

BRENDAN DANAHER

(b)(6)

Transport Workers Union

Washington, DC

Executive Director, Office of the President

2019-present

Supervisor: President John Samuelson

- Manage daily operations of the Office of the President in 150,000-member union. Oversee government affairs, organizing, communications, and campaigns. Supervise 10 to 50 full-time staff, consultants, temporary union organizers, and campaign release staff whose numbers vary based on project.
- Serve as TWU's primary point of staff contact for the Biden Administration, including the White House, Department of Transportation, and Department of Labor. Represent the union in meetings with senior federal appointees and agency staff. Negotiate the union's top tier priorities with federal officials.
- Manage a national campaign to ensure that union jobs are preserved as transit agencies shift to new transportation technology, such as zero emission transit buses and automated vehicles. Developed training curricula for local unions, lead training sessions, and provide technical assistance during contract negotiations.
- Oversaw preparation of TWU President Samuelson's testimony at the House Transportation and Infrastructure and Senate Commerce Committee hearings. Developed talking points and practiced Q&A for his interviews on CNBC, CNN, local media outlets in New York City, and other TV appearances.
- Lead staff-level relationships with the AFL-CIO, Transportation Trades Department, and other unions. Managed negotiations with ten unions to successfully gain exclusive organizing jurisdictions for the TWU in the bikeshare and micro-mobility sectors.
- Project manager for successful campaigns in support of contract negotiations with San Francisco MTA, the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA), and Columbia University. Developed strategic plans, directed union on-site staff, and oversaw PR firms.
- In response to Covid-19, led team monitoring fatality and infection rates among union membership across the country. Directed the shift to remote work during the pandemic for union staff. Developed new processes to provide PPE, training, office supplies, and support for staff working remotely.
- Led state and local legislative campaigns, including amending state law to provide Family and Medical Leave Act coverage to over 30,000 aviation workers in Illinois and a Chicago City Council vote in support of extending bikeshare contracts with pro-union companies.

Biden-Harris Transition

Washington, DC

Department of Transportation Agency Review Team

Oct. 2020 - Jan. 2021

Supervisor: Phil Washington

- Developed recommendations and briefed Secretary-designate Buttigieg on Covid-19 recovery, labor policy, and public transportation issues.
- Volunteer position

Professional Aviation Safety Specialists

Washington, DC

Government Affairs Director

2017-2018

Supervisor: President Mike Perrone

- Advocated on behalf of the union of FAA inspectors and safety specialists.
- Led successful legislative campaign of 30+ unions and civil rights groups in opposition to the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman's FAA reauthorization bill, which would have privatized the air traffic control system. The progressive campaign was part of a larger coalition against FAA privatization that included general aviation pilots, corporate aviation, and others.
- Led expansion of the progressive coalition from eight to over 30 labor and civil rights organizations in less than one year. Leveraged Democratic base strategy to build opposition to privatization among rank-and-file Democratic House members.

- Developed and lobbied on a Dear Colleague letter in opposition to privatization from Ranking Members of the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Education and Workforce, and Oversight and Government Reform. Worked closely with Aviation Subcommittee minority staff to track shifts in Representatives' positions on privatization for over one year. Coordinated with staff of Democratic Leader and Democratic Whip to share strategy updates and whip lists.

Transport Workers Union Washington, DC
Government Affairs Director 2015-2017
Government Affairs Representative 2014

Supervisor: Secretary-Treasurer Alex Garcia

- Formed the union's government affairs department from the ground up, as all legislative positions had been vacant for several years. Developed the union's national legislative, policy, and political agenda for airline, railroad, public transit, and other sectors. On-boarded and trained staff.
- Directed the union's federal legislative and political activities. Worked on FAA reauthorization, Amtrak reauthorization, and other legislative priorities.
- Successfully lobbied on the FAST Act to include federal rulemaking requirement to help protect transit operators from workplace assaults and mitigated transit public-private partnership provisions with language to prevent worker displacement and undermining labor standards. Wrote TWU President Lombardo's testimony for Senate Banking Committee reauthorization hearing.

Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO Washington, DC
Senior Legislative Representative 2012-2014
Legislative and Policy Representative 2007-2012

President Ed Wytkind

- Lobbied on the legislative priorities of over 30 transportation unions representing public transit, railroad, longshore, maritime, and aviation workers, including the surface transportation reauthorization, Amtrak reauthorization, appropriations, labor rights, and infrastructure finance.
- Wrote congressional testimony, policy statements, letters to Congress and the Executive Branch, and regulatory comments. Advised labor leaders on the development of the department's legislative agenda, political strategy, union relations, and staff professional development.
- Successfully advocated against Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman's Amtrak privatization proposal. Wrote congressional testimony for labor leaders opposing privatization.

American Federation of Government Employees Washington, DC
Issue Mobilization Coordinator 2003-2007

Supervisor: Political Action Director Bob Nicklas

- Coordinated volunteer program, which grew by 66% during 2006. Oversaw creation of volunteer database.
- Built civil rights and environmental coalitions to oppose federal privatization.

Privatization Policy Analyst 1999-2003

Supervisor: Public Policy Director Jacque Simon

- Investigated waste, fraud, and abuse in government contracting in 14 federal agencies. Filed appeals to privatization plans in 11 federal agencies.

OPEIU LOCAL 2 Washington, DC
Assistant Chief Steward 2004-2007

- Elected by a 100-member bargaining unit at AFGE. Served on a contract negotiation team, represented members during grievance procedures, led local meetings, and managed annual holiday campaign raising donations for the families of unemployed union members.

EDUCATION

Columbia University, School of International and Public Affairs
Master of Public Administration

New York, NY
1999

Catholic University of America
Bachelor of Arts, double major in History and English

Washington, DC
1992