

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

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

Caltrans Members,

The International Union of Operating Engineers, Locals 3, 39, and 501 were recently made aware of a possible legislative Bill in the early stages of being drafted which would have given away a large portion of Caltrans' Bargaining Unit 12 work to local Conservation Corps programs. Local Conservation Corps programs are youth/young adult programs which are run by Cities or Counties. If this Bill were to pass and become law, it would have allowed for these local Conservations Corps programs to take over performing many of the task currently performed by the Caltrans Landscape and/or Highway Maintenance classifications.

This proposed Bill was brought to the attention of The International Union of Operating Engineers by our political lobbyist out of Sacramento. Once made aware of the proposed Bill, the Union was able to set up a meeting with the office of the author of the Bill. During this meeting, the Union was able to convey its concerns of allowing personnel who are not in the unit 12 bargaining unit to be allowed to regularly perform our work, as well as the possibility of losing future positions due to relinquishing work to other entities. The Union's main concerns with the proposed Bill is the scope of work which was proposed to be transferred to the local Conservations Corps. The proposed tasks include but are not limited to the following:

1. Roadside maintenance along department rights-of-way
2. Litter pick up
3. Clearing of debris, brush and trees
4. Replanting of vegetation
5. Repairing and clearing drainage ditches
6. Safety training
7. Trimming or removing brush and trees
8. Removing brush, trees, and other debris in ditches, culverts, channels, or natural gullies
9. Creating firebreaks at fence lines
10. Removing fire tinder
11. Manually controlling weeds
12. Restoring water systems
13. Cleaning the back side of landscape areas along streets and frontage roads
14. Purchasing or renting vehicles and other equipment
15. Removing trash, debris, and other materials form previous homeless encampments.

As a result of the meeting between the Union and the office of the author of the Bill, we were able to come to an agreement which included ceasing any further pursuit of the proposed Bill. Your Union will continue to monitor future bills and/or other matters which may negatively affect our members and respond accordingly. We will keep our members informed of any future changes or impacts.

In Solidarity!

Brandy Johnson
District Representative, Local 39
State of CA Unit 12 & Unit 13 Coordinator

Travis Tweedy
Director, Local 3

Deric Barnes
Director, Local 501