

# INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

Craft-Maintenance Division State of California Unit 12  
Locals 3, 39 & 501, AFL-CIO

## **Caltrans finally develops a protocol for homeless encampment cleanups along with an in-person statewide training program – October 1, 2019**

After two years of prodding and pressure from the Union, a health and safety grievance, and a CalOSHA complaint and citation, Caltrans finally puts together a homeless encampment cleanup protocol along with a training program for its maintenance employees. [See attached.](#)

Getting Caltrans to do the right thing and to do it on a statewide basis has been a real challenge. We have been fighting this issue since it was brought to our attention nearly two years ago and as most of you know, nothing with the State gets done quickly.

In a pre-arbitration settlement meeting on Friday September 20<sup>th</sup>, Caltrans shared the new cleanup protocol with us as part of the remedy to the grievance we filed a year and a half ago. There are four parts to the protocol that are important. First is the actual power point presentation showing the different steps to be taken and followed by the maintenance crews. The second major part is the piece that involves outside contractors doing all of the hazardous waste identification and removal. The third piece is the statewide in-person training for all maintenance employees on the new protocol. And finally, the last piece is the health and safety hotline for employees to call to report any inconsistencies with the following of the cleanup protocol.

IUOE Unit 12 representatives will be attending one of the in-person training sessions as soon as they come to our area to be sure that this program is being presented as told.

### **UNION STRONG!**

Steve Crouch  
Director of Public Employees