



UNITED ASSOCIATION OF JOURNEYMEN AND APPRENTICES OF THE PLUMBING AND PIPE FITTING INDUSTRY

LOCAL UNION NO. 38

1621 MARKET STREET • SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

March 19, 2020

TO: ALL LOCAL 38 MEMBERS

RE: CANCELLATION OF APRIL 1, 2020 UNION MEETING
AND COVID 19 UPDATE

Dear Brothers & Sisters:

Due to the Coronavirus and the recent shelter-in-place by San Francisco Mayor London Breed and multiple other Counties, **we are cancelling the April 1st scheduled Union Meeting.** Also, the Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (JATC) has cancelled all classes at both San Francisco and Santa Rosa Training Centers until further notice. More updates will be coming out soon from the Apprentice office regarding classes.

After Mayor Breed's shut-down announcement, many jobs have closed down. As a result, we have hundreds of members calling the hall and signing the out of work list. I urge everyone who is affected by this shut down to sign the out of work list and sign up for State Unemployment Insurance ASAP. No one knows how long this will last. You do not need to come into the hall to sign the book, simply call the front office and someone will be able to help.

There have been many questions about which jobs should work and which should shut down. The bottom line is that it is up to the owners and General Contractors to make decisions whether or not a particular job falls under an exemption or not. If your job stays open, it is your right to go to work or not. **If you feel unsafe or sick, by all means don't go!**

If you work as an employee of the City and County of San Francisco, you are most likely still working. **If you are sent home by the City,** we have negotiated with the City that you will be placed on paid furlough until April 17th. We are continuing to talk to the City to get them to agree to extend this until this emergency is over.

The following changes are being implemented:

- Rotating office staff at the Union, Trust Fund and Apprenticeship offices.
Temporary hours: Monday thru Thursday 8am – 4 pm and Friday 8am – 12pm
(subject to change)
- Asking members to call or email questions and to not physically come into the Union Hall unless **absolutely necessary.**

- Asking members to check Local 38's social media, i.e., Website, Facebook and Instagram pages for most recent updates.
- Moving forms out of the "member only" section of our website to the home page so members have easy access to forms for vacation and holiday check withdrawals and also for supplemental unemployment benefits.
- Keeping dispatch in both San Francisco and Santa Rosa open.

Also, effective immediately, our Board of Trustees has **temporarily raised the benefit amount for Local 38's supplemental unemployment benefit.** Members must meet the hours requirements, be on the out of work list and be collecting unemployment from the State of California to be eligible for (SUB). Until now that benefit was \$100 a week. **The Board has decided to temporarily double it to \$200 per week for a maximum of 24 weeks.**

I have also waived all restrictions on accessing your vacation and holiday money, and if you fill out an advance request form (available on the website) you can access that money immediately. I only ask that you be patient when requesting vacation and holiday money and SUB monies since our Trust Fund has a rotating staff. They're doing the best that they can under these extreme circumstances.

As of today, I have not heard of any Local 38 members that have tested positive for COVID-19, and I pray that it stays that way. I want to assure all of you that we are doing everything we can to make sure our members and their families are safe for the duration of this crisis.

I hope these temporary changes help our members during this unprecedented emergency. This situation is constantly evolving and myself, our officers and our staff are doing everything in our power to address our member's needs. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Hall and ask for a Business Agent, or for me directly. I hope that you and your family are safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Larry Mazzola, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

LARRY MAZZOLA, JR.
Bus.Mgr. & Fin.Secty-Treas.