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Local 1056, ATU re-elects Labor Activist I. Daneek Miller as President

Members of Amalgamated Transportation Union (ATU) Local No. 1056 re-elected labor activist I. Daneek Miller as their President on June 14, 2012. Miller, who completed a three-year term, won with 73% of the votes cast. Local 1056 represents drivers and mechanics who work for MTA New York City Transit's Queens bus division.



Miller overwhelmingly defeated his predecessor Ed Figueroa who received 19%.

“As President I endeavored to keep my promises to my brother and sister members when I campaigned three years ago,” stated Miller. “First and foremost was to secure a contract that halts diminishing earnings, protects work and maintains the value and integrity of Local 1056. Working together with my fellow board members and with the support of the members, we achieved that!”

Miller, a well-recognized champion and advocate for public transportation, is a long-time officer of the union, and serves on the executive board of the MTA Labor Coalition. As President, Daneek led the local's successful effort to secure fair wages for its members. He protected and enhanced members' benefits, fought successfully to maintain the bargaining unit's traditional work assignments, and spoke out for reforms that ensure the safety of transit workers and the riding public.

Daneek created coalitions with other transit unions, management and transit advocates to effect solutions to longstanding problems afflicting transit; this includes inadequate snow removal along many neighborhood bus routes and protecting riders and transit workers from assaults. He introduced initiatives to engage and empower the membership, including surveys, shop gates, more depot visits than before, enhanced newsletters and an improved website.



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His leadership instituted Education and Training for the officers to better service the members as they defend your rights as members and moved the union to contract for the long-sought building as voted for by the members several years back.

Daneek previously served as the Local's Recording Secretary and Political Action/ Legislative Liaison following a term as a member of the Local's Executive Board. As a union officer, Miller led the Local's fight against Regional Bus, and delivered the Assault and Pension Reforms and Veterans Buyback laws, negotiated the first-ever child care program for a municipal union in the United States, and coordinated "Fair Contract Rallies".

As a union activist he organized the community to save bus service and organized events to promote and support mass transit. His previous union activities include Chair of Child Care Committee, Delegate to International ATU and NYS AFL-CIO Conventions, Grievance Committee, Contract Negotiation Team, Operations Planning Meeting Chair and (Bus) Schedule Meeting Chair.

As a community activist, Daneek co-founded Brothers unlimited, a community-based organization that mentors and assists families in need and serves on the board of The New York City Middle School Baseball League. He is also on the board of the Southern Queens Parks Association. Daneek is active with the Guy R. Brewer and United for Progress Democratic Clubs and served on the Executive Council of the NYC Chapter of the Working Families Party. Setting an example for emulation by other union locals, under Daneek's leadership, Local 1056 sponsors and co-sponsor numerous community activities that bring residents together and provides them access to not only to recreation but information about government, available services, health care and employment. He organized joint community-labor rallies including in commemoration of the work of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King.

His educational background includes programs at Cornell University's School of Labor Relations, the City University of New York Transportation Research Institute at City College and the National Labor College.