

Postal service sets April 1 date for meeting on Kingsford facility

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KINGSFORD — A public meeting has been set for 6 p.m. Monday, April 1, at Pine Mountain Ski and Golf Resort, where the U.S. Postal Service will share the initial results of a facility review of its Iron Mountain Processing and Distribution Center facility in Kingsford.

USPS will discuss potential future uses of the facility and allow members of the community to provide oral feedback and perspectives on the study's initial findings.

A summary has been posted on the USPS website at <https://about.usps.com/what/strategic-plans/mpfr/welcome.htm>. As of Friday, the summary is the same as what was posted Feb. 1 as USPS announced plans for a public meeting Feb. 8 at the National Guard Armory in Kingsford that was later canceled.

The USPS review has drawn criticism from citizens and state and federal lawmakers because it proposes moving some mail operations to Green Bay, Wis. The Kingsford processing facility is the only one in the U.P. and lawmakers say it's central to the timely processing and delivery of mail.

“We are speaking with one voice to oppose this terrible plan to reduce postal services to the people of the U.P.,” state Sen. Ed McBroom, R-Waucedah Township, said in a Feb. 7 news release. *“There is no partisan divide here. The U.S. Postal Service is pushing this change through manipulation and carefully worded press releases that do not tell the whole story about what they are trying to do.”*

According to USPS, the Kingsford review is part of a \$40 billion nationwide investment strategy to upgrade and improve its postal processing, transportation, and delivery networks. The local facility would be modernized as a Local Processing Facility with simplified processes and standardized layouts. The total investment would be \$3 million to \$5

The evaluation is a first step in the review and investment process in the facility and will not result in the facility's closure or career employee layoffs, USPS has stated.

Members of the local community may submit written comments at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mpfr-iron-mountain-mi> through April 16.

Pine Mountain Golf and Ski Resort is at N3332 Pine Mountain Road, Iron Mountain.