

United Transportation Union



Progress through Unity...



Anthony Simon ~ General Chairman

December 2007

UTU DELIVERS ! NO CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARD MEDICAL! NO ZERO - NO LUMP SUM - 4% RETRO

When Unions throughout the MTA paved a path toward a dismal round of negotiations, the UTU on Long Island fought for the membership;

The Transit Workers Union walked off the job with an illegal strike and were left with all employees making contributions toward medical; and

ACRE in their quest to save medical, agreed to increase the retirement age for new employees to age 62;

General Chairman Anthony Simon showed patience and strength, as he pursued every avenue available to achieve the best deal for every member. Knowing any strong leader is responsible for the future, **Simon refused to open the door to Health and Welfare contributions for any employee. In addition, the UTU was not willing to allow the pension age to increase to age 62 for any member.** In fact, Simon has listened to the membership, and worked diligently at trying to decrease the retirement age and any associated pension penalties.

Incumbent employees (post 1988 to ratification date) who have at least 5 years of service will now be able to retire at age 60 (instead of 62) with no penalty! The reduction scale decreases for early retirement from age 55 across the board for incumbent employees!

PENSION CHANGES (upon ratification)

OLD PLAN (Post 1988 & New Hires)	
AGE	REDUCTION
62	0 %
61	6 %
60	12 %
59	15 %
58	18 %
57	21 %
56	24 %
55	27 %

NEW PLAN (Incumbents)	
AGE	REDUCTION
62	0 %
61	0 %
60	0 %
59	3 %
58	6 %
57	9 %
56	12 %
55	15 %

PENSION CHANGES (continued)

NEW EMPLOYEES (Hired after ratification date)

New employees will contribute a 4 % contribution for ten years toward their pension. (Post 1988 employees will continue to contribute 3 % for ten years.)

New employees overtime earnings in excess of 20 % of regular wages shall not be included in pension calculations.

Please note, there will be no limitations on earnings.

New employees will fall under the present, post 1988 defined pension plan. (30 years and age 55 or 5 years and age 62) The early retirement reduction scale outlined on the cover page labeled Old Plan, will still apply for new hires.

WAGES AND TERMS OF AGREEMENT

TERM: January 1, 2007 through June 15, 2010

WAGE INCREASES: January 1, 2007 - 4 % RETROACTIVE
January 1, 2008 - 3.5 %
January 1, 2009 - 3 %

STABILIZATION OF WORK FORCE

January 1, 1998

DENTAL

A 10% increase in coverage for dental benefits.

VISION

A 10% increase in coverage for vision benefits.

NO WORK RULE GIVE BACKS!

A Message from the General Chairman

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

After a long hard round of negotiations, I am pleased to inform you we have a deal for ratification.

The negotiations of our sister agencies in the MTA and their associated unions, created many obstacles for us on Long Island. After concessions were made for health and welfare contributions, along with pension changes that were not suitable for our membership, I knew we were in for a fight.

Utilizing my committee to help get a feel for the membership, while reaching out to every resource available to achieve our goals, I believe we now have the best deal available to us. As Chairman of the Labor Council, I knew I had the help and support of all the other unions on Long Island. I worked day and night meeting with MTA officials, political allies, friends in labor, and you the membership, to attain the best possible deal.

My number one goal was achieved by not allowing any employee to be responsible for health and welfare contributions. While some concessions were unavoidable, raising the retirement age for new employees became a large concern. I am happy to say that did not happen, and even more pleased to say we were able to decrease the maximum age from 62 to 60 for incumbent employees. In addition, the penalty percentage scale for incumbent employee early retirement has decreased considerably.

Knowing there was concern of a possible lump sum raise or no raise for the first year, delivering a 4%, 3.5%, and 3% pay increase was great news for our members.



The tremendous amount of time and resources necessary in negotiating this contract was certainly a financial burden to our Organization. As promised, I am happy to say there will be no further assessment to our membership if this contract is ratified. I did my very best in keeping costs down, while not compromising the needs of you, the members.

In closing, I am asking for your support in the ratification of this agreement. I truly believe this is the best possible deal available, and ask you to vote yes! My entire committee, which are your elected union leaders, support this deal. Join us, in moving forward to the future.

Thank you for your continued support, and the best of health and happiness to you and your families.

Faternally,
Anthony Simon
Anthony Simon
General Chairman

