



AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION

Division 757

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Tracking Faster

We have already experienced snow and ice conditions this year, and we anticipate more coming soon. Unfortunately, TriMet has not appropriately prepared for these bad weather conditions, and is assuming our members will bail them out once again. But a lack of preparation on TriMet's part does not constitute an emergency on our part.

TriMet says time and time again that safety is their top priority. The truth is TriMet has repeatedly disregarded requests from the Union to establish a Snow and Ice Agreement, or any emergency operation plan. It clearly states in our Working and Wage Agreement that in order to declare an emergency, TriMet must consult the Union.

TriMet is currently suspending Hours of Service restrictions and canceling previously approved vacation time. TriMet cannot take either of these actions without declaring an emergency in coordination with the Union. However, TriMet has not contacted the Union to discuss suspending Hours of Service, denying your vacation, or declaring an emergency. This is unacceptable.

Hours of Service are in place for the safety of you and the community. TriMet cannot continue to harshly discipline workers over Hours of Service when the sun is shining, and then disregard it completely when their poor preparation is exposed by snow and ice.

Your vacation is a bargained for right. TriMet cannot unilaterally choose to declare a "business need" in order to ignore your rights and deny leave that has been previously approved.

Emergency operations need to be a joint effort and we are done letting TriMet act unilaterally when it comes to your safety. Until TriMet agrees to meet and bargain in good faith, we can only direct you to what is in your Working and Wage Agreement to help you know your rights during snow and ice conditions.

- Article 1, Section 6, Paragraphs 1 & 2: There is no mandatory overtime.
- Article 2, Paragraph 2(h): "any operator who has not been relieved at their scheduled relief time and point must notify Dispatch"
- Article 2, Section 1, Paragraph 5(d): You are entitled to double-time if you are not relieved one hour past the time you notified Dispatch.
- REMEMBER: If you are unable to report to work safely, please notify the Station Agent. If you are unable to safely get to work, call in one hour before hand for road relief and 30 minutes before your report time at the garage.

The safety of our members and the public is our greatest concern. We are open to working with TriMet to find ways to keep you safe during work and in transit to and from work. But TriMet alone is responsible for creating this problem by not hiring enough employees and not supporting the employees that they already have. The lack of preparation for snow and ice conditions are a direct result of the anti-worker culture of fear and intimidation that TriMet has created. It is not our member's responsibility to cover up management mistakes.

In Solidarity,


Shirley Block
President-Business Rep.


Jonathan Hunt
Vice President


Mary Longoria
Financial Secretary