

Bricklayers Local 1 Oregon expands jurisdiction

BAC Local 1 Oregon now covers workers in Idaho, Montana, and portions of Washington.

The International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers (BAC) has expanded Local 1 Oregon to include Eastern Washington and the states of Idaho and Montana. More than 400 workers in those states were members of the former Local 3.

Local 1 assumed all administrative responsibilities Oct. 1.

At the same time, the international union announced that it will dissolve the Pacific Northwest Administrative District Council, effective Jan. 1, 2020.

The new Local 1 Oregon/Washington/Idaho/Montana will represent more than 1,300 craftworkers in the trowel trades, including bricklayers, stone and marble masons, tile-setters, terrazzo workers, pointers/cleaners/caulkers, refractory specialists, and finishers.

The union's headquarters will remain at its current location at 12812 NE Marx St. Portland. A union hall in Eastern Washington will be located at 3923 E. Main St., Spokane, Washington.

The expansion is expected to bring increased union presence and resources to these regions, and the transition should be smooth, as all of the BAC members in these areas participate in funds administered by the Masonry Industry Trust Administration, said Business Manager Matt Eleazer.

"On a day-to-day level, things aren't going to change overnight. Collective bargaining agreements are the same as they were before, and fringe benefit forms will remain the same," Eleazer said.

In addition to his role as business manager, Eleazer will continue as president of Local 1. Oregon field rep Mike Titus will serve as secretary-treasurer. Apprenticeship Coordinator Shawn Lenczowski, Idaho/Montana field rep Justin McEwen, and Eastern Washington/Idaho field rep Dustin Bradford will serve as vice chairs. Matteo Russo will continue as an organizer and field representative for all areas.

"I am excited to see what the Northwest can do together as one," Eleazer said. "We will be stronger together. That is a promise."



In support of UFCW's gender pay gap campaign, union retiree Everice Moro and 150 others took part in a Sept. 21 Oregon AFL-CIO protest at a Warrenton Fred Meyer store.

...UFCW approves grocery contracts

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to parity with Schedule A by the end of the three years. The new agreements also give Schedule B workers greater opportunity to bid into open Schedule A positions within their stores.

Apprentices, who typically start at \$0.10 above minimum wage, will also see raises of up to \$2 an hour under the contract: Whatever amount the local minimum wage increases, they'll get the same amount, maintaining the premium they earn above minimum wage.

Workers' next check will be

big, with raises retroactive to the previous contract expirations.

The agreement also makes slight improvements to dental and vision benefits, and adds a hearing aid benefit, with no increase in the member share of health premiums. Members typically contribute \$10 a week.

Benefits are provided through a joint health trust which has built up reserves equal to about 20 months of operating expenses. To give employers a break, Local 555 agreed to reduce employer payments into the fund until the reserves reach six months.



OFNHP

AFT LOCAL 5017

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