

# Local 237 Leader Accuses of HA Of Unreasonable Bargaining Stance

By DAN ROSENBLUM | Posted: Monday, December 29, 2014 5:30 pm

Negotiations between the Housing Authority and Teamsters Local 237, which represents 8,000 of its workers, have snagged, according to the local's president, Greg Floyd.

Though they met a few weeks ago for a bargaining session, Mr. Floyd said he hasn't heard the HA offer any proposals so far.

## 'Can't Bargain With Myself'

"I find myself thinking for myself and thinking with myself, but I have yet to find how I can negotiate with myself," he said. "I was essentially asked to do that."

The previous two-year contract with the agency, which granted members a pair of 4-percent raises, expired Dec. 14, 2010.

During an interview with the Daily News, HA Chair Shola Olatoye said she sought more flexibility from agency employees. The contract bars the HA from assigning maintenance staff to work outside the 8:30-a.m.-to-4:30-p.m. business day unless workers receive overtime, according to the report. The HA declined to elaborate upon Ms. Olatoye's remarks, citing the ongoing negotiations.

Mr. Floyd said based on what he's read in the media, he sees the HA's offer as putting forward work-rule changes without additional salary increases or incentives to accompany them. "It's a change in schedule," he said. "That's walking away with less."

## An Untenable Position

He added that it wasn't fair that his members would have to bend to meet the HA's financial



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GREGORY FLOYD: Pay more for scheduling changes.

troubles.

“So in other words, I’m the one guy that has to be treated differently than everybody else in the city?” he said. “And they don’t end up paying for anything, yet if I needed the benefit, I would have to pay for that benefit. What sense would that make? What employed labor-union leader would do that?”

The HA and the local are scheduled to continue negotiations this month. Local 237 reached a contract between the de Blasio administration and its 8,000-member citywide division in August. It also started negotiations for 3,000 skilled-trade workers Dec. 15.