



*News*  
January, 2021

*Local 3634*

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*Happy New Year  
2021*

**To All VSIP Retirees:**

**Please make sure that the Union Local receives all of your Metro/RTD work history information for us to prepare your retirement items in a timely manner. If you would prefer us to mail your items to your home address, please notify us at least 3 weeks prior to your retirement date.**

**Stimulus Funding**

**With the passage of the most recent stimulus bill, transit funding for agencies nationwide will be about 14 billion dollars which is less than the 25 billion appropriated in the CARES Act in March of 2020. Based upon the federal guidelines and formula to distribute money; Metro can possibly receive between 600 and 900 million dollars to assist with Covid-19 related costs. We will keep you updated.**

STIMULUS



# Newsletter

Dear AFSCME Local 3634 Brothers and Sisters,

First, Happy New Year to all of us.

I wish you all the joy, happiness, health, and successful progress throughout 2021.

With that, I would like to share with you what this challenging pandemic time has done for me and perhaps for you as well. It has given me an opportunity to slow down, step back and reflect on the way I have been living and chart the new course, the course of effective living and working. There are a few things I need to change. One most essential thing I need to start is to allow JOY to fill each moment of my life, be it work, family or ministry, or anything. This moment is all I have to live in. The past is gone and the future is not yet to come. I need to give up the past and live only in the presence. I can plan for the future but will not live in it yet, only live in the presence. Therefore in this inevitable moment, there's no suffering, only joy. With this perspective, I allow joy to fill my moment in all I am and all I do.

Wouldn't it be wonderful when we all do the same — allow joy in each moment of our work, whatever functions we may engage in? If you have a choice to make, would you choose pleasantness or unpleasantness in each moment, regardless of what's happening outside of us? Don't you think our work at Metro would be so much more effective and productive when we are joyful and pleasant? Desired results would manifest for us and benefit our Metro Customers, coworkers, union colleagues, and Management.

So I would like to invite us all to redirect our lives if not already: give up suffering, allow joy to fill our moment and live in this moment only throughout the Year 2021. I would love to have you share with me how you are doing at the end of this year.

Again, Happy New Year, my Brothers and Sisters.

Your colleague

Thang Tran

Schedules Supervisor

Executive Board Member

## **Georgia Runoff Elections**

**With the victories by Senate candidates Raphael Warnock and Jon Ossoff, the United States Senate will be back in the control of Democrats which increases the chances of legislation being passed that will assist local and state municipalities, educational needs to address the pandemic crisis in our schools, infrastructure, healthcare and transit funding in addition to what's been passed in the most recent stimulus bill.**

## **Confidentiality in the Workplace**

**To our members who have access to medical files, personal information and process employee paperwork/documentation during the course of your work day please use extra precaution in handling the information. Management has brought up a few matters to the Union regarding confidentiality.**

**Thanks for Your Cooperation**

**Reminder:**

**January's General Membership Meeting will be on the 16th at 10 am. Please RSVP by Wednesday January 13th.**



**Prosperity, Peace and Good Health in 2021!!!!**

**Important information, please read**

**Please make sure to update your personal contact information including your alternate contacts with Metro. It is very important in times of emergencies that the employer may need to communicate immediately with you or your family for work and personal reason**



