

IUOE Unit 12 Representatives Meet With New Caltrans Director- March 14, 2018

On Tuesday afternoon March 13, 2018, IUOE representatives had a “meet and greet” with the new Caltrans Director, Laurie Berman. Berman has been serving as Caltrans Acting Chief Deputy Director since October 2017. Berman has a 34-year history with Caltrans serving in multiple roles in the Department including District Director in the San Diego region where she oversaw the groundbreaking on the I-5 North Coast corridor project and several other successful projects in that region.

During the “meet and greet” the IUOE representatives raised the issues of homeless encampment cleanup, the hiring of an additional 1,000 Unit 12 workers, Heavy Equipment Operator wages, and Geographic Pay Differentials for high cost areas in the state. It is the Union’s position that you cannot pay a state employee the same wages in a central valley city as you do in the Bay Area, San Diego, or even Los Angeles when the average rent for a two bedroom apartment in these three regions exceeds the net take home pay of the employee.

The meeting was very cordial and the new Director listened carefully to our concerns on each of these issues and our proposals for rectifying them.

It was a productive first meeting and we look forward to working with the new Director in the future.