



RAIL TRAM & BUS UNION

Tram & Bus Division

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Industrial Action Update: Stoppage on 28 November

25 November 2019

On Friday last week, members were sent a bulletin from Yarra Trams in which they urged the RTBU to withdraw the planned stoppage this Thursday, 28 November due to claims about safety.

The facts are that Yarra Trams waited three weeks after the RTBU notified Yarra Trams of the stoppage to raise alleged safety concerns for the first time. Yarra Trams claimed there was a shortfall of necessary staff to perform TOD duties at the beginning and end of the stoppage because the stoppage occurs at the same time as construction on William Street in the city.

Yarra Trams threatened to apply to the Fair Work Commission for an order that the stoppage not go ahead.

In response, the RTBU questioned Yarra Trams' claims and offered to make arrangements to meet Yarra Trams' claimed concerns. Yarra Trams responded today saying that if we made particular arrangements the stoppage could go ahead, and they won't make the Fair Work Commission application.

We do not accept Yarra Trams' alleged safety concerns are genuine, but rather than focus our efforts on fighting a Fair Work Commission application, we have decided to agree that the following members will **not** be participating in the stoppage:

- Members employed at the Operations Centre in the classifications of Controller Operations Centre or Officer Operations; and
- Members employed as a Depot Trainer or Relief Depot Trainer at the Brunswick, Camberwell, Essendon, Kew, Malvern or Southbank Depots.

We wish to extend our gratitude to these members. They want to take part in the stoppage but will now not do so in order to allow us to shut down the network and put pressure on Yarra Trams to come up with a better offer!

Standing together, we will achieve a fair deal!

Tarik Koç
Secretary

Mario Mizzi
Assistant Secretary