



Santa Cruz City Watchdog



www.seiu521.org

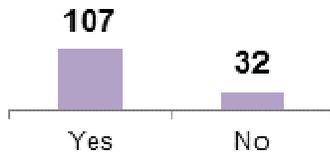
July 2011

831-824-9255

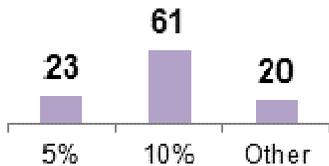
Thank you to those who filled out and returned the Bargaining Survey sent out by your Bargaining Team last month. Below are a few of the results from that survey.

Question 1

Over the last 2 years, the Union has taken a position to use furloughs as a way to save jobs and services in our city. **Do you think this is the right approach?**

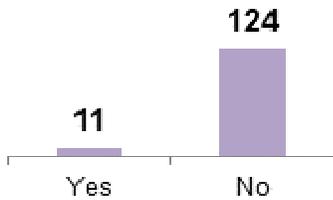


If so, what percentage?

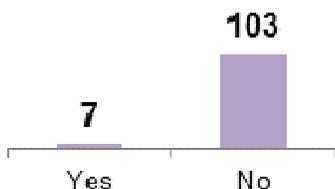


Question 2

City workers paid by the general fund currently furlough 4 hours, with a 10% cut in pay. **Would you support a 10% salary cut without a cut in hours?**



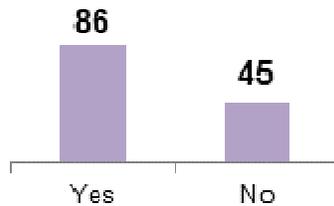
If you are not furloughed 10%, would you support a 10% salary cut without a cut in hours?



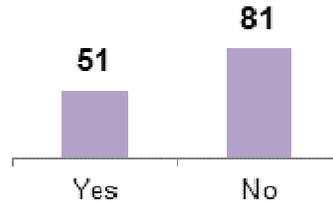
Question 3

Which do you support?

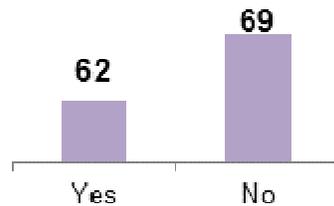
Changing PERS Calculation to 3 highest year average instead of single highest year



Paying a higher portion of the pension contribution each month.



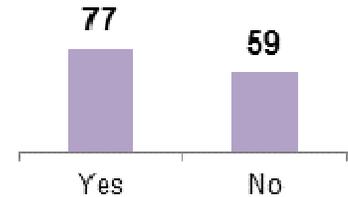
Changing the retirement formula from 2% @ 55 to 2% at 60.



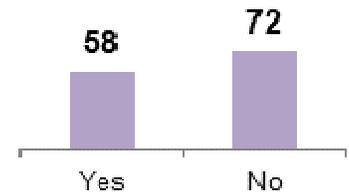
Question 4

If we cut 10% of our total compensation, would you?

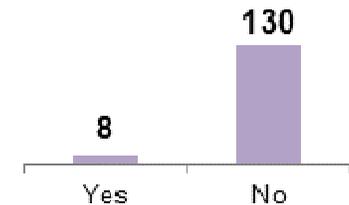
Increase contribution to PERS?



Increase contributions to health insurance premiums?

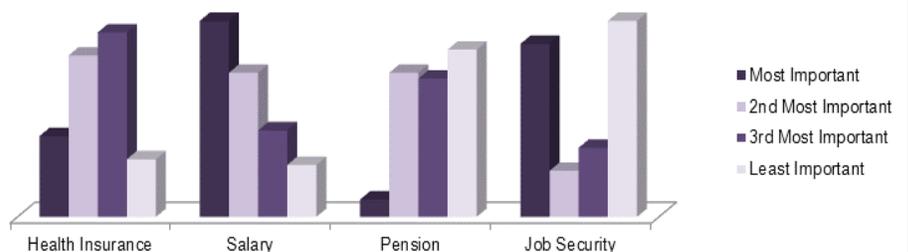


Take a base cut in salary?



Question 5

Which is most important to you and your family?



CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS BEGIN

City of Santa Cruz has a hired gun, Timothy Davis, who will be their chief spokesperson for the contract talks which began on June 1st. SEIU 521 Internal Organizer, Gary Klemz and our union team of eight will be representing close to 500 city workers in the miscellaneous service unit. Sonia Laracuente, the day to day union representative, will be coordinating worksite visits and communications with the CAT (Contract Action Team).

As with the other City bargaining units, preliminary talks reveal that pension reform and a 10% salary cost-savings will be high on the City's list of proposals. SEIU 521 members have expressed concern over further economic cuts which have had tremendous impact families and services for the past several years. Will the 10 percent furlough continue? If so, how long? Will the five percent cost-of-living increase be deferred once more to save services and jobs? These are but a few questions that will be addressed all this summer as we grapple with the economic realities of this current recession/ depression. Hang in there! Together we are strong!

SUCCESS!

“Food for All”

Campaign Delivers

Just in Time for Summer



Donations to food banks typically peak during the holidays. In May, SEIU Local 521 members launched a Localwide food drive when families really need a helping hand – summer vacation. It makes sense. When school is out, children who depend on school lunches for sustenance often face malnourishment during the summer months.

In just three weeks, SEIU 521 members collected 3,200 pounds of food. Combined with cash donations, the “Food for All” campaign raised enough to provide more than 7,200 meals to children and families across a half-dozen counties, from Monterey to Kern.

At a time when corporations continue awarding CEOs million-dollar bonuses, it is public service workers who have stepped up to help working families in our communities. We are leading the way, SEIU 521!