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## **A Parade No! Honor ATU members with a new contract!**

Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) represents members classified as essential employees who worked to make sure other essential workers, including doctors, nurses, police, grocery store clerks and others, reached their jobs and returned home safely to their families. Our members cannot participate in any celebration when government officials allow the perpetuation of a system that puts our members at risk each day without a new contract while similar transit public servants already work under a new contract. Our members showed up to work despite real threats to their health and safety of a high increased risk of exposure to the coronavirus. Their heroism should not surprise anyone.

After the chaos and devastation of Superstorm Sandy, New Yorkers experienced how ATU Locals 726, 1056, 1179 and 1181 memberships and sister transit unions stepped up and helped New Yorkers get about on public buses while the MTA worked to resume subway service system-wide. Fast forward to today, our bus operators and maintainers stood on the frontlines of the fight against COVID-19; some – too many --losing their lives; and we stepped up despite our members working under an expired contract that the MTA REFUSES to update and treats our members as second-class workers without the same compensation afforded to our brothers and sisters at Local 100. Through ATU International, we strongly supported the inclusion of \$32 billion in emergency operating aid for public transportation in the recent federal Coronavirus relief package. We also supported the funding for state and localities knowing that funding shored shore up the support we receive from the State and the City.

ATU members need no parade; ATU members need a new contract – a contract based on pattern bargaining and we need hazard pay. Want to honor ATU's essential employees, help us secure a fair contract for the same work as those unions with whom the MTA has already settled. Settling our contracts collectively involves very little impact on the MTA overall operating budget.



*-Mark Henry, Pres./Business Agent, ATU Local 1056  
Chairman, ATU NYS Legislative Conference Board*

*-Danny Cassella, Pres./Business Agent, ATU Local 726*

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