



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF LABOR RELATIONS
40 Rector Street, New York, NY 10006-1705
<http://nyc.gov/olr>

ROBERT W. LINN
Commissioner

May 5, 2014

Harry Nespoli
Chair, Municipal Labor Committee
125 Barclay Street
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mr. Nespoli:

This is to confirm the parties' mutual understanding concerning the following issues:

1. Unless otherwise agreed to by the parties, the Welfare Fund contribution will remain constant for the length of the successor unit agreements, including the \$65 funded from the Stabilization Fund pursuant to the 2005 Health Benefits Agreement between the City of New York and the Municipal Labor Committee.
2. Effective July 1, 2014, the Stabilization Fund shall convey \$1 Billion to the City of New York to be used to support wage increases and other economic items for the current round of collective bargaining (for the period up to and including fiscal year 2018). Up to an additional total amount of \$150 million will be available over the four year period from the Stabilization Fund for the welfare funds, the allocation of which shall be determined by the parties. Thereafter, \$ 60 million per year will be available from the Stabilization Fund for the welfare funds, the allocation of which shall be determined by the parties.
3. If the parties decide to engage in a centralized purchase of Prescription Drugs, and savings and efficiencies are identified therefrom, there shall not be any reduction in welfare fund contributions.
4. There shall be a joint committee formed that will engage in a process to select an independent healthcare actuary, and any other mutually agreed upon additional outside expertise, to develop an accounting system to measure and calculate savings.

5. The MLC agrees to generate cumulative healthcare savings of \$3.4 billion over the course of Fiscal Years 2015 through 2018, said savings to be exclusive of the monies referenced in Paragraph 2 above and generated in the individual fiscal years as follows: (i) \$400 million in Fiscal Year 2015; (ii) \$700 million in Fiscal Year 2016; (iii) \$1 billion in Fiscal Year 2017; (iv) \$1.3 billion in Fiscal Year 2018; and (v) for every fiscal year thereafter, the savings on a citywide basis in health care costs shall continue on a recurring basis. At the conclusion of Fiscal Year 2018, the parties shall calculate the savings realized during the prior four-year period. In the event that the MLC has generated more than \$3.4 billion in cumulative healthcare savings during the four-year period, as determined by the jointly selected healthcare actuary, up to the first \$365 million of such additional savings shall be credited proportionately to each union as a one-time lump sum pensionable bonus payment for its members. Should the union desire to use these funds for other purposes, the parties shall negotiate in good faith to attempt to agree on an appropriate alternative use. Any additional savings generated for the four-year period beyond the first \$365 million will be shared equally with the City and the MLC for the same purposes and subject to the same procedure as the first \$365 million. Additional savings beyond \$1.3 billion in FY 2018 that carry over into FY 2019 shall be subject to negotiations between the parties.

6. The following initiatives are among those that the MLC and the City could consider in their joint efforts to meet the aforementioned annual and four-year cumulative savings figures: minimum premium, self-insurance, dependent eligibility verification audits, the capping of the HIP HMO rate, the capping of the Senior Care rate, the equalization formula, marketing plans, Medicare Advantage, and the more effective delivery of health care.

7. Dispute Resolution

- a. In the event of any dispute under this agreement, the parties shall meet and confer in an attempt to resolve the dispute. If the parties cannot resolve the dispute, such dispute shall be referred to Arbitrator Martin F. Scheinman for resolution.
- b. Such dispute shall be resolved within 90 days.
- c. The arbitrator shall have the authority to impose interim relief that is consistent with the parties' intent.
- d. The arbitrator shall have the authority to meet with the parties at such times as the arbitrator determines is appropriate to enforce the terms of this agreement.
- e. If the parties are unable to agree on the independent health care actuary described above, the arbitrator shall select the impartial health care actuary to be retained by the parties.
- f. The parties shall share the costs for the arbitrator and the actuary the arbitrator selects.

If the above accords with your understanding and agreement, kindly execute the signature line provided.

Sincerely,



Robert W. Linn
Commissioner

Agreed and Accepted on behalf of the Municipal Labor Committee

BY: 

Harry Nespoli, Chair