVER	DE	8/31/2025	2/25/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
USDA FARM SERVICES OFFICE OCALA FL	2441 NE 3RD ST	OCALA	FL	8/31/2025	2/25/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
IBM BUILDING-HATO REY	654 MUNOZ RIVERA AVE.	HATO REY	PR	8/31/2025	2/25/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
IBM BUILDING-HATO REY	654 MUNOZ RIVERA AVE.	HATO REY	PR	8/31/2025	2/25/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
OFFICE PARK IV	CARR #2, KM 156.5	MAYAGUEZ	PR	8/31/2025	2/25/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
STATE ROAD #111, K.M. 1.7	STATE ROAD #111, K.M. 1.7	UTUADO	PR	8/31/2025	2/25/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
CASTLE COAKLEY PROFESSIONAL BU	4401 ESTATE SION FARM	CHRISTIANSTED	VI	8/31/2025	2/25/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
JUDGE J. SMITH HENLEY FEDERAL BUILDING	402 N WALNUT ST	HARRISON	AR	8/31/2025	2/25/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
STOCKDALE TOWER II	5080 CALIFORNIA AVE	BAKERSFIELD	CA	9/30/2025	2/26/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
FIRST AMERICAN PLACE	1303 SW FIRST AMERICAN PL	TOPEKA	KS	9/30/2025	2/26/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
USDA BANGOR	967 ILLINOIS AVE	BANGOR	ME	9/30/2025		Rescission Approved	Completed	N/A	
PARKADE	601 BUSINESS LOOP 70 W	COLUMBIA	MO	9/30/2025	2/26/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
MULLAN CENTER	3550 MULLAN RD	MISSOULA	MT	9/30/2025	2/26/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	

GATEWAY BUINESS PARK	521 FELLOWSHIP RD	MT LAUREL	NJ	9/30/2025	2/26/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
WASHINGTON FEDERAL BUILDING	300 N PENNSYLVANIA AVE	ROSWELL	NM	9/30/2025	2/26/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
WR POAGE FEDERAL BLDG	101 S MAIN ST	TEMPLE	TX	9/30/2025		Rescission Approved	Completed	N/A	
USDA SERVICE CENTER - LOGAN	1869 N 100 E	LOGAN	UT	9/30/2025	2/26/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
PORTAGE COUNTY BUSINESS PARK	5417 CLEM'S WAY	STEVENS POINT	WI	9/30/2025	2/26/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
THE GALLERIES-SYRACUSE	441 S SALINA ST	SYRACUSE	NY	9/30/2025	2/26/2025	Pending	Pending	Yes	
SIERRA POINT PROFESSIONAL BLDG	2926 G ST	MERCED	CA	12/31/2025		Pending	Pending	Yes	
USDA SERVICE CENTER - OLYMPIA, WA	1835 BLACK LAKE BLVD SW	OLYMPIA	WA	12/31/2025		Pending	Pending	Yes	
AGRICULTURAL CENTER OFF BLDG	N ORCHARD ST	STILLWATER	OK	6/1/2026		Pending	Pending	Yes	
3001 COOLIDGE ROAD	3001 COOLIDGE RD	EAST LANSING	MI	7/31/2026		Pending	Pending	Yes	
A&L OFFICE COMPLEX	555 W SILVER ST	ELKO	NV	8/1/2026		Pending	Pending	Yes	
2005 EAST COLLEGE WAY	2005 E COLLEGE WAY	MOUNT VERNON	WA	12/6/2026		Pending	Pending	Yes	
USDA - RAPID CITY	414 STUMER RD	RAPID CITY	SD	1/26/2027		Pending	Pending	Yes	
HIGHLAND PARK	160 ZILICOA ST	ASHEVILLE	NC	8/23/2027		Pending	Pending	Yes	
2118 WEST PARK COURT	2118 W PARK CT	CHAMPAIGN	IL	8/31/2027		Pending	Pending	Yes	
5TH&"G" STREET	430 G ST	DAVIS	CA	9/1/2027		Pending	Pending	Yes	
MADISON COMMERCE CENTER	81077 INDIO BLVD	INDIO	CA	9/15/2027		Pending	Pending	Yes	
5969-6035 LAKESIDE B	5969 LAKESIDE BLVD	INDIANAPOLIS	IN	10/31/2027		Pending	Pending	Yes	
L. CYRUS, LLC BUILDING	2407 MARSHALL RD	IMPERIAL	CA	TBD		Pending	Pending	Yes	
1585 S PLAZA WAY	1585 S PLAZA WAY	FLAGSTAFF	AZ	12/31/2025		Pending		No	1 partime employee. No major impact if closed
PITT COUNTY AGRICULTURAL CENTER	403 GOVERNMENT CIR	GREENVILLE	NC	TBD		Pending		No	Lease ending 4/29/25
490 E COLLEGE STREET	490 E COLLEGE ST	BATESVILLE	AR	3/20/2026	2/6/2025	Pending		No	No staff
215 EXECUTIVE COURT	215 EXECUTIVE CT	YREKA	CA	6/21/2025	2/20/2025	Pending		No	No staff