

**From:** [Garry W. Owens](#)  
**To:** [Commission-Public-Records](#); [Eunice How](#)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Relief and support to Port Employees and Port Tenants and Conessionaires  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 1, 2020 2:46:58 PM

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My name is Garry Owens and I am ally and supporter of the proposed testimony of SEIU Local 8 UNITE HERE today in regards to proposed action of the Port of Seattle to deny adequate health protection for Local 8 workers on there work shifts. I am a retiree of the City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods (DON)and I served as a Shop Steward for IFPTE local 17. My testimony today is to affirm my belief that all workers deserve their human rights in regards to their health and well/being as described by the United Nations' Declaration of Human Rights. (Article 25). As a former shop steward and current activist I strongly believe that the deadly COVID-19 health crisis that plagues the planet requires enforcement of all policies that protect "all workers" regardless of status. Today we face a dilemma that is cruel as it can get - co-workers, family members, and those with "elite" health plans get a bit of relief but the disease plays the "grimiest reaper" we have seen in years! The only consistent relief "workers" is the minimum or in to many cases - nothing at all! Your proposed action guts the notion of fair play and respect! It is incredible that "union workers" and then when they those most need it - it disappears like cigar smoke! Access to good health care is deeply embedded in "intent" when the institution values the worth of the workers they have employed! As a shop steward I valued more than anything that the workforce be valued and respected! In this case it's not about money it's about respect for the workers who do not have degrees or large stock market investment portfolios. These people are humble, hardworking, reliable, and all they want and ask now to "not" be left behind because there work is not tagged as "elite or special!" I do not know these workers but they are akin to me because a job with benefits is priceless and I implore you to not leave these workers behind because you can't afford it! In a multi-billion industry we should revere the most least paid who just want to take care of their families! Thank you!

Garry Owens

Sent from my iPhone

> On Apr 1, 2020, at 9:17 AM, Commission-Public-Records <[commission-public-records@portseattle.org](mailto:commission-public-records@portseattle.org)> wrote:  
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> Mr. Owens,  
>  
> I am not sure if the content of your message was lost. Are you attempting to register to speak at today's meeting, or do you have an attachment for inclusion in the written record?  
>  
> Please note that our cut-off time for speaking registration was 9 a.m., as described in the posted agenda, but we can squeeze you in if you reply by 9:30. You may submit written comment at any time today. Meeting materials, including the agenda with details for public comment procedures, are available at <http://meetings.portseattle.org/>  
>  
>  
> Amy Dressler, CMC  
> she/her  
> Records Program Manager/Interim Commission Clerk  
> 206-787-7993 desk/206-475-9267 cell  
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> -----Original Message-----  
> From: Garry W. Owens <[garrygo@me.com](mailto:garrygo@me.com)>  
> Sent: Wednesday, April 1, 2020 9:08 AM  
> To: Commission-Public-Records <[commission-public-records@portseattle.org](mailto:commission-public-records@portseattle.org)>  
> Subject: [EXTERNAL] Relief and support to Port Employees and Port Tenants and Conessionaires  
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