



# State Negotiations Newsletter

Professional & Technical  
Employees, Local 17  
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June 2016

## Progress made on non-economic items in 2017-19 contract; state economic forecast forthcoming

Your Local 17 bargaining team had two 2-day bargaining sessions in June with State of Washington management in Olympia, Wash.

Representing Local 17 members were Daniel Jones, Steve Morgans, Randy Christensen and Josh Jeffries from the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT); Donna Blume and Mike Wetsch from the Department of Licensing (DOL); Brendan Magee and Dean Robinson from Washington State Patrol (WSP); and Vince Oliveri, Sarah Lorenzini and Yoko Kuramoto-Eidsmoe from Local 17 staff.

State management was represented by Tanya Aho and Brenda Peterson from the Office of Financial Management (OFM); Amber Erdahl, Steve Roark, and Chris Christopher from WSDOT; Beth Hesse and Jeff Rew from DOL; and Capt. Mike Dahl from WSP.

On the first day of the June 1-2 bargaining session, we discussed proposed changes to Article 2, Non-Discrimination; Article 3, Workplace Behavior; Article 4, Hiring and Appointments; Article 10, Holidays; Article 21, Uniforms, Tools and Equipment; Article 29, Discipline; Article 35, Seniority; and Article 41, Classification.

On June 2, the bargaining teams discussed the union's proposal in Article 7, Overtime. This proposal is intended to address some of the concerns that our Licensing Services Representative members have regarding "flex time." We also discussed proposals regarding maximum compensatory-time accruals.

The Local 17 team agreed to the employer's proposal in Article 2, which adds gender identity and expression to the list of classes that are protected from discrimination. This is in accordance with state statute.

We also discussed our proposal in Article 3, Workplace Behavior, which was intended to address complaints that some



members have had that they have reported supervisors or co-workers for inappropriate behavior but have not been told the outcome of the investigations.

Another issue that we discussed was our proposal in Article 10, Holidays. Licensing Services Representatives in the agency's Tuesday-Saturday offices usually get Saturdays off in place of Monday

holidays, since Monday is their regular day off. Because Saturday is a 6-hour day (Tuesday through Friday are 8.5-hour days), LSRs are getting less paid time off for those holidays.

Other items we discussed include miscellaneous leave, personal-appearance standards for WSP Communications Officers, reassignment during a reallocation request, training for WSDOT technicians, and labor-management committee meetings.

On the first day of the month's second two-day session, June 22, we had discussions about proposals in Article 3, Workplace Behavior; Article 10, Holidays; Article 12, Sick Leave; Article 21, Uniforms, Tools and Equipment; Article 35, Seniority; Article 41, Classification; the Memorandum of Agreement on Right of Way/Property Acquisition Specialists crosswalk; and Article 34, Reasonable Accommodation and Disability Separation.

On June 23, we came to agreement on articles 21 and 35, and the MOU on Right of Way/Property Acquisition Specialists, and had further discussions on articles 3 and 10.

Most of the issues discussed remain unresolved but we are making progress toward resolution and it is still early in the bargaining process. "Economic" proposals (on pay and other compensation/benefits) issues are usually made later in the process, after the parties have had a chance to review the state's economic forecast.

The next two-day bargaining session is scheduled for July 6 and 7 in Olympia.

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