

AUSTIN WORKS

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, BRYDAN SUMMERS



Dear AFSCME Local 1624,

Since the start of 2026, our union's incredible strength has been on full display – and we're just getting started. Through the collective effort of our membership and by standing in solidarity with one another, we have shown that the largest labor union in Central Texas is a powerful advocate for working people.

At the City of Austin, we won our Consultation Agreement with a unanimous vote by Council, which guarantees monthly meetings between union representatives and the City Manager to address city workers' concerns. We also forced negotiations on the Efficiency Assessment Ordinance to ensure adequate worker protections and to amplify feedback from city employees. We have shown that when important decisions are being made, AFSCME Local 1624 cannot be ignored.

At Travis County, we are laying the groundwork to replicate these policy victories for additional workers in Central Texas. We are seeking a consultation agreement so that our members have a literal seat at the table with management. We are also looking to secure civil service protections so that all County workers have equal job security and rights. We know that when employers treat us with respect and dignity, the community benefits the most.

The City's IT consolidation, and the fate of all shared services departments, is our biggest fight right now. I am so proud of the member-driven organizing that has fueled a campaign that centers the needs, strategy, and action of our members. We must continue this fight, grow our capacity, and take care of each other.

AFSCME Local 1624 is member led. If you are interested in getting more involved, please join us at our meetings, lend your talents to a committee, or just get in touch and tell me what you want your union to do for you (brydan@afscme1624.org). Thank you for your work as public servants and for being a part of our movement.

In solidarity,

Brydan Summers

A SEAT AT THE TABLE:
CITY OF AUSTIN
WORKERS SECURE
CONSULTATION
AGREEMENT WITH
CITY MANAGEMENT

On February 26, 2026, labor union history was made right here in the Lone Star State.

Thanks to the advocacy of our union siblings, the Austin City Council unanimously approved a consultation agreement between city management and AFSCME Local 1624.

This agreement ensures regular meetings between the union and the City Manager's office, allowing union representatives and subject matter experts to address workers' concerns directly with city executives.

Austin is the first city in Texas to codify such an agreement between a city employees' union and city management.

This historic victory guarantees a seat at the table and keeps City of Austin workers off of the menu.



STOP ONE ATS: MEMBERS RALLY AGAINST IT CONSOLIDATION

“Forcing an incident commander at a wildfire to submit an IT help desk ticket in the field to get a mission-critical map isn't ‘efficient’, it's dangerous.”

BRANIFF DAVIS
GEOSPATIAL ANALYST SENIOR
AUSTIN FIRE DEPARTMENT



LEARN MORE HERE!

AFSCME Local 1624 members are pushing back against the city manager's rushed One Austin Technology Services (OATS) initiative, an IT consolidation effort that if implemented, would uproot embedded IT expertise from their home departments, disrupt the efficiency of critical services, and bring unnecessary risk to public safety.

Understanding the urgency of the situation, our members rushed into action. We kicked off our campaign with the hand delivery of a letter outlining our concerns with OATS directly to city leadership, followed by a press conference with of over 70 AFSCME members on the front steps of Austin City Hall demanding a halt to the consolidation and a pause to excessive consultant spending.

Since then, AFSCME Local 1624 members have not stood idly by. We've educated our fellow coworkers of the impacts of this initiative, articulated our concerns directly to city leadership, and informed the public of the dangers of OATS via extensive media coverage.

Without each of your collective voices and actions, management would find the concerns of our award-winning IT employees easy to ignore. Please visit stopoats.org or scan the QR code to learn more!

LUCKY TO BE UNION



ON SAINT PADDY'S DAY, AFSCME 1624 MEMBERS DIDN'T JUST WEAR GREEN TO STAY LUCKY. OVER 200 MEMBERS ACROSS THE CITY AND COUNTY WORE AFSCME GREEN TO STAND IN SOLIDARITY WITH COA IT WORKERS.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING THIS TRADITION FOR MANY YEARS TO COME!



BRINGING THE HEAT AND SOLIDARITY: CHILI COOK-OFF

As Texans, we sure take our chili seriously! On a cold February day, union members challenged one another to a chili cook-off for ultimate bragging rights and the chance to win some HEB gift cards. After the winners took their victory laps, members partook in some know-your-rights trivia to ensure that we're ready to organize our fellow workers. If we're going to represent Central Texans, we gotta make sure that our chili-game is on point!



CITY OF AUSTIN DHR PORTAL UPDATE

COA has created a portal for all employees who wish to file a complaint regarding Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation. There is a specific DHR pop-up window on the portal employees will need to use, and you will have to try to keep your complaint to about 500 words with enough information for Corporate to access your complaint.

Should your complaint rise to the level of DHR, it will be investigated by Corporate HR. Should the complaint not rise to the level of DHR, it will be referred to your department for them to investigate.

Be sure to contact our office if you need help!

DELEGATE NOMINATIONS FOR AFSCME'S 47TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

During the General Membership Meeting on May 28, 2026, AFSCME Local 1624 will hold nominations for the position of delegate to AFSCME's 47th International Convention to be held from August 17 to 21, 2026 in Chicago, Illinois. Nominees will be candidates for election by the membership; the election will be held electronically from June 1 through June 5, ending at 5pm.

Delegate spots will be filled by the candidates that receive the most votes; available alternate spots will be filled by the remaining candidates with the most votes. To be eligible, you must have been a member by April 17, 2026 and be in good standing. You do not have to be present to be nominated and you may nominate yourself.

IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE

Our AFSCME 1624 Immigration and Worker Justice Committee is in full swing. Organized with the goal of increasing protections and safety for our members and the community we serve, this committee meets weekly to discuss policy proposals, advocacy actions, and educational learning opportunities focused on immigrant and worker justice. Given the escalated anti-immigrant enforcement happening around the country, including here in Austin, Texas, our committee meets every Monday at 6:30 pm on Zoom. All are welcome! If you're interested in joining, please email Juany Torres, Chair of the Immigrant and Worker Justice Committee, at info@afscme1624.org

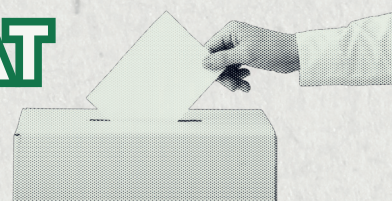




AFSCME Local 1624
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This Isn't Just a Newsletter — It's a Snapshot of Our Strength.

FIGHTING FOR CANDIDATES THAT FIGHT FOR US: RUNOFF UPDATE



Two of our AFSCME Local 1624 VOTE PAC recommended candidates need your support! Montserrat and George will be on the 2026 primary runoff ballot in late May. Please ensure that you are registered and have a plan to vote during Early Voting or on Election Day.

EARLY VOTING
MAY 18-22



ELECTION DAY
MAY 26



MONTSERRAT GARIBAY
TEXAS HOUSE
DISTRICT 49



GEORGE MORALES III
TRAVIS COUNTY
COMMISSIONER PCT.4