



News

April, 2020

Local 3634

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Darcy Del Cambre
AFSCME Local 3634 Vice President

Brothers and Sisters:

AFSCME Members above All Else.....

We ALL should be grateful for what you/ we have....

Keep yourself safe and your families.

Membership Has its' Benefits

By Mattie Jones: Stops and Zones Supervisor

I love working at Metro and have been here for over 30 years. Note: My only issue has always been my disenchantment with the inequities of pay and promotions as a non-contract employee.

Back then, I celebrated 30-years as an employee with a clean record. No attendance issues, no work performance issues, even received a few "Outstanding's" on my performance reviews. I worked hard, received written recognition," expected a nice raise and then the bomb shell, from the boss, "I was told to lower the Performance Ratings so the percentages could be redistributed. Huh? I earned that money?

Over the years, as non-contract, I clocked about 7 years of no non-contract increases, 2%, and 3%, etc. All told, over the past 20-years my pay increases were terrible and worse.

Fast forward to 2018, I was promoted to a dream job as a Stops & Zones Supervisor and joined a union. In 2-years as a Metro Union employee, I have earned, yes earned, a living wage and more under the mighty AFSCME contract.

I found fairness in representation.

Newsletter

AFSCME family we are all being challenged personally and professionally with the Covid 19 pandemic and we ask you to practice patience. Be patient with your coworkers, union, management and most importantly family and friends. Did you know as a public sector employees in transportation you are an Essential Worker and classified as a Disaster Service Worker?

Under the California government code 3100-3109, a disaster service workers is expected to operator under the oath on the back of most employee badges and it reads: "It is hereby declared that the protection of the health and safety and preservation of the lives and property of the people of the state from the effects of natural, manmade, or war-caused emergencies which result in conditions of disaster or in extreme peril to life, property, and resources is of paramount state importance requiring the responsible efforts of public and private agencies and individual citizens". Our family, friends and neighbors are relying on use for protection and assistance.

With that, life is changing at a blink of an eye and we should all feel comfort in still working 40 hours a week with the magnificent benefits package that comes along with working for METRO. METRO is experiencing economic pressure with the reduction of the fare box and sales tax revenue. However, there is an economic relief package that will give 25 billion to transportation nationally and Los Angeles will receive roughly 1.2 billion to divvy amongst our transit partners e.g. Santa Monica, Long Beach, Culver City, etc. So I repeat as our lives and those of the people around us evolve please encourage your coworkers and subordinates to be patient.

As we continue to practice social distancing, May 30, 2020 at 10 am we shall host our 1st Zoom General Membership meeting. We will send an eblast invitation via personal email to RSVP no later than Wednesday May 27 to receive the instructions containing passwords to join.

Please send your personal email to L3634@AFSCME36.ORG if you haven't done so already for frequent updates and information.

Lastly our Family fun day in the park event scheduled on **June 13, 2020** is

POSTPONED

Much love Veronica Gunn Recording Secretary.

Marilyn Archie
Equipment Maintenance Supervisor

As a young girl, I was taught the importance of obtaining a union job and how beneficial it would be in the long run. For the past 29 years, I've been contributing to the union with no regrets and I am confident and excited about what the future holds. Being a part of a union has great rewards that consist of:

Job Security - There is no comfort in being hired "at will" meaning you can be fired for no reason, yet union workers can only be terminated for "just cause."

Better Wages - Union jobs typically pay 10-20 percent more than non-union jobs. Most Companies don't want to pay any more than what they have to.

Benefits - A great percentage of health benefits were negotiated on our behalf to be paid by the agency along with our pension, paid vacation, sick pay, holidays, personal holidays, shift differential, etc., which is another reason companies resist unions.

Strength In Numbers - It is a great feeling knowing you have a good support system in place working in your favor. The Union negotiates health and safety issues to ensure great working conditions.

Due to the pandemic crippling our nation, the Union would like to keep all of our members informed about all the changes going on with Metro.

If you haven't already, please provide the Union with your current contact information, personal email address and cell for future updates.

L3634@AFSCME36.org

Thank you and be well

AFSCME LOCAL 3634

Executive Board and Stewards

Just a little prayer

*Our Heavenly Father, Thank you
For your mercy and your grace
That you bestow upon us each and
Everyday. Thank you, for your love kindness
Thank you, for the shoes on our feet, the clothes
On our back and the roof over our heads.
Father God, please continue to watch over
The first responders and the essential workers
That continue to work and keep our nation
Running
In Christ Jesus name, Amen
Executive Board Secretary
JSR*

