

# INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

JAMES P. HOFFA  
General President

25 Louisiana Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20001



KEN HALL  
General Secretary-Treasurer

202.624.6800  
[www.teamster.org](http://www.teamster.org)

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To: Members of Local Union 72

As you are aware, the decision of the NYS Thruway Authority to eliminate toll takers resulted in the loss of jobs for more than 1,000 of your Sister and Brother members of Local 72. These reductions have had an adverse impact on the Local's ability to provide services at the level to which members are entitled and reasonably expect. While the Local had sufficient financial resources to weather a brief loss of members and revenue, the Local cannot survive at the present level without additional members or additional income.

Therefore, the entire Local 72 Board has endorsed a proposal to merge with Local 456, a sister Teamster Local experienced in representing New York State public sector employees. Local 456 has the resources necessary to provide representation to Local 72 units throughout the State and has committed to maintaining a state-wide presence. Local 456 has also pledged to prepare a team to negotiate the upcoming collective bargaining agreement. The International Union has indicated it supports this merger and will facilitate the transfer of membership if it is approved.

Accordingly, an in-person secret ballot vote will be conducted on March 9 in order for preparations for the upcoming contract negotiations to proceed in a timely and orderly manner. All members in good standing will be entitled to vote and you are all encouraged to participate. Voting will be held at the following locations from **6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.**:

**Buffalo – Teamsters Local 72/Local 264:** 35 Tyrol Drive, Cheektowaga, NY 14227

**Syracuse – Teamsters Local 317:** 566 Spenser Street, Syracuse, NY 13204

**Albany – Teamsters Local 294:** Labor Temple, 890 Third Street, Albany, NY 12206

**Newburgh – Teamsters Local 72:** 263 Route 17K, Suite 105B, Newburgh, NY 12550

Votes will be counted at each location at the close of balloting and will be cumulated. You are urged to participate in the vote and support the merger with Local 456.

Should you have any questions, you can contact your Local 72 representative or Local 456's Principal Officer, Louis A. Picani at (914) 592-9500.