

March 17, 2017
NW17-009

To: NW Council Representatives

From: Joel Funfar (SPEEA Council Secretary),

Subject: **Pre-Submitted New Business: Support of International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) local 9 In Negotiations with the Port of Seattle.**

Background

SPEEA was supported by the ILWU during our contract negotiations and eventual 40 day strike in 2000. Currently, ILWU local nine members are standing together in difficult contract negotiations with the Port of Seattle. They are now on a two year extension of an expired agreement.

ILWU Local 9's membership is made up of workers who perform aviation security and operations at Sea-Tac airport. The Port of Seattle management attempted to privatize and outsource new Local 9 security work to Delta Airlines. ILWU Local 9 fought the attempt and secured Port recognition of new hires as Local 9 members. Port of Seattle management has meanwhile tried to obstruct and avoid resolution of a new agreement which would retain new and existing employees who keep the airport safe and running smoothly through worker protections, fair wages and working conditions.

Port staff continue to claim in bargaining that basic wage parity and maintenance of affordable Health benefits are not financially possible.

Port staff even called armed police on members' bargaining committee recently in response to heated conversation at the table, in an apparent attempt to intimidate members.

Local 9 members have made every effort to move forward for a swift and fair resolution of bargaining, through informal sidebar discussions, public mediation, and other available venues.

There may be a call for informational picketing or other events our members could attend and join in to support ILWU 9 members. They (ILWU) have had one informational / support picketing at Sea-Tac Airport, Tuesday March 28th. They will have more in the future.

For more information:

<http://www.mlkclc.org/>

<http://ilwu9.org/>

http://www.speea.org/Bargaining_Units/PS%202012/SPEEA%20Letter072.pdf

Motion

It is moved that the NW SPEEA Council supports ILWU local 9 in their struggle in negotiations with the Port of Seattle. The NW Council requests the Executive Board to take steps in informing our members about this issue via our publications and information networks and urge our members to stand in solidarity and support the members of ILWU local 9 at the Port of Seattle to help secure fair treatment of workers who keep our airport safe and running smoothly for the public.