

New route adjustment agreement reached JARAP to continue to give carriers a say in route adjustment process

On May 4, NALC President Fredric V. Rolando announced that NALC and the Postal Service had reached agreement on a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on route adjustments, called the Joint Alternate Route Adjustment Process (JARAP).

The new MOU updates and improves the previous route adjustment process by mandating automatic data integrity reviews, and it gives both the union and management a say in which routes will be subject to review. However, the agreement makes it clear that incomplete reviews (or revisits) under the Modified Interim Alternate Route Adjustment Process (MIARAP) from 2009 must be given priority over the evaluation and adjustment of routes/zones under JARAP.

“NALC is pleased to reach an agreement that improves the route adjustment process,” Rolando said. “The new agreement builds on the key principles established by both the Interim Route Adjustment Process (IRAP) and MIARAP—an equal place at the table for the union and management, and the iron-clad requirement that no decision on any evaluation or adjustment can be made without the agreement of both.”

In 2004, at the NALC convention in Honolulu, delegates voted overwhelmingly to explore a new process where carriers would have a say in the evaluation of their routes. NALC has been involved in several pilot processes since that time to jointly evaluate and adjust routes.

Nearly 90,000 routes were adjusted as part of IRAP, and in 2009, almost every route in the country was adjusted and revisited under MIARAP. As part of JARAP, unfinished MIARAP revisits meeting the criteria of the MOU will be

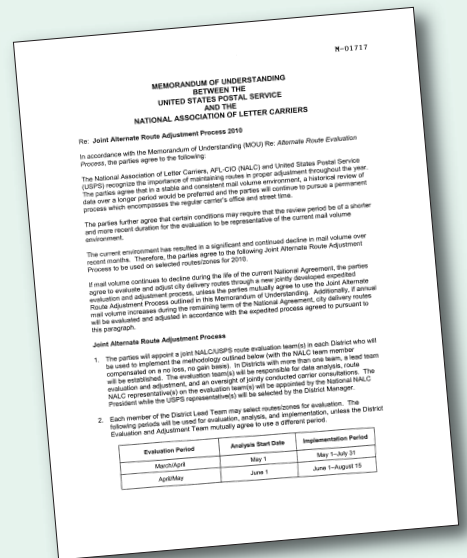
completed first, and then there will be two windows for new route evaluations.

Routes to be evaluated on the basis of March and April data were to be identified by May 21, 2010; those to be evaluated on the basis of April and May data will be identified by June 18, 2010.

“Any carrier who wants to have his or her route evaluated will be able to do so,” Rolando said.

One of the major benefits of the new JARAP agreement is the amount of training that will go along with it. Joint training of area/regional teams, as well as district-level lead teams is already under way. Comprehensive guidelines drafted by both national parties are available on nalc.org.

Director of City Delivery Dale Hart’s column on pages 38-39 explores the agreement in more detail, and more information is available on NALC’s website in the City Delivery section. ☒



Former NALC national officer Ronald L. Hughes dies

The NALC regrets to inform the membership of the passing of former NALC Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Ronald L. Hughes of Halifax, Massachusetts, who died April 15 after a long illness. He was 76.

Following service in the Korean Conflict, Hughes joined the United States Postal Service and had an active career of leadership in the NALC with a break again for service during the Vietnam War. He was a past president of Boston Branch 34 and a national trustee before being elected national assistant secretary-treasurer in 1978. He served in that capacity until 1981.

Hughes is survived by his widow, Pauline, of Halifax and a son, Jonathan. Services were held April 23, with interment at the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne. ☒