

NALC convention preview



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As previously announced, the 72nd biennial convention of the National Association of Letter Carriers will be held Aug. 8-12 in Chicago. The convention is rapidly approaching, and the City Delivery department has been very busy getting prepared. Since our last convention, there have been a lot of exciting changes in my department, and I am looking forward to sharing information with the convention delegation. While the workshop list has not yet been finalized, I want to use this month's column to give the membership a preview of the information and City Delivery workshops I hope to be offering at the convention.

City Delivery workshop

At each convention, I provide a workshop that gives me the opportunity to update the delegates on all the changes regarding city delivery. The 2022 workshop will include a summary of my duties as the director of City Delivery, updates on the Postal Service's expanded services, an overview of the activities of the City Delivery and Workplace Improvement Task Force, changes in Mobile Delivery Device (MDD) technology and the newest USPS test initiatives. As always, the workshop will conclude by offering attendees the opportunity to ask questions. If you are at the convention, be sure to attend this workshop to get the latest information on everything City Delivery.

NGDV workshop

I am sure that the letter carriers are eagerly anticipating the deployment of the Next Generation Delivery Vehicle (NGDV). There has been a lot of information, speculation and media coverage of the long-awaited NGDV, which is intended to replace the aging Long Life Vehicle (LLV). In March, NALC requested that the Postal Service provide a prototype vehicle for our biennial convention. I am happy to report that we will have a prototype NGDV in Chicago. Convention delegates will be able to see and interact with the vehicle and ask questions about the NGDV from USPS Engineering and Fleet representatives. In addition to examining the prototype vehicle, convention delegates will be able to attend a workshop dedicated to the NGDV. During this workshop, we will share the history of NALC's involvement in the development and design of the NGDV, the new features included in the vehicle, and the latest program updates.

Alternate route evaluation and adjustment process workshop

In the 2019 National Agreement, under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Re: City Delivery and Workplace Improvement Task Force, NALC and USPS committed to work together to modernize delivery methods and processes. One piece of the MOU includes a route evaluation and adjustment task force to jointly explore the use of technology, data and advanced analytics to improve route evaluation and adjustment methods.

Due to the efforts of this joint task force, NALC and USPS have agreed to a new joint route evaluation and adjustment process, which incorporates new, innovative technologies with the traditional joint process. In May, the parties signed the new MOU Re: Technology Integrated Alternate Route Evaluation and Adjustment Process (TIAREAP). Similar to joint adjustment processes of the past, joint route evaluation and adjustment teams will review USPS data from a variety of computer programs and applications. Additionally, as part of the TIAREAP evaluation and adjustment process, the teams will explore using a new USPS technology program, Digital Street Review (DSR), for its application in route evaluation and adjustments.

Since the signing of the MOU, NALC has been hard at work with USPS developing training materials and finalizing all of the details for the process. As part of the convention, City Delivery will be conducting a workshop providing an overview of DSR, the TIAREAP process, and educating delegates on what city carriers can expect from this joint MOU.

Conversion to career workshop

This workshop will focus on some of the ways city carriers achieve career status. During this workshop, we will explain the MOU Re: Full-time Regular Opportunities – City Letter Carrier Craft, the MOU Re: City Carrier Assistants – Conversion to Career Status and the MOU Re: Reassignment Opportunities (M-01947). We also will discuss the Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) process the national parties have used since 2013 to resolve disputes involving conversion issues. This workshop is a must for branch officers and grievance handlers responsible for monitoring compliance with these agreements.

As you can see, there will be a lot of great workshops to attend at this year's convention. This is just a small sample of the information that will be presented at the City Delivery workshops being offered to convention delegates. With so much great information available, delegates should be sure to attend as many workshops as you can. I look forward to seeing all of you in Chicago.