

Austin Works

AFSCME Local 1624 | 1812 CENTRE CREEK DR., #310, AUSTIN, TX 78754
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JUNE 2022

Fight for \$22 in 2022!



AFSCME Local 1624 President Yvonne Flores, backed by Austin City Council Members Vanessa Fuentes, Alison Alter and Kathie Tovo and community leaders, announces AFSCME's \$22 in 2022 campaign at the ¡Sí Se Puede! César Chávez March and Day of Action on March 26.

AFSCME Calls for \$22 Living Wage

The City of Austin's living wage of \$15 per hour has not increased since 2018. Since then, City employees have demonstrated dedication to public service while facing increased health risks, severe weather events, critical staffing shortages and increased workloads.

Your hard work should result in fair pay. Now, more than ever, City employees deserve a decent living wage that would allow them to provide for their families in communities where the cost

of living is increasing rapidly.

At the César Chávez Day of Action on March 26, AFSCME Local 1624 President Yvonne Flores announced our \$22 in '22 campaign to increase the City's living wage to \$22 per hour.

After months of work with our allies in the City of Austin Living Wage Working Group, we are happy to announce that on June 16, City Council will consider a resolution directing the City Manager to adopt a living wage of \$22.00 for all regular, sworn,

and temporary employees of the City, as well as contract workers.

We are calling on members to show up at City Hall on June 16 in your green AFSCME shirts to support this critical effort. With your help, we will make sure Council understands how urgent it is to raise the living wage now.



TALKING POLITICS

By Krissy O'Brien,
Political Organizer

Greetings, AFSCME sisters and brothers! We hope everyone is doing well and staying safe.

This year has been very busy so far, and there is still a lot more to come! I'd like to provide a few political updates and wins, as well as talk about what is ahead for the City and County.

Starting June 7, the County will provide 8 weeks of paid parental leave to eligible employees who have at least six months of tenure! Prior to this, expecting parents had to use their own sick time and short or long term disability to cover their absence related to the birth of a child, adoption or foster placement. This benefit was a long time coming for Travis County employees. Shout out to Judge Brown and Commissioner Travillion and their staff for leading on this proposal. I'd also like to thank all who spoke up

and came forward with your stories to help make this paid benefit a reality!

Big thanks to Local 1624 members at the County who called in or showed up to the employee public hearing to speak up for pay raises this year. Your stories about struggling to make ends meet on County wages were difficult to hear, and we appreciate you all taking the time to share. The Commissioner's Court seemed eager after the hearing to respond to your needs. We will be following this process closely to make sure we end up with the pay you all have earned. Look out for possible calls to action as we work to increase the proposed 3% across-the-board pay raise to 5%.



For City of Austin employees, our \$22 in 2022 living wage campaign is underway! We know you all have been working under severe staffing shortages with no additional pay. We must raise the living wage to be able to recruit at entry level positions and help fill these labor shortages.

On June 16th, we have a resolution going to City Council that will dedicate funds in the 2023 budget to pay raises that reflect the CPI inflation rate, and that includes the living wage increase. Look for calls to action before June 16th. We need everyone to call in or show up to voice support for pay raises that reflect the cost of living, increase in service demand from population growth, and CPI inflation rates.

We cannot get this done without your participation and input so please plan to show up or call in.

More details to come!



Community Action

¡Sí Se Puede! César Chávez March and Day of Action

AFSCME Local 1624 members and staff joined community leaders and elected officials on March 26 to commemorate César Chávez’s historic labor and civil rights movement.



Meet the 2022 AFSCME Local 1624 Scholarship Winners!



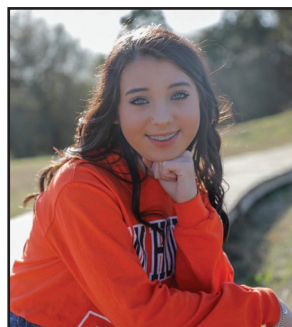
Michael Hernandez - La Croix II, son of San Juanita Hernandez, Health & Human Services



Katelynne Hunter, daughter of Amy Hunter, Development Services



Kelsey Kelley, daughter of Deborah Kelley, Juvenile Probation



Kyla Roberts, daughter of Ronald Roberts, Fleet Mobility Services



Mine Ulker, daughter of Aoife Ulker, Management Services



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