Live streaming town hall one of many ways we’re bringing members together for a great contract

Members across the state watched a live stream of the Oakland Our Voice Town Hall on July 14, giving members who couldn’t attend a chance to participate in this important event.

The Oakland meeting was the eighth of thirteen town halls that have turned out members by the hundreds to get an update on the state’s proposal and to provide input for how we move forward together. Live streaming one of these events opened the discussion to all 95,000 of our members.

“If members’ work schedules couldn’t allow them to make any of the meetings, they could join online and follow along on their phones,” said Susan Rodriguez, Alternate Vice Chair for Bargaining Unit 1. “It’s great that there are so many options for members to give their opinions about the state’s offer.”

The Town Hall was also interpreted in American Sign Language for participants in Oakland and watching from home, another way we’re bringing members together for a great contract.

Providing timely bargaining updates has been a major priority for the bargaining team throughout negotiations, and we’re continuing to explore new means and new technologies to get important information out as fast as possible.

Town Halls are scheduled through July 21 in response to reaching a crossroads in bargaining. Our bargaining team felt the state’s proposal did not meet our members’ priorities.

“These town halls have proven, once again, that when we stand together, we stand strong,” said Yvonne R. Walker, SEIU Local 1000 president. “We needed members to come out and tell us how they feel, and that’s what they’ve been doing.”

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—Yvonne R. Walker
SEIU Local 1000 President
We need to hear from you—have you taken the new bargaining survey?

After three months of negotiations, we reached a crossroads when our bargaining team felt the state’s offer did not meet our members’ priorities.

We created a new online survey that was emailed last week to get members’ input about the state’s offer. If you haven’t completed the survey yet, please take a few moments to share your thoughts about the state’s offer.

If you did not receive an email invitation for the survey, we may not have your personal email address.

Please call the Member Resource Center at 866.471.SEIU (7348) and ask to update your personal email address.

There are only a few days left to make your voice heard. The survey closes Friday, July 22. Add your voice so we can create a path forward together toward a great contract. This is our union. This is our contract. This is our future.

Our Voice Town Halls

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YOUR UNION CONTRACT PROTECTIONS

Members’ and stewards’ rights in enforcing our contract

**Article 2.6: Steward Time Off**  |  **Article 2.7: Employee Time Off**  |  **Article 2.8: Union Steward Protection**

Your Local 1000 contract guarantees:

- Employees are entitled to reasonable state time off, during work hours, to confer with a steward or union representative.
- Employees’ release time is subject to approval by the employee’s supervisor.
- Stewards are also given state time off, during work hours, for representational purposes.
- Stewards’ release time is subject to prior notification and approval by the steward’s immediate supervisor.

How to take action

If you feel your rights have been violated and/or your supervisor will not approve reasonable time for the meeting, contact your steward or the Local 1000 Member Resource Center at 866.471.SEIU (7348).