

**Union** ★  
**Update**

**OPEIU**  
Local



*For Local 8 Members at Washington Federation of State Employees*

August 15, 2024

## **Upcoming Contract Negotiations**

With your current contract expiring at the end of this year, we will begin to negotiate with the employer in November. As we prepare for this, we are working to get things in place. Earlier this summer, we sent out bargaining surveys so we could not only hear your concerns and expectations but identify leaders to help us in this process.

### **Bargaining Team**

Nominations and Elections have concluded! Our OPEIU Bargaining Team will include:

- Thomas Wray – Labor Advocate
- Ben Peterson – Organizer
- Michael Abate – Council Representative
- Sam Kirk – Council Representative
- Jose Garcia – Council Representative
- Teresa Green – Administrative Associate
- Pam Carl – Member Communication Representative

### **Contract Action Team**

Part of any successful bargain includes having a strong Contract Action Team (CAT) in place that provides support and shares information with the rest of the bargaining

unit. We need your help with this! We need volunteers for this team, so please contact Angie or Conor if you would like to serve on the CAT. Once that team is established, we will share the names and locations of those members so you can talk to them directly as we work through the bargaining process.

## Next Steps

Moving forward, we will be scheduling time to meet with the Bargaining Team, work to disseminate the bargaining survey results to the membership, and begin creating proposals for negotiations. Once we have our initial ideas to paper, we will meet with the entire bargaining unit to share those concepts and confirm that we have fully understood the concerns and priorities of this group.

In the coming weeks we will also provide an outline of our bargaining plan and timeline.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to Angie or Conor with any questions, comments, or concerns.

***Please contact Angie Wedekind at 509-306-0586 or email [angie@opeiu8.org](mailto:angie@opeiu8.org), or Conor Meara at 206-441-8800 x 130 or [conor@opeiu8.org](mailto:conor@opeiu8.org) if you have any questions.***



**OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION LOCAL 8**

1-800-600-2433 or 206-441-8880 ★ Fax: 206-441-0207 ★ [www.opeiu8.org](http://www.opeiu8.org)

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@OPEIULocal8

liuna#242/afl-cio