

May 2023 Louisville DSA Local Convention Proposals Compendium

Prepared by the Proposals Subcommittee

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Bylaws Amendments

Bylaws Amendment 1: Address Steering Committee Membership Numbers

Sponsors: Austin Clark, Jared Cassity, Gilman Bagga, Nick Conder, Z Perez, Michael Blackwood, Richard Cabanas, JP Lyninger, Cara Tobe, Tyler Lamon, Richard Williams, Ed Woodson

Rationale:

Currently our steering committee has 8 members. 7 were elected at the last local convention, 1 was added when, per our bylaws, UofL YDSA was officially recognized by National. Thankfully, this has not caused the steering committee a great deal of trouble thus far, but we should ensure that we address this issue now by expanding the steering committee at this convention. If we choose not to expand the steering committee, all motions with tie votes will fail.

This chapter convention should increase the number of steering committee members to 9, by changing the number of at-large officers, to bring us to an odd number.

The co-sponsors of this amendment recognize this is but a band-aid approach, as adding more branches could put us back in the same place, it is with this in mind that the chapter should direct the steering committee to act in creating a more permanent solution.

Effective text:

Resolved,

1. The Louisville DSA Local Bylaws will be amended as follows:

ARTICLE V. Local Officers: Powers and Duties.

Section 1. Officers and Terms.

The officers of the Local will be two Co-Chairs, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and ~~three~~ **four** at-large officers. Elections shall be held once every year at the Local Convention, at which time two co-chairs and ~~five~~ **six** at-large officers shall be elected. Co-Chair elections will take place at the annual Local Convention, after which the remaining Steering Committee elections will take place. The Secretary and the Treasurer shall be selected by the Steering Committee from among its at-large membership. No more than ~~four~~ **five** of the ~~seven~~ **eight** officers shall be a white man, and no more than one of the two Co-Chairs shall be a white man. No individual may serve more than two consecutive full terms as Co-Chair, but there will be no lifetime maximum.

2. The incoming Steering Committee of the Local (or its designees) will be tasked with considering long-term solutions to this issue and presenting them to the Local as soon as possible, but no later than the 2024 local convention.

Bylaws Amendment 2: Change Steering Committee Vacancy Procedure

Sponsors: Austin Clark, Jared Cassity, Michael Blackwood, Cara Tobe, Tyler Lamon, Gilman Bagga, Richard Cabanas, Richard Williams

Rationale:

Currently, our bylaws allow the steering committee to appoint any vacancies for the remainder of a term. This has benefits, it allows the steering committee to quickly fill a seat so that the regular business of the steering committee can resume unimpeded by the vacancy.

However, the steering committee is elected by the membership directly every convention, this should remain the case for any vacancies that arise.

To synthesize the benefits of the steering committee appointing vacancies while respecting the democracy of our chapter, the co-sponsors propose we allow the steering committee to appoint acting members that will fill the vacated role while a special election is conducted per our Bylaws' election procedure.

Note: Our bylaws adequately address how this special election would be held. See Article X, sections 1 through 3.

Effective Text:

Resolved,

The Louisville DSA Local Bylaws will be amended as follows:

ARTICLE V. Local Officers: Powers and Duties.

Section 2. Vacancies.

In the event of a vacancy of Local office, the Local Steering Committee will **immediately** appoint **an acting member to fill the position** ~~a replacement for the remainder of the term. until a special election is held for the remainder of the term.~~ **The Local Co-Chairs will release a statement notifying the membership of the vacancy. The acting member will fill the officer role held by the previous member (Co-Chair, Secretary, etc) until it is filled by special election.**

Priority Resolutions

Priority Resolution 1: For A Socialist Government of Louisville

Priority Resolution submitted to 2023 LDSA Local Convention

Sponsored by: JP Lyninger, Nick Conder, Austin Clark

Rationale

Louisville is controlled by the capitalist class. Nearly every single representative from the Mayor on down to our Metro Council is bought and paid for with campaign donations and other largesse directly from real estate developers, large corporations, small business owners, and other enemies of the working class. Louisville DSA's task is to change that dynamic, and to establish democratic self-governance for the working class majority of Louisville. This priority resolution will continue the work of the LDSA electoral committee and direct it for the upcoming year. It will establish a Socialists in Office mechanism to assist DSA members holding elected office and allow for accountable, democratic co-governance with our chapter's membership. It will set electoral targets for the 2024 elections and set us on the path towards winning elections and building an electoral apparatus capable of winning and wielding power.

Effective Text

Louisville DSA will designate the work of the Electoral Committee as a chapter priority between now and the 2024 Local Convention. The Electoral Committee shall be assigned four significant tasks in addition to its ongoing roles:

1. Establish a Socialists in Office program
 - a. At the General Meeting following the 2023 Local Convention the chapter will elect a Socialists In Office subcommittee chair.
 - b. The Socialists in Office subcommittee will be composed of the chair and 6 members, nominated by the Electoral Chair and approved by the Steering Committee. The responsibilities of the subcommittee will be:
 - i. Meet quarterly to assess relationships between liaisons and endorsed electeds.
 - ii. Make formal recommendations to the General Meeting or Steering committee for chapter advice, support, statement, or action in relation to co-governance.
 - iii. The chair or their designee will present a report to each Electoral Committee meeting, information from which will be included by the Electoral Chair to their report to the General Meeting of the chapter.

- c. The members of the SIO subcommittee will serve as liaisons to each of the chapter's endorsed elected officials and have the following responsibilities:
 - i. Meet quarterly with their designated elected, either through a call or in-person meeting.
 - ii. Communicate at least once monthly by email or text communication channels.
 - iii. Communicate chapter requests to elected officials.
 - iv. Communicate elected requests for chapter support or advice to the General Meeting or Steering Committee.
 - d. The expectations of the member-elected are as follows:
 - i. Communicate with their liaison as described above.
 - ii. Present a report to a General Meeting of the chapter at least once per year.
 - iii. Understand that future endorsement from the chapter is dependent on fulfilling these duties.
2. Contest at least one Metro Council election in the 2024 Democratic Primary
 - a. By August 1, 2023 the Electoral Committee will identify the best target for a Metro Council campaign and begin determining a candidate
 - b. The Electoral Committee will also prepare an assessment of other good opportunities in 2024, including additional Metro Council or Kentucky State Representative elections, so long as they do not disrupt the top priority campaign
 3. Recruit candidates for School Board and Soil & Water Supervisor in the 2024 General Election
 - a. By January 1, 2024 the Electoral Committee will identify the two best targets for JCPS School Board campaigns
 - b. The Electoral Committee will work with DSA members on the JCPS board and with members involved in JCTA on recruiting suitable candidates
 - c. The Electoral Committee will work with our members on the Soil & Water Board to assess how many members should run for that board in 2024 and recruit suitable candidates
 4. Continue building our chapter's Electoral Infrastructure into a pre-party formation for workers in Louisville
 - a. The Electoral Committee will complete and produce an Electoral Handbook as a guide for DSA members engaged in electoral work
 - b. The Electoral Committee will engage in community level organizing in strategically chosen Metro Council districts to exist separate from and parallel to electoral campaigns in those districts
 - c. The Electoral Committee will work with the National DSA electoral body in mobilizing members in Louisville and other chapters toward the creation of a volunteer network which can assist DSA campaigns
 - d. The Electoral Committee will work with the Labor Committee on organizing DSA members in GLCLC-affiliated unions with the goal of reorienting labor political strategies toward class independent politics and away from the Democratic Party establishment
 - e. The Electoral Committee will explore the creation of infrastructure and tools which could help elevate socialist electoral work, including but not limited to an LDSA-affiliated Political Action Committee

Priority Resolution 2: Building A Militant Labor Movement 2023 Priority

Submitted to the 2023 Louisville DSA Local Convention

Authors: Gilman B., Jared C., Nick C., Richard C., Katie P., Jo S.

Whereas, the working class leverages unique power over the capitalist class through its ability to disrupt capitalist production, and

Whereas, through worker militancy and strikes, the working class can force corporations to yield to our demands for better working conditions and living wages, and

Whereas, democratic and militant union organizing is necessary to leverage such power, and

Whereas, socialists organizing for democratic and militant unions as rank-and-file leaders can also raise the class consciousness of their co-workers and recruit their co-workers to canvass for DSA candidates and universal socialist legislation at the ballot box,

Therefore, be it resolved, Louisville DSA shall adopt the following objectives and tasks as the labor priorities for our chapter until the next Louisville DSA Convention.

Objectives

- Continue the UPS DSA Strike Solidarity efforts of our chapter for the duration of the campaign.
- Form a Logistics Labor Cohort, an Educators Labor Cohort, and a Metro Government Labor Cohort. Establish governing principles for these bodies, as well as a mechanism for forming new Labor Cohorts.
- In coordination with the Louisville DSA Political Education Committee, draft a learning module around *Secrets of a Successful Organizer* and *No Shortcuts*. Have all Louisville DSA members seriously engaged in labor work go through this training.
- Establish Solidarity Captains for all Louisville DSA labor solidarity work for chapter coordination with labor unions in our area.

Tasks

A) UPS DSA Strike Solidarity

The chapter shall continue its work on the approved UPS DSA Strike Solidarity campaign, including, but not limited to,

- Coordinating with the UofL YDSA chapter with their Strike Solidarity efforts;
- Allocating chapter funds to print out DSA member pledge cards;
- Creating turfs and canvassing our membership to both
 - (1) maximize the number of members and community allies we can turn out to a potential picket line and
 - (2) create a complete labor map of where our members work and if they are part of a union for future labor projects;
- Engaging in external facing communications to show solidarity for the IBT's contract campaign;

- Hosting events to raise funds for strike solidarity materials;
- Coordinating a sign-up and shift time lists for carpooling to a potential picket line;
- Using the momentum following the conclusion of the IBT's contract campaign to recruit interested Teamsters and DSA members into future labor efforts, including our rank-and-file cohorts and our labor education programming; and
- Drafting a case study of the Louisville Logistics Labor Cohort and DSA UPS Strike Solidarity efforts.

The Logistics Labor Cohort and the elected Solidarity Captains shall form the executive body for the duration of this DSA campaign, at which point this executive body shall be dissolved. This campaign shall last no later than December 1st, 2023, unless a UPS Teamsters strike is still ongoing, at which point the campaign shall terminate at the end of the strike.

For the duration of the campaign, the labor map shall be held by the Louisville DSA Solidarity Captains, Labor Committee chair, and Steering Committee members approved to have access to membership rolls. After the end of the campaign, the labor map shall be held and maintained by the Louisville DSA Labor Committee chair and Steering Committee members approved to have access to membership rolls.

B) *Labor Cohorts*

The governing principles for DSA Louisville Labor Cohorts are as follows:

1. Labor Cohorts, which may be referred to as Labor "Harveys," shall be groupings of Louisville DSA workers based on industry, workplace, or union—whichever makes the most sense for organizing in their labor context.
2. Labor Cohorts can be established by convention priority, or by petition of five Louisville DSA members in good standing who work inside a shared industry, workplace, or union.
3. Labor Cohorts shall be responsible for reporting their work to the Louisville DSA Labor Committee at a minimum of four times a year. These reports should include membership numbers and involvement, as well as the work being carried out by the Labor Cohort. These reports may be done in executive session, at the discretion of the Louisville DSA Labor Committee.
4. Labor Cohorts shall be chaired by a worker from their Labor Cohort, to be democratically elected by their Labor Cohort following every Louisville DSA Convention. A Labor Cohort chair may be impeached by a two-thirds vote of their Labor Cohort at any time, after which a new election for chair shall take place.
5. The requirements for joining a Labor Cohort are as follows: they must be a Louisville DSA member in good standing; they must belong to the relevant industry, workplace, or union of the Labor Cohort; they must not be in violation of the bylaws of the local or national organization; and they must be approved to join by both the Louisville DSA Labor Committee chair and the

relevant Labor Cohort chair.

6. A worker may be removed from a Labor Cohort for malfeasance, nonfeasance, or exit of their relevant industry or union, based on a two-thirds vote of their Labor Cohort.
7. Any work that the Labor Cohort undertakes that (1) explicitly uses the name of DSA and (2) is external facing work outside the purview of normal labor education and recruitment must be approved by the Louisville DSA Labor Committee or General Meeting.
8. A Labor Cohort may be dissolved for malfeasance or nonfeasance by a two-thirds vote of a General Meeting. A proposal to dissolve a labor cohort must give two weeks notice before a vote.

Louisville DSA shall establish Logistics, Educators, and Metro Government Labor Cohorts, with the following tasks:

- The Logistics Labor Cohort will consist of workers from UPS, other logistics industries, and relevant Teamsters 89 staff. The Logistics Labor Cohort shall engage, educate, and organize workers democratically for better conditions and militancy in their workplaces. In coordination with Louisville DSA, UofL YDSA, and other YDSA formations should they form, the Logistics Labor Cohort shall identify and recruit DSA and YDSA members who already work in strategic logistics industries and encourage members to industrialize in strategic logistic industries. The Logistics Labor Cohort, in conjunction with the Louisville DSA Solidarity Captains, shall form the executive body for the DSA UPS Strike Solidarity campaign for the duration of the campaign. The Logistics Labor Cohort shall attempt to have a membership of 12 workers by the end of 2023.
- The Educators Labor Cohort will consist of educators in K-12 or higher education. The Educators Labor Cohort shall educate, engage, and organize workers—in coordination with aligning organizations, including national education-focused labor movements like the Caucus of Rank and File Educators—democratically for better conditions and militancy in their workplaces. The Educators Labor Cohort shall recruit educators into DSA and support Louisville DSA members who are seeking roles in education or have roles in education with organizing within their schools, districts, and union. The Educators Labor Cohort shall coordinate with the Louisville DSA Communications, Electoral, and Labor Committees around any community or electoral campaigns for the defense or improvement of public education.
- The Metro Government Labor Cohort will consist of workers who are employed by Louisville Metro Government or related agencies. The Metro Government Labor Cohort shall engage, educate, and organize workers democratically for better conditions and militancy in their workplaces. The Metro Government Labor Cohort shall recruit relevant workers into DSA and support Louisville DSA members who are seeking roles inside Metro Government. The Metro Government Labor Cohort shall coordinate with the Louisville DSA Communications, Electoral, and Labor Committees around any community or electoral campaigns for the defense and improvement of public services in Louisville Metro.

C) Labor Education

The Labor Committee shall designate active Louisville DSA labor organizers to coordinate with the

Louisville DSA Political Education Committee to draft a learning module around the books *Secrets of a Successful Organizer* and *No Shortcuts*.

The learning module shall consist of lesson plans, reading questions, and answer keys around materials from the two books, as well as specific workshops on how to engage in workplace mapping and list building.

The Labor Committee shall host regular education events for a reading group around these materials by no later than October. The Labor Committee shall advertise these events to all of our members, and strongly encourage all members of Labor Cohorts to come to these events.

D) Labor Solidarity Work

For the purpose of any strike solidarity efforts or community campaign that involves a labor union or labor grouping in our area in which we do not have any existing Labor Cohort, the Labor Committee shall elect at least one solidarity captain for each union or labor grouping with whom we are interfacing. The solidarity captain shall remain captain for the duration of the campaign or until the 2024 Louisville DSA Local Convention, whichever is first.

For labor groupings created by Louisville DSA, all labor specific work shall occur through the Labor Committee.

Resolutions

Resolution 1: Resolution to Nominate Cara Tobe as a candidate for National Political Committee

May 9th, 2023

Co-Sponsors: Michael Blackwood, Tyler Lamon, Austin Clark, Gilman Bagga, Richard Cabanas, Cara Tobe, Richard Williams

Whereas, Democratic Socialists of America will be convening their 2023-2025 National Convention in Chicago from August 4th - 6th, 2023.

Whereas, it is at the National Convention where candidates for the National Political Committee (NPC) for the 2-year term will be voted upon by the delegates elections for the 2023-2025 term.

Whereas, all candidates for the National Political Committee must be nominated by either the chapter of which they are a member, a recognized National Working Group or Committee, or by a majority vote of the current NPC.

Whereas, nominations to be a candidate for the NPC are not an endorsement of the candidate by the chapter.

Whereas, Cara Tobe has been an active member of Louisville DSA since her joining in 2020.

Whereas, Cara Tobe has served in multiple roles in DSA both at the chapter level and nationally. Those roles include, but are not limited to, Chapter Co-Chair and Labor Committee Co-Chair locally, as well as Co-Chair of the Green New Deal Campaign Commission nationally.

Whereas, Cara Tobe has shown to be constructive in her work for the organization and comradely towards her fellow members in DSA, both locally and nationally.

Therefore, be it resolved, the Louisville Democratic Socialists of America nominates Cara Tobe to be a candidate for the National Political Committee for the 2023-2025 term.

Resolution 2: Resolution: Enhancing Committee Scheduling

Sponsors: Austin Clark, Cara Tobe, Michael Blackwood, Richard Cabanas, Gilman Bagga

Rationale:

It's no secret to the most active of our membership that we have trouble with attendance at our many committee meetings. This isn't because of a lack of interest in the work itself, but because of the frequency of meetings and the sometimes light agendas we have at them. It's a tough proposition to suggest working people travel a considerable distance for a light agenda. For example, some comrades have to travel a total of 40 minutes for a meeting that may last that long or less. This can be addressed in part by utilizing our hybrid structure or going fully online, but it doesn't alleviate the problem of such frequent meetings being a burden on one's schedule. Because of the frequency, people end up choosing the committees they care most about and we miss out on their input in others where they may have something of value to contribute.

All of this isn't to suggest that these committees aren't valuable, they are, but it begs an interesting question: **if the committee is important enough to keep, if the work is worthwhile, then how do we motivate our membership to participate?**

The answer is clear; we should first address structural burdens on attendance. During this past year, the LDSA Political Education Committee put on a very successful syllabus series. When scheduling several of these events it became clear that we would have to stack the event with a committee meeting because of calendar conflicts. On those days we experienced excellent turnout for both the syllabus series event and the committee meeting. The merit of this idea will be obvious to all who attended these and we should apply this structure to our other meetings to drive up turnout.

Therefore, the chapter should instruct the incoming committee chairs to prioritize stacking their committee meetings to reduce the number of meeting days. Specifically in this format:

1. The Communications Committee, the Membership Engagement Committee, and the Political Education Committee
 - a. Often observed to have lighter agendas and/or to be inward-focused or administrative.
2. The Electoral Committee and the Labor Committee
 - a. Externally facing, contain campaigns that require report backs or detailed discussion.

The co-sponsors of this resolution do recognize that flexibility is necessary, so while this structure should be strived for, the chairs are not bound to it should material conditions dictate another arrangement for a particular meeting.

Effective Text:

Resolved,

1. The chapter will instruct the standing committee chairs to prioritize stacking their meetings on the same day in the following groupings:
 - a. The Communications Committee, the Membership Engagement Committee, and the Political Education Committee
 - b. The Electoral Committee and the Labor Committee
2. The standing committee chairs will be able to alter this arrangement for a particular meeting should the material conditions necessitate it.

Resolution 3: Louisville DSA - Transit Campaign Proposal

Co-sponsors: Michael B., Cara T., MaKayla E., Richard C., Nick C., Austin C.,

Summary

Louisville DSA will work in partnership with ATU Local 1447 to run a pressure campaign on the Metro Council and the Mayor's office to allocate a permanent TARC funding increase in this session's budget. Together, ATU and LDSA will gather data on TARC services issues and funding misses, and use these to inform the pressure campaign language. Not only would the campaign request an increase in funding, but also shine a public spotlight on areas for improvement within TARC where funding could be applied. Pressure will ramp up alongside both the city's budget cycle and ATU's contract negotiations in early 2024.

Background

Over the past few months, we have developed a relationship with ATU 1447 and Louisville DSA has an opportunity to strengthen this relationship **by strategizing with the union as equal partners to build power for the working class**. During the Tyler Lamon campaign, we had our DSA cadre candidate run on a platform of improving public transit and making public transit carbon neutral, but we had no formal relationship with ATU 1447 at the time. Over the course of the last months, Louisville DSA has built such a relationship with ATU 1447. As one of the primary community groups to support their contract fight, Louisville DSA has consistently demonstrated solidarity with the union by participating in their rallies, Metro Council hearings, TARC Board meetings, and other aspects of their pressure campaign. As the campaign will work heavily with local unions beyond just ATU, as well as TARC ridership, this will be an opportunity to build power for Louisville DSA membership and grow ties with organized labor in the city. Transit campaigns have been effective at building power for other DSA chapters. Students typically have a high ridership percentage, so this can also build power for YDSA.

The legislation currently funding TARC is from 1974, and has not kept pace with the needs of TARC. Lack of operational funding has created numerous issues, such as the inability to guarantee all routes are running, maintenance issues, wage issues, and contracting out services like TARC 3. The Mayor proposes a budget each April which is approved by the Metro Council by the end of June. This is an opportunity to work in cooperation with ATU to pull in TARC riders, advocacy groups and unions to apply pressure to the Mayor and Metro Council to create permanent funding for TARC in the budget moving forward to put money into a public good that will improve the quality of life for working class Louisvillians while decreasing the need for cars.

This campaign is a first step in building momentum for transit wins in Louisville. We aim for continued cooperation with ATU following this budget pressure campaign, building on this momentum by calling for leadership change within TARC which is a direct ask of the union, and then supporting ATU's fight for contract wins in May - July of 2024. Public support, centered by Louisville DSA, can build the confidence and organizing muscles of not only our own membership, but the rank-and-file members of ATU. These skills can be carried

into further longer-term larger wins, such as launching ballot initiatives to restructure TARC funding and tax increases.

Goals

- Metro Council/Mayor to allocate a permanent funding increase for TARC
 - Specific funding target will be developed with ATU input to align with specific operational goals
- Pressure TARC Board to apply this funding to achieve operational goals such as:
 - Increased frequency to no longer than 15 min. between buses
 - Increase on time performance to 95%
 - Expanded rapid transit
 - Increased wages for operators, etc and hire more to increase route frequency
 - Service feasibility improvements:
 - Larger, updated signage
 - Covered stops
 - Tap and pay
- Build power for Louisville DSA through recruitment of new members, including rank-and file transit workers, and developing members into leadership roles
- Build power for working people by supporting rank and file ATU member efforts to organize for better workplace conditions and better public services
- Build public support awareness around improving TARC for future organizing
- Build pressure on TARC leadership / the Mayor to replace TARC leadership with people who will actually have a vision and will act to make TARC better
 - Long term goal of Carrie Butler removed from her role as Executive Director

Strategy

- Define pressure campaign around community engagement and pressure utilizing grassroots growth tactics and direct demands to Mayor/Metro Council
- Work in coalition with relevant interest groups and affected workers
 - ATU, Streets 4 People, Disability Coalition, Louisville CLC, Teamsters, UAW, etc
- Leverage public pressure surrounding relevant political events
 - ATU Contract Negotiations in 2024
 - Metro Council Elections
- Campaign language and tone influenced by condition of TARC services
 - Highlighting current TARC deficiencies
 - Aligned with both campaign goals and ridership feedback
 - Positive tone with focus on how increased funding can be used to provide specific improvements for TARC and the experience for ridership. Building up TARC vs only “fixing it”

Tactics

- Create a campaign name and structure that LDSA can be the core of, but gives cover to the union and allows us to bring in more coalition partners such as the Disabilities Advocacy group and Streets For People
 - Messaging to be positive, “better world is possible” = “[Louisville. Look what we can do](#)”
 - Engage & collaborate with potential partners, supporters
 - Disability Coalition, Teamsters, IUE-CWA, UAW, Louisville CLC, etc.
- Gather data on service issues and budget to shape campaign messaging and literature

- Ridership survey to DSA members and other groups
 - ✚ Copy of Transit Rider Survey (Responses)
- Open Records Requests for service deficiencies and budget
- Other research as determined
- Community engagement & recruiting efforts
 - Ridership & neighborhood canvassing to include a recruiting sign-up form
 - Attend and speak at TARC Board and Metro Council meetings to apply pressure through public comment
 - Coordinated phone zaps and letter campaign
 - Set up prescript letters on ActionNetwork for Metro Council, TARC Board, and/or Mayor
 - Postcards to the Mayor's office
 - Target Metro Council members with strategic importance (i.e. Pat Mulvihill, etc)
 - Letter writing campaign will adjust as city works through budget process, based on how Mayor's proposal aligns with campaign goals
 - Petition signing
 - Tabling events
 - Town hall events to further shape workers' demands & messaging, including recruiting new DSA members and volunteers to the campaign
 - Town hall events to engage wielders of power
- Help rank and file ATU members organize mass workplace and community support for their demands and leverage their power as strategic workers to win
- Build power for Louisville DSA
 - Intentional one-on-one recruiting through public engagement activities
 - Align with and direct people to formal DSA onboarding events
 - Collaboration between ATU members in DSA with other Metro Government workers active in the labor committee
- Connect our transit campaign to fights for better public transit happening across the country by signing on as a Building for Power campaign with DSA's National Green New Deal Campaign Commission. The national body will provide our chapter and this campaign assistance in coaching, training, resources, and cross-chapter collaboration as part of the Building for Power campaign.
- Develop communications strategy that highlights importance of funding public transit in Louisville, how it aligns with Louisville 2040 plan, etc that includes but is not limited to:
 - Website
 - Name for campaign
 - Logo
 - Social media
 - Campaign whatsapp/chat
 - Flyers / literature to pass out at tabling, canvassing, etc.

Timeline

May - June

- Detailed planning, power mapping, finalizing campaign messaging and branding, etc. all alongside ATU. ATU has asked for a roundtable between our campaign team and their Executive Committee so we can work collaboratively together and grow the relationship. *A more specific timeline will be established in those conversations.*
- Continued conversations with ATU, present plan to ATU Local 1447 at one of their meetings

July - September

- Campaign launch, including website, graphics, and signup forms
- Tabling during Flea Off Markets and other events where opportunities arise
- Ridership canvassing at transit hubs, canvass neighborhoods who may benefit from increased investment in transit

October - December

- Host first town hall about transit in Louisville (more specific topic TBD)
- Continued field canvassing, tabling, etc.
- Begin preparing for January budget fight
- Have initial meetings with any campaign teams of DSA Metro Council candidates to align on platform, messaging, etc.

January - March

- Begin having conversations with critical council members, members of TARC leadership, and mayors administration
- Letter writing/pressure on Mayor in advance of budget proposal.
- Town Hall for people who wish to be engaged
- Continued field canvassing (ridership, neighborhoods, etc)

March - June

- Mayor presents Budget end of April
- Metro Council, Budget/Appropriations Meetings May-June
- Letter writing, public meeting pressure, etc on Metro Council based on Budget proposal's alignment with campaign goals
- Budget vote end of June
- ATU begins negotiating with TARC leadership on their next CBA, provide solidarity support for this campaign

July

- ATU contract expires, continue solidarity support for ATU 1447

Campaign Team

The campaign will start with two co-managers: Michael Blackwood and MaKayla Elder.

The co-managers will identify and recruit members to help lead campaign communications, field organizing, and any other roles which may need to be created. The campaign team will report to each General Meeting on its activities, and will route major requests for resources, partnerships, and communications to either the LDSA Steering Committee or a General Meeting. The campaign will expire at the 2024 Louisville DSA Convention unless explicitly reauthorized by a vote at that meeting.

Resolution 4: Maintaining Order by Designating a Parliamentarian

Sponsors: Austin Clark, Michael Blackwood, Allison Leake, Richard Williams, MaKayla Elder, Cara Tobe, Joshua Crowder

Rationale:

Our chapter uses Robert's Rules of Order to maintain order and make sure everyone's voice is protected in our meetings. Unfortunately, despite our best intentions, the rules can get away from us. The depth of the rules can make them difficult to grasp for even our most seasoned comrades and new folks may find them foreign and alienating when they first attend a meeting. Additionally, the co-chairs are tasked with maintaining order themselves when they have many other duties in the meeting setting (facilitating, taking stack).

Therefore, the chapter should allow the Steering Committee to appoint a Parliamentarian to serve as our chief expert on all things bylaws and Robert's Rules. Some members already volunteer information in an unofficial capacity, but we should formalize this role through our democratic process.

This individual would serve at the pleasure of the Steering Committee and would be an adviser to the co-chairs as they preside over the General Meeting. They would be encouraged to interject during the proceedings with points of order to steer the chapter back on track when it strays from the rules. They would also serve as a direct resource for questions about the rules or bylaws that members or the co-chairs may have during the meeting or outside of it.

Effective Text:

1. Following the local convention, the Steering Committee will appoint a Parliamentarian to serve until the next convention, or until a vote is held by the Steering Committee to appoint a replacement.
2. Should the Parliamentarian be absent for a meeting the Steering Committee may appoint a temporary Parliamentarian to fill the role for that meeting.
3. The Parliamentarian will familiarize themselves with the details of both the chapters bylaws and RONR.
4. The Parliamentarian will serve as the chief advisor to the co-chairs and membership during general meetings in all things related to parliamentary procedure.
5. The Parliamentarian will be expected to interject with points of order when rules have been violated.

Resolution 5: Organizing Workers in Defense of Queer and Trans Rights: Extension of SQWYD Campaign

Co-sponsors: Anna H., Jared C., Greta S., Nick C., Robert B., JP L.

Submitted to the LDSA Local Convention

Whereas:

- SB150, which has passed both houses of the Kentucky General Assembly, will endanger trans, non-binary, non-cis, and queer lives and livelihoods, especially for those who are working class.
- The bill restricts the rights of all trans, non-binary, non-cis, and queer Kentuckians under the age of 18, and puts teachers, healthcare providers, and other workers at risk of career and legal consequences for doing their job in an ethical and queer-affirming way
- The Socialists Queer and Youth Defense (SQWYD) was formed in April 2023 and already has mobilized volunteers and recruited into the chapter around this issue
- The courts are unlikely to overturn SB150 due to the fascist nature of preceding higher court rulings
- SQWYD has already formed relationships with EWOC, Dan Canon of the ACLU, and some teachers in JCTA, as well as various workers in other industries
- SQWYD has messaging that is unique from other groups which provides concrete solutions and centers worker power, and correlates with the work of LDSA's standing committees on labor and political education
- SQWYD has already collected meaningful thoughts, ideas, and suggestions from a successful town hall but has not had time to act on them given its current timeline

- The defense of people who do not conform to dominant frameworks of gender and sexuality is strongly related to LDSA's ongoing priority campaign to deliver political education from a socialist perspective on education, healthcare, and social reproduction, as well as our commitment to fighting oppression
- Whereas, organizing the rank-and-file of existing unions will be key to the defense of civil rights, utilizing the unions as tools for winning material demands for marginalized workers in a red state.
- Whereas, students and young workers are a key demographic who are being attacked by the state and having access to necessary care stripped from them.

Be it resolved that:

- The campaign will continue to be one of political education around SB150 and related threats to trans, non-binary, non-cis, and queer Kentuckians and workers.
- The campaign manager will be Anna Hardy.
- The campaign will carry out the following tasks:
 - Continue to hold town halls about SB150 and its consequences after the school year begins and the consequences are more visible
 - Hold canvasses in support of campaign activity
 - Hold public events such as tabling or workshops
 - Continue SQWYD's social media campaign which will educate the public on the issue from a class struggle perspective, including consequences to queer, trans, worker, youth and their responses to those consequences
 - Collect and publish video testimonials from those who will be affected by these bills such as patients, students, or workers.
 - Collaborate with UofL YDSA on building queer youth and labor organizing
 - Collaborate with the Labor Committee and YDSA to recruit workers or pipeline members of unions to organize for queer worker issues such as access to gender affirming care. Create a space in LDSA for these workers to organize among socialists for material demands and winning them through contract fights.
 - Coordinate with the Labor Committee and YDSA for rank-and-file organizing, using it as a pool of potential organizers, and a place to organize students in opposition to state legislation.
 - Build ties with members of existing unions that could defend queer youth by recruiting workers, coordinating solidarity, and providing space for improvement
 - Coordinate with existing unions to fight discrimination of queer folks
 - Conduct a strategic conversation on how queer socialists could organize LGBTQ+ working people and their allies in an effective ongoing manner
 - Fundraise for the chapter via the campaign using the peer to peer model
 - If the subcommittee deems it necessary, draft a proposal for further work for consideration at the November General Meeting
- The campaign will dissolve at the November General meeting of 2023 unless the chapter votes to extend it.