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Press Release

City Bus Driver Union Uncovers Information Unknown to Fresno City Managers.

An investigation by ATU 1027 Fresno, uncovers items regarding the new City of Fresno Director of Transportation Ken Hamm.

Fresno has been without a full-time Director of Transportation since the promotion of Bruce Rudd to Assistant City Manager in 2005. ATU was aware the City of Fresno was conducting a search for a replacement for Rudd. ATU repeatedly inquired of Assistant City Manager Bruce Rudd and others as to who the new Director of Transportation would be. According to ATU Union President Rick Steitz, Mr. Rudd's response was, "I'll announce it November 6th" "ATU was told October 30th, of Ken Hamm's hiring as an off handed remark in an unrelated meeting by Ken Phillips, Labor Relations Manager for the City of Fresno" Rick Steitz said. Hamm is the former General Manager of Lane Transit District (LTD). LTD provides transportation services to Eugene-Springfield, Oregon and surrounding communities. Steitz wonders why the City of Fresno deliberately concealed the hiring of Ken Hamm from ATU, other labor organizations and the public until Monday October 30, 2006. When told the name of the new Director, Steitz decided to do a Google search and came up with numerous news accounts of troubles Hamm had while the General Manager of LTD. According to published reports in The Eugene Weekly newspaper, these troubles included a \$150,000 settlement to former LTD Human Resources Manager David Dickman. In October 2002, Dickman filed a complaint against Hamm with the Government Standards and Practices

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Commission (GSPC), alleging, among other things, that Hamm had used public resources for personal use, in violation of state law according to a Eugene Weekly article. Hamm fired Dickman in April 2003. Dickman filed a complaint with the Bureau of Labor and Industry (BOLI) Civil Rights Division alleging, among other things, that Hamm had retaliated against him for filing the original complaint with the GSPC. A BOLI investigator found substantial evidence that Hamm had retaliated against Dickman, and Dickman filed a lawsuit against LTD, Hamm and Assistant General Manager Mark Pangborn. In February 2005 the defendants settled the case with Dickman, agreeing to pay him \$150,000. All of these items were reported in articles published in the Eugene Weekly Newspaper. According to Steitz, this information was brought to Mr. Rudd in two meetings. Rudd claims not to have known about any of the allegations of wrong doing by Hamm. Steitz went as far as assigning ATU officials the task of talking directly with some of Hamm's current and former employees. "Everyone I talked to up in Oregon had extremely unflattering remarks about this guy", said Adam Raimer, Secretary/Treasurer of ATU Local 1027.

Monday November 6, 2006 was the first day of work for new Director of Transpiration Ken Hamm, which set off protests by outraged employees. ATU and other labor organizations oppose Hamm's hiring until such time as the allegations against him have been fully explained and defended.

Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1027 has been chartered as a local of the Amalgamated Transit Union International since 1934 in Fresno California and represents nearly 400 transit workers in Central California. These workers include Bus Drivers, Para-Transit Drivers, Mechanics, Service Workers, Dispatchers, and Reservationists for the City of Fresno and City of Tulare.

For more information and links to the cited news source articles, please visit:

<http://www.atu1027.org/hamm.htm>