



# RAIL TRAM & BUS UNION

Tram & Bus Division

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## OPERATIONS EBA BARGAINING UPDATE

14 January 2020

Today, we met with Yarra Trams for the first bargaining meeting of the year.

Yarra Trams had committed at the last bargaining meeting to providing information to the RTBU about our critical claims. Unfortunately, Yarra Trams engaged in more of the same immature games and refused to provide sensible responses to our requests. We have insisted that Yarra Trams provide responses about our critical claims at our next bargaining meeting.

Yarra Trams presented the meeting with a so-called “new part-time proposal”. The RTBU will consider this proposal and provide our response. We note that while the proposal is described as “new” it contains most of the key features of the last part-time position that was overwhelmingly rejected by members.

In their “new” proposal, Yarra Trams is:

- **still** seeking a mass part-time workforce of 15%;
- **still** seeking to introduce short shifts of 3 hours;
- **still** seeking to use an army of part-time workers to perform overtime without being paid overtime rates – which will reduce the availability of VOT for full-time drivers;
- **still** seeking to reduce your take home pay; and
- **still** seeking to undermine your job security.

In our discussion about their part-time claim, **Yarra Trams stated:**

**“All responsible organisations are always seeking to reduce their labour and overtime costs”**

**This is what Yarra Trams’ plans are all about. Yarra Trams wants to reduce its labour and overtime costs. They have admitted they want to reduce your take home pay.**

Disgracefully, Yarra Trams has threatened to not agree to back pay to 1 July 2019 if we don’t agree to their next offer. This is more of the same shameful attempted bullying by Yarra Trams.

But we won’t be intimidated by this ridiculous threat. Fighting together, we will achieve a fair deal! Our next bargaining meeting is on Wednesday, 22 January 2020.

**Tarik Koç**  
Secretary

**Mario Mizzi**  
Assistant Secretary