

Speak Out Now! at AC Transit Monday 9/9

Let's Do More Than Hold the Line!

Last Saturday's union meeting was a big turnout, and with a 98% approval to authorize a strike we are standing together!

The District is crying broke. They are saying they can't give us any more than a 1% pay raise per year because we are working too much overtime! But it's their issue that they can't keep the buses out, and maybe if they improved our working conditions they wouldn't have that problem! We also heard the District wants to take away the guarantee for spread pay, meaning no compensation for our long hours! This is unacceptable!

We know what we deserve, but getting it will take a fight. We have to find ways to play an active role in this struggle so that our full strength is felt in negotiations.

Spread It Around!

Word is trickling out that the District is saying they don't have money for us. Do they expect us to believe that? In 2018 voters here passed measure SB1, a gas and toll tax which allocated \$150 million to AC. In 2014 measure BB passed which doubled our transportation sales tax, and will raise \$3.7 billion over time to fund transit.

We have said yes to our transit systems and have funded it with our own money time and again. And with all the wealth that exists in our region anyways, there should be no problem spreading the funds around to improve our working conditions and provide a living wage.



"We have no money!". Let's remember what the Bay Area looks like to those who have it.

Been Thru this (contract) Before

Anyone whose been with the District for a minute might think this is a familiar ploy. They make a low-ball offer, we don't accept, we get a better offer, we take it. It seems like a simple plan, except when it's not. Why should we be forced to take less than what we're worth?

These days, after the Janus ruling, our bargaining power is not as strong. [The Janus ruling made union membership optional for all public employees]. The District will do what it can to reduce membership to give themselves a better angle to bargain with. We know that it's a hard job, and why shouldn't we have a reachable pension for retirement waiting? Anything that we give up stays gone forever, so why give something so important up? This isn't the same been thru this before!

What Do We Have To Give?

Since when is contract negotiations supposed to be like 'Let's Make a Deal'? It's a whole lot more like 'What do we have to give up!'. When the buses are running on the street, do we get assistance from anyone but ourselves? We are the ones who get up early, and stay out late to help the public get where they need. We're the ones putting in the work and time to get things done.

So why is it when negotiations come up, all of a sudden it's 'Well, we can give this up to get that'? This shouldn't be the case, if we have to fight together to get what we deserve, then that's what we have to do. We can't sell ourselves or our futures short!!!

Come to a Speak Out Discussion

The Climate Emergency –

The Future is in Our Hands Saturday, Sept 28th

Doors open @ 6:30, discussion at 7 South Berkeley Senior Center, 2939 Ellis St., \$5