

FOR IMMEDIATE
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STILL NO AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN SUN TRAN AND TEAMSTERS

TUCSON, Ariz. – Teamsters Local 104 have rejected the offer from Sun Tran for a new three-year contract. “We are disappointed as we really felt we’d made a great offer to our employees,” stated Sun Tran General Manager Katrina Heineking. “We will continue to provide service as scheduled today and hope to reach an agreement or extend the contract before it expires at midnight tonight.”

The package rejected by Teamsters Local 104 raises top wages for drivers from \$16.63 to \$18.63 an hour, a 12 percent increase over the next three years. The top hourly rate for mechanics will increase from \$20.04 to \$22.04, a 10 percent increase over the next three years. Sun Tran would also continue to pay for 100 percent of the health and welfare premium for employees and their families, and increase its contributions to the Teamster pension fund by 4.8 percent. Please see the attached Sun Tran Contract Proposal Summary for complete details.

According to Andy Marshall, Secretary/Treasurer of Teamsters Local 104, one contract point that led to the Teamsters’ rejection of the offer is the issue of part-time operators. To implement scheduled transit service improvements funded by the Regional Transportation Authority, Sun Tran may need to employ a small number of part-time drivers in the future. Sun Tran’s proposal includes wages for part-time drivers that would not exceed 90 percent of the starting rate of full-time drivers. Part-time operators that may be hired would not displace full-time operators. The contract allows for Sun Tran to employ a maximum of 10 percent of full-time operators as part-time (or approximately 37 part-time employees).

“We are hopeful that an agreement for a new contract or a contract extension can be reached before the current contract expires,” said Katrina Heineking. “However, we are prepared to launch our contingency plan to offer limited bus service should the union call a strike.”

Sun Tran is Tucson’s award-winning regional public transportation system, which is operated by Professional Transit Management, Ltd. (PTM) under contract with the City of Tucson. With more than 520 employees, 38 fixed routes and a fleet of 199 buses, Sun Tran’s mission is to provide safe, reliable, well maintained and cost effective public transportation with a team of innovative and diverse employees, dedicated to our customers, the environment and the community.