

City of Milwaukee Carpenters earn \$35.51/hour total package. This is based on a 2080 hour year, which is standard for calculating construction worker hours. Carpenters employed by the City earn 96% of the outside wage rate. The total package for a construction carpenter employed in the private sector is \$41.47/hour based on 2080 hours.

City of Milwaukee Painters earn \$33.44/ total package. Using the same hours for calculation purposes. They too earn 96% of the outside wage rate. The total package for construction painter employed in the private sector is \$37.94/hour.

And Electrical Mechanics employed by the City earn 37.64/hour total package. They are paid at 97% of the outside wage rate for journeyman electricians, who earn \$45.89hour in the private sector.

There is no way that the City can save money by laying off these tradesmen and privatizing the work. Time and material rates cannot come close to the charge out rates for city trades people. Even with inflated overhead charges the City becomes a loser.

The workforce has dwindled through attrition over these many years and it becomes harder and harder to meet the demands created by the enormous amount of work with the people who are still employed. Having said this, they do an excellent job. I would ask the question, however, of DPW. How much more work will be backlogged and not done as a result of these layoffs and what does that mean to the citizens of the City of Milwaukee.

I have watched the privatization of the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District decimate those facilities. Privateers do the bare minimum in maintenance which maximizes their profit margins.

I have watched privatization of building trades work in cities, counties, states and school districts across this country and their has been no savings. In all cases I have studied the costs of doing business have increased.

I have brought with me a senior thesis done by a Milwaukee County plumber, Gary Pitroski. It focuses on the Milwaukee County Parks system but the scenario is comparable in many ways to what I am talking about here. And, Gary's paper makes a comparison with Indianapolis and Detroit and their privatization programs. His conclusions offer no savings when building trades jobs are eliminated.

The City would be better off and would save dollars by hiring more skilled trades to maintain our public infrastructure. The numbers don't lie.

Please reinstate these jobs.