



August 14, 2020

Robert W. Walters, Jr.
President/CEO
P.O. Box 12087
Green Bay, WI 54307
TEL 888-884-7450
FAX 920-405-0957

Email: robert.walters@waltcoinc.com

Dear MCPL Library System Task Force and MCPL Board of Trustees:

My name is Robert W. Walters, Jr., and I am the President & CEO for Waltco, Inc. We were established 37 years ago as a courier company, and we are the courier company that has been servicing WVLS and its 36 member libraries for the past 25 years. We have grown our company, not by providing dedicated service, but by combining many customers to share delivery routes to continue to provide cost-competitive service throughout northern Wisconsin. We currently employ 14 people in Wausau, and 84 employees serve northern Wisconsin. Through our line-haul system, some WVLS libraries are served from our Green Bay hub in northeast and northcentral Wisconsin, while others are served from our Chippewa Falls hub in northwest and northcentral Wisconsin. Many of the WVLS libraries are served from our Wausau hub in northcentral Wisconsin.

The decision you make about potentially leaving WVLS impacts businesses in Marathon County, including Waltco. Losing Marathon County from WVLS will impact our operations and shared routes throughout northern Wisconsin, which include the IFLS Library System and the Nicolet Federated Library System. These routes have taken years to build. If MCPL joins the South Central Library System and we are replaced for delivery services in Marathon County, those 14 employees who lives in Marathon County could be affected.

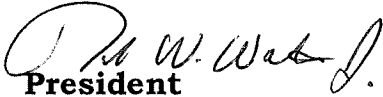
We are aware that with economic turmoil prompted by COVID-19, that there will be challenges not only for the customers we serve, but for municipalities and counties. I am perplexed that any organization would want to intentionally pay more money for a basic service during a turndown.

Over the past several years, MCPL has decrease delivery stops from 5 days per week to 3 days per week, citing funding challenges. How can MCPL afford SCLS delivery service when the cost for its stops are so much higher? It has come to our attention that the cost for state library delivery, provided by SCLS, is being examined by the UW-System libraries. This service might go out for bid. Why, at this time, would Marathon County choose a more expensive delivery service?

Based on our sorting at our Wausau facility, we are aware that Marathon County residents receive a lot of materials from other WVLS libraries. The timetable for delivery to MCPL locations will be affected should MCPL join SCLS. It is worth noting that SCLS (based in Madison) contracts with us to deliver materials from Wausau to Ashland, because our operation is more affordable, and has been for years.

In closing we reiterate that any decision you make to leave WVLS will have an impact on businesses in Marathon County. As our business would be one of those affected, we are monitoring the activities of the MCPL Library System Task Force and MCPL Board of Trustees very closely.

**Sincerely,
Robert W. Walters, Jr.**


**President
Waltco, Inc.**