

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Exhibit | "A" |
| Port Commission | Regular |
| Meeting of | October 5, 2010 |

October 4, 2010

Port of Seattle Commissioners,

On behalf of the approximately 165 Port of Seattle employees represented by Teamsters Local 117, we are writing today to encourage the Port Commission to honor the contracts bargained in good faith by and between Teamsters Local 117 and the Port of Seattle.

Teamsters Local 117 believes that public employers should set the standard of responsible employment practices by creating and maintaining family-wage jobs that guarantee health care, retirement security, training, and worker safety. In the past, the Port of Seattle has been a leader in setting this standard and in modeling positive labor relationships.

Working people across the Puget Sound region are struggling with the lingering impacts of the recession. With escalating layoffs and cutbacks across the public and private sectors, many families are now struggling to keep their homes and put food on the table. Many Port employees are facing these challenges as their family incomes have fallen due to layoffs of spouses and partners.

Teamsters Local 117 is fully aware of the budget difficulties facing public entities in 2010. We are encouraged that the Port of Seattle has maintained a uniquely secure economic position in relation to many local governments and public agencies.

Unlike King County and the City of Seattle, the Port of Seattle is not in demonstrable financial distress. Last year our members gave voluntary economic concessions to help the Port balance its budget. These concessions were negotiated into our collective bargaining agreements as part of the entire economic package, ratified by our members, and approved by the Port Commission. We urge the Commission to honor those collective bargaining agreements.

The Port of Seattle employees who belong to Teamsters 117 play a critical role in sustaining the economic activity at the Port by applying their skills and demonstrating professionalism and exceptional commitment to public safety and service. The Port has recognized the critical role that our members play by approving collective bargaining agreements that contain modest minimum cost-of-living wage increases effective either in January or July, 2011.

We ask the Commission to stand firm against any further attempts to balance the budget on the backs of the employees who provide essential public safety and services and who have already given concessions. We encourage you to honor the collective bargaining agreements negotiated between Teamsters Local 117 and the Port of Seattle.

Sincerely,

Tracey A. Thompson
Secretary-Treasurer

James V. Smith II

11/11/11
"A"
11/11/11
11/11/11
Director of Corrections & Law Enforcement/Staff Attorney

Matthew A. House
Public Sector Coordinator