
COTA & TWU, Local 208 sign labor agreement

COLUMBUS—On Monday, Jan. 5, the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) Board of Trustees approved the tentative agreement between Transport Workers Union (TWU), Local 208 and COTA at a special Board meeting. Last week, Local 208 membership approved the tentative agreement. The contract was signed by the parties at the meeting and is effective (retroactively) to Jan. 1, 2015 through December 28, 2017.

“We are pleased that after a series of earnest and collaborative bargaining sessions, an agreement has been reached that allows us to continue to provide a high level of public transit service to our community,” said Curtis Stitt, COTA President/CEO. “The agreement is consistent with COTA’s obligations to its stakeholders – employees, customers and taxpayers.”

The agreement between COTA and Local 208 came about after a series of bargaining sessions held over the past several months. Both sides worked toward an agreement that provides a fair and just wage and benefit package to represented employees, enhances the safe and efficient service COTA provides to the public, and ensures that COTA continues to maintain sound financial stewardship of public resources.

Key provisions of the agreement include hourly wage increases for represented staff in 2015, 2016 and 2017, further reductions in the PERS “pick up” in each of the three years of the contract, and adjustments in health insurance premium contributions.

The agreement also moves away from “longevity” payments and toward performance-based incentives in the compensation package for represented employees.

For more information, please visit cota.com or contact COTA at (614) 228-1776.

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