

MTA LABOR NEWS UPDATE

Thursday, November 6, 2003

Day 24

**SEIU, County Reach Tentative Contract Agreement;
ATU Prepares to Vote on MTA Contract Offer**

With striking mechanics poised to vote, Friday, on MTA's last, best and final contract offer, news reports indicate that negotiators for 53,000 workers represented by Local 660 of the Service Employees International Union have reached a tentative contract agreement with the County of Los Angeles.

The tentative agreement, which must be ratified by SEIU members, is similar in some respects to the contract MTA has offered to the ATU. The tentative agreement calls for no pay increase in the first year of the contract, but includes 2.5 percent wage hikes in the second and third years. The County will increase its health benefits contribution to SEIU in each of the three years.

MTA's contract offer to the ATU includes wage increases totaling 5 percent over three years, an immediate cash infusion of \$4.7 million to the ATU Health & Welfare Trust Fund, along with increased contributions to the Fund by MTA. MTA has urged ATU members to accept its offer by ratifying the contract during Friday's union balloting.

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