

City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia
Office of the Chief Clerk
Room 402, City Hall
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 050875)

RESOLUTION

Urging the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority to expeditiously negotiate a mutually agreeable new contract between SEPTA and the Transportation Workers Union Local 234.

WHEREAS, For many years, approximately 5,000 transit operators and mechanics have worked under contractual terms mutually agreed to by SEPTA and their union, Transportation Workers Union Local 234; and

WHEREAS, The members of Transportation Workers Union Local 234, to their credit, are working without a contract since March 14th, 2005; and

WHEREAS, SEPTA and TWU Local 234's inability to come to a mutually agreed upon contract is likely to lead to a strike that will be debilitating to the region; and

WHEREAS, SEPTA is proposing that union employees pay 20 percent of their health care premium even though, for decades and in previous labor contracts, the union has accepted less in wages and benefits in return for better health care; and

WHEREAS, Those lower wages and less generous benefits have made SEPTA's union employees rank 20th in the country in wages in comparison to union employees of other transit authorities; and

WHEREAS, It is important for SEPTA, a quasi-governmental agency which represents all the people of the region, to negotiate in good faith and set an example of good faith collective bargaining; and

WHEREAS, Although City Council has no desire to dictate or influence any specific terms of a new contract between SEPTA and TWU Local 234, it does have the duty to speak out when basic labor rights are being threatened; now therefore

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RESOLUTION NO. 050875 continued

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That we call on the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority to actively negotiate a mutually agreeable new contract between SEPTA and Transportation Workers Union Local 234.

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CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the twentieth of October, 2005.

Anna C. Verna
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Patricia Rafferty
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmembers Mariano and Ramos

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Mariano, Ramos, Krajewski, DiCicco, Tasco, Clarke, Goode, Reynolds Brown and Nutter