Where’s the money Caltrans? – September 16, 2019

This Friday representatives from IUOE Unit 12 will be meeting with Caltrans management to discuss our upcoming arbitration of our health and safety grievance involving the homeless encampment cleanups and the 2019-2020 $143 million-dollar budget cut to the Caltrans maintenance budget.

In October 2017, IUOE Unit 12 representatives met with Caltrans management prior to the passage of SB 1 (the gas tax increase) and were told that Caltrans would be adding up to 1,000 Unit 12 maintenance personnel. Since then, the State of California has supposedly collected nearly $10 billion dollars from the increased gas tax and there has been no subsequent increase in the number of positions, actually the opposite, a decrease.

So, where are the additional SB 1 funds and why is the Caltrans maintenance budget being cut $143 million dollars? Why are all of the Permanent Intermittent Employees (PI’s) being laid off? And why are there 322 less positions in the year end 2018 employee count report than there was in year end 2017?

These are the questions we have for Caltrans management. In addition, IUOE Unit 12 has asked for a meeting with Senator Beall’s office, he is the chair of the Senate Transportation committee and a co-author of SB 1.

We will keep you up-to-date on the progress of our meetings.

UNION STRONG!

Steve Crouch
Director of Public Employees