



PORTLAND PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 740, IAFF, AFL-CIO CLC

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October 15, 2015

From: John Brooks, President
Portland Professional Firefighters, IAFF Local 740

To: All Members
Portland Professional Firefighters, IAFF Local 740

RE: **Draft Successor Collective Bargaining Agreement for
the period of January 2014 - December 2016**

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

As you know, your negotiating committee has been working hard since 2013 to secure a successor collective bargaining agreement for our members. As a result of these efforts we have posted the "draft" document for the successor collective bargaining agreement that covers the period of January 2014 through December 2016. For the 1st time in the history of IAFF Local 740 the draft document that has been presented to you is comprised of articles/sections that have been mutually agreed to by the parties and several articles/sections that contain the City's last and final offer for your review and consideration.

Over the last several months we have held several executive board and membership meetings in an attempt to explain how the parties in these negotiations arrived at the document that is before you. Despite these efforts, since our last special membership meeting I/We have been fielding questions from our members about the 1) application of the local's constitution & by-laws, 2) the application and/or meaning of certain revised articles and/or sections as outline in the draft successor CBA; 3) and what our next steps will be if the draft successor CBA is ratified by the members or what will be our next steps if the draft successor CBA is rejected by our members. All concerns and questions ...

Your Executive Board recognizes that this is a very important decision that we are asking you to make. In order for you to do that, as your President it is my responsibility along with your Executive Board members to ensure that we provide you with all of the accurate and relevant information and/or data necessary so you have a full and complete understanding of what is before you so you can make an informed decision on whether we should ratify the draft successor CBA document or reject it.

To this end and after consulting with our entire executive board, we have decided to "postpone" the upcoming secret ballot vote on ratifying the draft successor CBA until such time as we can schedule another set of meetings with our executive board and our membership in order to get our executive board on the same page and for all of our members to have all of the accurate and relevant information you will need to make this very important decision.

To get us back on track and all on the same page, the Executive Board has approved the following schedule of events:

October 22nd, 2015	Special Executive Board Meeting
October 26th & 27th, 2015	Special Membership Meeting[s]
November 12th/16th, 2015	Secret Ballot Vote on Draft Successor CBA Absentee Ballots will be available on November 5th, 2015

We believe that by postponing the secret ballot vote that we had scheduled for next week and by conducting these additional meeting[s] will give us the needed time to ensure that you have all the information you need on the draft successor CBA in hopes of answering any and all questions you may have so that you can be better informed before casting your vote.

In closing, I want to thank the members of our negotiating team for all their hard work over the past two [2] years in trying to secure a successor CBA for our members and to thank the members of the Executive Board for their work with us through the negotiation process and for fielding the inquiries from our members over the last few weeks. Our leadership team has been and will continue to be on the frontlines everyday looking out for the interest[s] of all our members and I thank them for their efforts. I also want to thank you, the membership of the IAFF Local 740 for being so engaged in this process. Your support and involvement has been very insightful and helpful and is greatly appreciated. The support and involvement of all our members is vitality important to the continued success of our local and is necessary if we are to remain a strong union that protects the interest of all our members. There is and will always be progress through unity.

Looking forward to meeting with the executive board and all of you during our upcoming meetings. If you have any questions, need additional information and/or see the need to discuss this further, please feel free to e-mail, text or call me directly....

With warmest regards, I remain...

Fraternally,



John Brooks, President
IAFF Local 740