

Resolve 4 11/12

Passage: 8/15/11 8-0 (Suslovic out)

NICHOLAS M. MAVODONES (MAYOR)

KEVIN J. DONOGHUE (1)

DAVID A. MARSHALL (2)

EDWARD J. SUSLOVIC (3)

CHERYL A. LEEMAN (4)

## CITY OF PORTLAND

IN THE CITY COUNCIL

JOHN R. COYNE (5)

JOHN M. ANTON (A/L)

DORY RICHARDS WAXMAN (A/L)

JILL C. DUSON (A/L)

### **RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PROPOSED CLOSURE OF THE CLIFF ISLAND AND STATION A POST OFFICES**

**WHEREAS**, on July 26, 2011, the United States Postal Service published a list of post offices being considered for closure, including 34 post offices in Maine; and

**WHEREAS**, the Station A post office, located at 622 Congress Street, and the Cliff Island post office are on said closure list; and

**WHEREAS**, US post offices will always hold a unique place in our communities, rural Cliff Island and urban Station A; and

**WHEREAS**, Cliff Island is one of only fifteen year-round island communities in Maine, with residents taking an hour ferry ride to reach downtown Portland; and

**WHEREAS**, residents of Cliff Island do not receive home mail delivery and rely on post office boxes at the island's post office to receive their mail, conduct business, pay bills, and maintain connections with the mainland; and

**WHEREAS**, closing the Cliff Island post office, which is viewed by many as the island center, would sever a lifeline those residents have come to depend and would present another hardship to sustaining Cliff Island as a year-round community, one vital to the character of Portland; and

**WHEREAS**, maintaining all of our nation's rural post offices costs the Postal Service less than one percent of its total budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the Station A post office, located in Portland's walkable West End, is the primary post office for some of the city's most vulnerable populations; and

**WHEREAS**, many low-income families, elderly and immigrant populations depend upon the Station A post office to carry out day-to-day activities, as they are residents without bank accounts, computers or cars and they need to know that Station A will be available to help them maintain connections with family overseas, pick up their mail order prescriptions, and pay their utility bills;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Portland City Council opposes the closure of the Cliff Island and Station A post offices.

