We held contract negotiations with management on September 16. We won this additional session after we confronted management for arriving late to our last session earlier this month!

We discussed flexing and made clear that we would only accept a rotation that is equitable in every department, including those with lead classifications. We have done all we can to put forward a fair and enforceable system and believe we are close to an agreement.

We also discussed the health plan, and requested more information from management about plan costs and coverages so we properly evaluate their proposal.

Since our August sessions, we had been awaiting a response from management on economics, and they finally provided one at our most recent bargaining session. However, their proposal showed very little movement: they only increased their wage proposal by a quarter of one percent in the third year of the contract, and they still included lump sum payouts instead of raises for many of our most senior co-workers. We must continue to take action together to move management to agree to a fair contract.

On another note, many of us were able to drop by the picket line to support Queen engineers during their strike last week. An engineer dropped by our bargaining session to let us know that their union will support us as we fight for a fair contract that improves working conditions and patient care.

For more information, please contact NUHW Organizer Tyler Kissinger at (510) 883-3479 or tkissinger@nuhw.org.