

OPEIU Local 8 *Union Update*

For Trade Section Employees

July 25, 2019








It's Unanimous...Employers' Offer Rejected! Members Authorize Preparations to Strike

In a tremendous show of solidarity, Local 8 Members of the Trade Section unanimously turned down the Employers' contract offer from our last session on July 15. Also approved by secret ballot was authorization for Local 8 to start the strike process.

Why are members so united? *"Trade Section employees see their employers thriving. Their memberships are growing, there is steady work for years to come and they are reaping unprecedented advancements in wages and benefits in their own contract negotiations. They are hurt and angry that their employers are unwilling to share their gains with their support staff,"* explained Suzanne Mode, Business Manager of Local 8.

Five outstanding issues remain in the way of a settlement:

-  Annual wage increases
-  Retirement contributions
-  Premium payment of the new Washington Paid Family & Medical Leave
-  Final settlement contingent on all Letters/Memorandums of Understanding with individual offices subject to review and possible modification
-  Contract duration

There are two more bargaining sessions scheduled for August 5 and August 12. Hopefully the employers will hear our voices and reach a fair and ratifiable settlement. In the meantime, stay tuned for stickers and other ways to show our continued solidarity!

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