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NNCLC Approves Strike Sanctions for Teamsters 533 Bus Operators

At the regular monthly meeting, 6/9/21, the NNCLC body approved strike sanctions for our Teamsters Local 533 Bus Operators in their struggle to find common ground with the RTC sub-contractor Keolis.

This will result in the full support of our 34 affiliates, 9000 members and community constituency groups.

A strike would be unfortunate – but not unexpected – due to the treatment of our local Bus Operators by Keolis, a French corporation registered in Delaware.

During last month's RTC public meeting (5-21-21), the RTC board singled out the Bus Operators, praising them for their "heroic" service in the face of the pandemic.

The RTC Board of Commissioners also unanimously approved the highest possible performance rating of 1.5 (0.6-1.5) for other classified employees for their strong work over the course of the pandemic. The 1.5 rating will likely result in the maximum allowable pay and benefit raises, which they absolutely earned.

But this rating could not and did not include the Bus Operators who are managed by Keolis.

Even Commissioner Vaughn Hartung noticed the dichotomy and asked, "Isn't there something we can do for the Bus Operators?"

The current contract proposal to the RTC Bus Operators from Keolis includes dissolving their health care trust fund and reducing their pay and benefits.

These cuts are inexcusable and we ask that the public stand with our local Bus Operators who have risen to the occasion, providing essential transit services and delivered throughout the pandemic.

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The Northern Nevada Central Labor Council is one of nearly 500 state and local labor councils of the AFL-CIO. We're the heart of the labor movement in the Greater Reno-Sparks-Carson-Tahoe region, and across Northern Nevada.

The Northern Nevada Central Labor Council is a democratically elected body dedicated to represent the interests of working people at the state and local level. We mobilize our members and community partners to advocate for social and economic justice and we strive daily to vanquish oppression and make our communities better for all people—regardless of race, color, gender, religion, age, sexual orientation, or ethnic or national origin.