

Status of the OPEIU Local 8 Collective Bargaining Agreement with KP:

Our current Local 8 contract with KP/WA expires on March 31. We have spent since January negotiating with KP/WA to come under the KP National Agreement (NA). As part of that bargain – in coalition with the other KP/WA unions, we proposed:

1. Extending our own local contract through September 30;
2. Local 8 members to receive an across-the-board wage increase on April 1; and
3. Local 8 members to receive another wage increase on October 1 that will be negotiated with KP as part of the national bargaining this summer.

Although KP/WA was in agreement with our economic proposal, they came back at the very end of our last scheduled session and rejected signing-off on a Letter of Agreement to bring us under the NA. **KP/WA is agreeing to the provisions that extend our Local 8 contract through September of this year and provides for a 1.5% wage increase effective April 1.** (Everyone will see this increase on their May 4th paycheck with retro pay back to April 1). We have executed this agreement and all terms and conditions of our local contract remain in full force and effect through September.

We intend to start negotiations for our new Local 8 Collective Bargaining Agreement after national bargaining gets underway. Contract surveys will be distributed in April for your initial input.

Status of OPEIU Local 8, SEIU 1199/NW and UFCW Local 21 Coalition Bargaining with KP/WA:

All three (3) KP/WA unions have been negotiating with local management since January for our members to be covered by the KP National Agreement (<https://www.lmpartnership.org/2015-national-agreement>). Early on, it became clear to your Bargaining Team that KP has no interest in extending certain benefits of the National Agreement to KP/WA union employees. Their rejections include you receiving retiree medical benefits, protections from subcontracting your work and ensuring reasonable staffing levels.

Although the Unions proposed to move the unresolved issues to national negotiations and simply apply the other terms and conditions of the National Agreement to this region, KP/WA rejected that solution. They claim that all issues must be settled before applying the national contract to you – a claim we believe violates well established past practice when bringing other new employee groups under the National Agreement.

To date, KP/WA members are not covered by the National Agreement. We are fully supported by our brothers and sisters in the Coalition of Kaiser Permanente Unions (<http://www.unioncoalition.org/>) who are prepared to fight Kaiser over this injustice during upcoming national negotiations. Your inclusion under the National Agreement is a top bargaining priority. In the meantime, our Local 8 Collective Bargaining Agreement remains in place through September 30, 2018.

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Status of KP National Bargaining:

On Monday, KP union members from across the country arrived in Oakland to begin negotiations with management for a new National Agreement. Unfortunately, we were met with an announcement by some unions that effective immediately they have withdrawn from the Coalition of Kaiser Permanente Unions. This has not deterred us from our mission and responsibilities. Local 8 and your Bargaining Team are proud to confirm our unity, strength and readiness for negotiations with our sister locals of OPEIU, SEIU, SEIU-UHW, UNITE-HERE and IFPTE. Together we represent over 80,000 Kaiser employees – the overwhelming majority of KP’s unionized work force.

Unfortunately, any split within the Coalition is detrimental to the bargaining process. Kaiser announced yesterday they are canceling our bargaining session in April, for negotiations to resume in May. OPEIU Local 8 members voted last year to join the Coalition and this group of unions is committed to all of you receiving the benefits of the National Agreement. We are sticking together and intend to secure an even better contract going forward.

Over the course of the next few months you may hear different versions of events. Please know the Coalition is committed to continue bargaining and represents the interests of our membership. **We do not want to end the partnership with Kaiser nor are we one of the unions that have pulled their members out of the KP Partnership** (<https://www.lmpartnership.org/>).

We understand that you may have questions. And quite frankly, the situation is constantly changing. In order to best answer questions and concerns, we have scheduled many bargaining unit meetings in April:

Date	Location	Time	Scheduled
Wednesday, April 11	Bellevue	11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	BVU E101/E105
Saturday, April 14	Tacoma	10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	TSC W102/W103
Saturday, April 14	Olympia	1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	OMC A/B
Saturday, April 14	Renton Longacres (Rainier building)	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	RCR 111/115
Tuesday, April 17	Northgate	3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	NGT 2 VCR
Tuesday, April 17	Silverdale	12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	SILA102
Wednesday, April 18	Puyallup	10:00 – 10:30 a.m.	PLP A108 VCR
Wednesday, April 18	Spokane	5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	IBEW Hall 1616 N Washington Spokane, 99205
Wednesday, April 18	Renton Glacier	11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	RCG 106
Wednesday, April 18	Renton Rainier	11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	RCR 305
Thursday, April 19	Everett	11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	EVM DE
Thursday, April 19	Lynnwood	2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	LYN Conf Room 1
NEW DATE: Monday, April 23	Federal Way	11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	FED C2 VCR

Many thanks to our OPEIU Local 8 Bargaining Team: **Jan Abberger**, PAR, PC Appointing Center, **Paul Bender**, Pre Visit Specialist, Pre-Visit Unit, **Tamie Buchheit**, PAR, LWH PABO, **David Evans**, Membership Account Representative V, HPA Membership, **Brenda Huffman**, PAR, BRN PABO, **Jani Myles**, BVU Dedicated Appointing Group, **Tara Powell**, Membership Account Representative V, HPA Membership, **Bobbie Pringle**, Patient Financial Specialist, PFS and **Kerry Warner**, PAR, BVU PABO – along with Union Representatives **Amanda Montoya**, **Leslie Liddle**, **Mary Maloy** and Business Manager **Suzanne Mode**. Your co-worker’s dedication to representing all of you at the bargaining table is commendable. They are determined to bring all of you under the National Agreement and bargain a fair successor Local 8 contract this summer.

Please plan on attending one of our April meetings. In the meantime, we will keep you posted on further developments.

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