

Oregon AFSCME Local 189
BARGAINING UPDATE 9

\$1.8 Million for the Elk statue, zero for front line workers.

Progress in negotiations has slowed with little discussion on meaningful subjects because we still have not received many responses to our proposals from the City, including to our economics package. Meanwhile, OPB reports that City Council has approved \$1.8 million to repair the Thompson Elk Fountain. OPB also wrote “City Commissioners said the decision symbolized downtown Portland’s recovery.”

But Portlanders and the Union know that the real testament to Portland’s recovery are strong and reliable public services - like running water and the bills paid on time - services that AFSCME 189 members provide everyday.

Our economic proposals are based in the values of our Bargaining Platform, values that include thriving compensation that support employees living in the communities they serve. It is clear that Council has the resources to fund a contract that can do that - and that Council is showing that their priorities are aesthetics over front line work.

Have your voice heard, join upcoming actions to tell Council that Portland needs services, not statues.

OPB Article: <https://www.opb.org/article/2024/09/18/portland-city-council-approves-18-million-restore-thompson-elk-fountain/>

Practice Pickets are coming to your worksite.

Our Member Action Team is meeting this week to plan practice pickets. Stay tuned for dates and times to join the Practice Picket line.



**Questions? Reach out to Bargaining or MAT members or Council Representative
Karly Edwards**