Straight Talk: I-81 Local Hire NOW Campaign

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What is the purpose of "I-81 Local Hire NOW"?

Short answer: **Good jobs on I-81 for Syracuse residents.** Federal law can let our local residents work on the I-81 construction project…but the State of New York has to let them.

The I-81 Viaduct project will bring 1,000s of good-paying, construction jobs to our city. According to our *Racial Equity Impact Statement*, the construction trade industry locally consists mostly of white males residing outside of Syracuse. This means that if the project started today, a majority of our city residents would not be able to get a job on the project.

What are UJTF's demands?

Urban Jobs Task Force of Syracuse (UJTF) has two major demands to bring **jobs, justice**, and **shared prosperity** to Syracuse:

1) **Demand 1**: A *pro*-Syracuse version of the federal government's Local Hire program. If Syracuse residents are included in this trusted federal program (called SEP-14 Local Hire) we will get Syracuse residents trained for and hired on I-81 construction;

2) **Demand 2**: A CWA-PLA agreement on I-81. A CWA-PLA includes unions and the community, which is the right thing to do.
   CWA = Community Workforce Agreements = community work opportunities
   PLA = Project Labor Agreement = trade union work opportunities

I heard Mayor Walsh has an "I-81 Jobs Big Table" – why can't that solve the problem?

Unfortunately, it cannot. UJTF got Mayor Walsh to call the Big Table. All the major local players for I-81 construction are there, including NYSDOT. But NYSDOT, unfortunately, has dragged its feet. Their actions tell us they want "business as usual."

This means no good-paying jobs for Syracuse residents. So the only way to make the Big Table produce **Demand #1**: Local Hire, and **Demand #2**: CWA-PLA is for each of us to demand it in ways large and small, every day. Think about it: If we do nothing, we will get just that: nothing.

What can I do to help?

① Make your own, personal pledge to support UJTF's two I-81 Demands!

② Sign the Petition, and learn more: **https://www.ujtf.org/i-81-campaign**

③ Ask your church or other organization to **make a public statement** in favor of Local Hire and UJTF's two (2) demands. Share on social media!

④ Tell your Friends, Neighbors, and Co-workers about the **I-81 Campaign for Local Hire**;

⑤ Make a donation of $5, $10, $20 to our campaign: **https://www.ujtf.org**

⑥ **Participate in this summer's I-81 Public Hearing.** Tell New York State officials what you want.

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