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OMF Labor Management Committee Meeting Recap

May 20, 2021

Zoom Meeting

Chaired by Paul Cone

Members Present

Carmen Merlo, Deputy CAO (alt)
Paul Cone, BTS/PROTEC17/Co-Chair
Matthew Spitulski, P&D Manager
Eric Chitoubol, CityFleet (alt)
Rachel Whiteside, PROTEC17
Tim McCormack (alt), Facilities
Thomas Lannom, Revenue Director
Manish Thakore, PROTEC17

Members Absent

Scott Karter, Revenue (ALT)
Michelle Kirby (Alt), BRFS Director
Tyler Wallace (Alt), Revenue
Don Bryans (Alt), P&D
Rebecca Hatton (Alt), Facilities
Jamaal Anthony, BHR
Roger Koppy, AFSCME/DCTU
Keith Drew (Alt), CityFleet
Kristin Wells, Facilities Operations
Eddie Barton, Local 701
Theo Leiatua, Facilities (Alt)
Alan Bates, CityFleet
Michael Roy, CityFleet Manager
Tom Rinehart, CAO/Co-Chair
Tony Bush, CityFleet

Other Staff Present

Ethan Cirimo, OMF staff

Updates from OMF LMCs

CityFleet (Eric Chitoubol)

CityFleet had a May 4 LMC meeting and are currently testing ways to incorporate a swing shift. Otherwise, they are trying to minimize COVID risk during shift changes and discussing technical trainings for technicians.

CityFleet moving away from the Graham garage has created the need for a lot of clean up and reduction since they now have more limited space in which to work.

The post-COVID staffing schedule is showing some promise, and Fleet is starting to see what shifts are going to look like as we come out of COVID isolation.

Lastly, an overall drop in vehicle usage has meant increased frequency of dead batteries that Fleet is responding to. This problem will likely continue if the slow in car rentals continues.

BTS (Paul Cone)

The last LMC meeting was about communicating on safety. The BTS LMC met with the BTS Safety Committee and discussed improving its workflow and improving its communication about mask wearing and other COVID protocol.

The BTS LMC also discussed getting better participation for the LMCs of other OMF divisions.

Printing & Distribution (Matthew Spitulski)

P&D is still boarded up and still working. P&D presented yesterday to the BTS CSG about new rate structure starting in July 1. This was done as a step to mitigate the serious drop in revenue P&D has experienced. They are sharing some staff with BTS proper.

Facilities (Tim McCormack)

Facilities has successfully recruited several facility workers and a dispatcher. There is a new OSHA rule which has created some need for various certifications for employees.

The CDC decision about masks has caused some concern and difficulty, and Facilities is focusing on operating safely even with changing guidelines.

Revenue (Thomas Lannom)

Revenue is in the middle of the tax season, and among other things are trying to encourage the use of electronic tax filing.

Otherwise, they are doing a lot of hiring, and having discussions about changing work teams. They are still experiencing resistance to and a lack of interest in LMCs for divisions without them. Interest in LMC is spotty.

Reentry schedule (Carmen Merlo)

Things are changing rapidly, and the new CDC guidelines on face coverings or vaccinated people were quite a surprise. Enforcing mask use at the Portland Building has been a challenge given the conflicting communication. To date, the City has not changed the face covering directive and all employees are required to wear them indoors.

We anticipate the County will enter a "low risk" status by the end of May. The City tentatively plans on welcoming employees back, in a limited capacity beginning in July and inviting employees back without occupancy restrictions in August. The transition timeline from employees teleworking to returning on-site is still unknown.

Also under consideration is whether the City will require employees to provide proof of vaccination. This is currently being discussed, but there is nothing to report yet.

For now, the City is embracing a hybrid work model.

CAO's Office Updates (Carmen Merlo)

OMF is preparing a memo documenting the impacts from the civil unrest on City/OMF facilities.