

Rally to support Park Merced workers
Thursday, April 23rd at Noon
Park Merced: Holloway Ave and 19th Ave

Park Merced workers urgently need your support. After years working as janitors and handymen at Park Merced, they all lost their jobs last week, when Park Merced laid them off and hired a non-union contractor.

Please sign on to a letter to the General Manager of Park Merced supporting the workers. Contact Jane Martin, jane.martin@seiu-usww.org

Chris Breaker
General Manager
Park Merced
3711 19th Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94132

Dear Mr. Breaker,

As elected leaders and community organizations in San Francisco we were very disturbed to hear of the recent move by Park Merced management to terminate your union maintenance contractor, subsequently leading to the termination of all janitorial and handymen workers. Park Merced is operating in a very lucrative housing market in San Francisco. It is no secret that while apartment owners are profiting more than ever before, working people are struggling with the skyrocketing rents in the Bay Area. Park Merced workers are no exception and need their jobs to support their families.

Many of VPM's janitors and handymen have been working at the site for a long time, some more than 20 years. They have dedicated their professional lives to providing service to residents at Park Merced. They have proven themselves as valued members of the community.

It is our understanding that a whole new group of janitorial employees has been brought to Park Merced by a new contractor, Preferred Building Services. This contractor hasn't offered jobs to the terminated employees, which, as we understand, is a violation of both San Francisco and California law. It is also our understanding that employees were offered a severance if they signed a voluntarily resignation agreement, but, regardless of signing this agreement, their employment was to be terminated. Employees were never offered the option of continuing work or any say in what their future at Park Merced would hold.

We urge you to require your contractor, Preferred Building Services, to hire the existing janitors and handymen as required by law. In the spirit of San Francisco, which Park Merced professes to represent, all workers should have dignity and security in their jobs so that they can live within the ever-increasing costs and demands of the Bay Area.