

LOCAL 700 REACHES A TENTATIVE AGREEMENT TO SETTLE ME TOO GRIEVANCES AND FOR A ONE YEAR CONTRACT EXTENSION

Representatives from Teamsters Local 700 (“Union”) and Cook County (“County”) met on June 15, 2023, to discuss settlement of various “Me Too” Grievances triggered during the 2017-2020 contract. The Union sought an additional 3.5% increase to wages under those Me-Too Grievances. The County had previously attempted to seek a court order to prevent the Union from arbitrating the Me-Too Grievances. The Union prevailed in Circuit Court and the County appealed. The Appellate Court found in favor of the Union earlier this year. The Court only decided the issue of arbitrability and did not make a decision on the merits of the grievances.

While both the County and the Union were adamant in their positions, the parties were able to reach a Tentative Agreement that settles the Me-Too Grievances. This Tentative Agreement applies to all Cook County Bargaining Units with the exception of the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways (covered by the COUPE CBA).

THE TENTATIVE AGREEMENT INCLUDES A PROVISION FOR A ONE-YEAR CONTRACT EXTENSION WHICH REQUIRES RATIFICATION BY BOTH THE MEMBERSHIP AND THE COOK COUNTY BOARD.

The material terms of the Tentative Agreement are the following:

WAGES

A total wage increase of at least **8.0%** during the term of the agreement broken down as follows:

1. Across the board wage increase of **3.5%** effective on and **RETROACTIVE to December 1, 2021**; and
2. Across the board wage increase of at least **4.5%** effective June 1, 2025.

CONTRACT EXTENSION

The term of the collective bargaining agreement is extended by one year and will now expire on **November 30, 2025**.

PAID PARENTAL LEAVE

Up to **12 weeks of Paid Parental leave** surrounding the birth or adoption of a child. The improved paid parental leave does not apply to bargaining units employed by the Office of the Chief Judge or the Cook County Clerk. The Chief Judge and Clerk must independently agree to adopt this improved leave. Therefore, these bargaining units are not automatically covered by the coming improved Cook County Policy. The Union is working with management representatives from the Clerk’s Office and the Office of the Chief Judge to implement this policy.

RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT

ALL BARGAINING UNITS COVERED BY THIS TENTATIVE AGREEMENT MUST RATIFY THIS AGREEMENT FOR IT TO BECOME EFFECTIVE

Teamsters Local 700 is currently scheduling the vote for each bargaining unit.