

TO: City of Franklin Taxpayers

FROM: Finance & Treasury Department

DATE: December 12, 2025

RE: Important Update on USPS Postmark Changes and How they Affect Your Property Tax Payments

Dear City of Franklin Taxpayers,

The Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR) wants to make you aware of a recent change by the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) that may affect the timeliness of your property tax payments.

What Changed?

As of August 2025, USPS now processes postmarks at regional sorting centers instead of local post offices. This may cause delays in when mail is officially postmarked.

What This Means for You

Because postmark dates determine whether a property tax payment is considered “on time,” this change may affect the timeliness of mailed payments.

DOR strongly encourages taxpayers to mail property tax payments earlier than usual to avoid delays.

How Timeliness Is Determined

Under Wisconsin law:

- **Payments received within the 5-working-day grace period** after the due date are considered **on time**, even without a timely postmark.
- **Payments received after the grace period** must:
 - Be correctly addressed, **and**
 - Have a USPS postmark dated **on or before the due date** to be considered timely.
- **Late payments may still be accepted as timely** if the delay was caused by a USPS error or processing delay.

If You Believe Your Payment Was Delayed by USPS

You may request a review:

- Submit a **written request** to your Milwaukee County treasurer asking the county board to determine your payment as timely.
- The Milwaukee County board may approve the request **only if** the sole reason for lateness was a USPS delay or administrative error.

Milwaukee County Treasurer
414-286-2240

To avoid complications, please plan ahead and mail your property tax payments early. If you have questions, contact your local treasurer's office.

Sincerely,

Danielle Brown

Danielle Brown, M.B.A
Director of Finance & Treasurer
414-425-4770