

OPEIU Local 8 *Union Update and Contract Vote*

For Trade Section Employees

June 12, 2019



Still No Settlement

Your Bargaining Team – **Christine Landon** with AFT Washington, **Jessie Newland** with IBEW Local 46, **Betsy Thew** with IBEW Local 77 and **Suzanne Mode** with your Union, last met with the employers' representatives on Tuesday, May 28. We started the session by giving them our counter proposal that included:

- ✓ Maintaining current language that protects the Association of employers
- ✓ The continuation of Local 8 being notified of job openings
- ✓ Employers to pay the employee's premium of .4% of gross wages for the new Paid Sick and Family Leave benefit
- ✓ Annual wage increases of 3.75% for a 3-year contract
- ✓ Additional vacation time after 2 years, 5 years and 12 years
- ✓ Increased contributions into a 401(k) plan for participants in Western States Pension Fund
- ✓ Up to a 2% match by employers of a voluntary contribution by any bargaining unit employee into a 401(k) plan
- ✓ Rejection of their proposal to eliminate all past practices in every individual office

Unfortunately, the employers were not prepared to give us a response. They are reaching out to their group for guidance. We extended the Trade Section contract through July 31, 2019, and have one more meeting scheduled for Monday, June 17. We intend to vote on whatever is on the table at the end of this session and begin the strike sanction process if necessary. If the majority of those voting reject the Employers' offer, we'll be planning our next steps.

Absentee ballots will be issued to those bargaining unit members who work at least fifteen (15) miles from the location of the vote in south Seattle and who request one. Please fax a request for an absentee ballot that includes your name, place of employment and fax number to the OPEIU Local 8 office by noon, **Tuesday, June 25**. Local 8's fax # is: 206-441-0207. **Ballots will be faxed out by noon on Wednesday, June 26 to be returned to Local 8 by 4:00 p.m. that day.**

SAVE THE DATE!

**Wednesday, June 26
5:30 pm
IBEW Building
19415 International Blvd. S
SeaTac
Downstairs Conference Room**

Questions? Call Suzanne Mode at OPEIU Local 8: 206-441-8880 ext. 101