

# Q & A

**Q.** I heard that if we change unions we could lose our contract or our seniority. Is that true?

**A.** No! The contract belongs to the members, and it stays in effect until it expires in June, 2007. Prior to that we will elect a Negotiating Committee and develop proposals for a new contract.

**Q.** What about our pension. Is that in jeopardy?

**A.** No! The pension is a contractual agreement between the bargaining unit and the City. It is not controlled by the Teamsters.

**Q.** If I sign a card, will the City or the Teamsters find out?

**A.** No! By law, neither the City or the Teamsters will ever find out you signed a card unless you tell them.

**Q.** If I am active in the campaign to change unions can I lose my job?

**A.** No! You have the right to actively seek a change in representation. It is a Municipal Prohibited Practice for either the City or the Teamsters to retaliate against you.

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## STAMFORD DPW WORKERS **SOUND OFF**

December 2005

### **It's Time for Real Change**

*Our program for change:*

#### **1. A strong, democratic, member-run union**

- Ratification vote on contract proposals & tentative agreement
- Election of officers and stewards from Stamford DPW members
- Union staff responsive to the members
- Day to day action to protect our rights

#### **2. Job protections**

- Fair promotions
- No use of supervisors that eliminates full and part time jobs
- Fair work assignments

#### **3. Fair overtime distribution**

#### **4. Strong safety & health protection**

#### **5. Member training so we can run our own Union**



**This is our first newsletter. We welcome everyone's input. Sound off for factual information! Sound off for power! Sound off for justice! Sound off for unity! Sound off for change!**

# UE Local 222, CILU/CIPU Members Speak Out . . .

It makes a big difference to go into negotiations with full input and participation by the members. That's power that wins a good contract.

*-Jerome Houser, President  
UE Local 222, CILU/CIPU, #68  
New Haven DPW, Refuse Division*



I am proud to be President of our statewide local. We represent over 2000 public sector workers in Connecticut. I'm in the Public Grounds Dept. of the Berlin DPW. We have a lot in common and I look forward to working with you.

*-Peter Pekrul, Statewide President  
UE Local 222, CILU/CIPU  
Berlin DPW, Public Grounds Dept.*



I work in the refuse division of the New Haven DPW. Through the Union I got my job back. This is a Union that fights for people.

*-Simon Williams  
UE Local 222, CILU/CIPU, #68  
New Haven DPW, Refuse Division*



We're a diverse group in the New Haven public works, but we feel we've all been respected and well represented with UE. I've got nothing but good things to say about UE and their support of us.

*-Fabian Esponda, Vice President  
UE Local 222, CILU/CIPU #68  
New Haven DPW, Mechanic*

I work in the streets division of the New Haven DPW. In August I went to the UE National Convention and saw firsthand the power and resources and backup of the national union. I encourage you to join UE.

*-Tina Downing, Secretary  
UE Local 222, CILU/CIPU, #68  
New Haven DPW, Streets Division*



Check out these websites!

[www.cilu.org](http://www.cilu.org)  
[www.ranknfile-ue.org](http://www.ranknfile-ue.org)

