

Local Union Meets With City for Extension Talks Today

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Opening salvos today in contract extension negotiations between the city of La Crosse and its biggest union. Rich Smith heads SEIU 180. He's meeting with the city today with the understanding that the lack of an extension beyond this year has dire consequences for his members because of the new law limiting collective bargaining powers for unions. He says that one year extension could be huge because it would give his members one more year of certainty before potentially losing all sorts of protections and benefits.

Smith says sometimes contract negotiations can drag on for months. This time he's got a week before the new law goes into effect.