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*March 27, 2015*

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## **OCII Redevelopment Update**

Following a protracted fight with the City and County of San Francisco that utilized legal, political, and organizing strategies, Local 21 has finally reached a settlement and created a pathway to City employment for employees stranded by the former Redevelopment Agency, now the Office of Community Investment and Infrastructure (OCII). Following state dissolution of Redevelopment agencies in 2012, CCSF hired all former Redevelopment employees. During the course of contract negotiations, however, the City took the position that they were no longer the employer on record despite never having initiated the termination of the Redevelopment employees' City employment and simply refused to bargain. Following the filing of several Unfair Labor Charges, the City was forced to engage with Local 21 on settlement discussions. At the same time, we initiated

a ballot initiative (Prop D) to preserve the retiree medical benefits of the former Redevelopment employees who were subsequently transferred to City employment. After Prop D passed last November, Local 21 drafted a settlement deal with the City allowing all former Redevelopment employees to officially transfer to City employment. The deal was finalized and implemented on February 28, 2015, and seven of our members took advantage of the offer and were transferred to City employment. The members who decided to stay with OCII now have a new contract that was bargained and ratified in early 2015.

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## **Local 21 Member Helps Mission Resident Improve Living Conditions**

During the winter months it was so freezing in her Outer Mission apartment that Audrey Potts had to turn the furnace on full blast to try and stay warm. After a rain storm hit, she could see black mold growing around the windows which were so old they were falling off the hinges.

Audrey had been living on Cesar Chavez St. for 17 years and found it a constant struggle to deal with the non-respondent building management company who had failed to maintain safe living conditions in her apartment building. Fed up with the hassle, Audrey called the San Francisco Rent Board who directed her to get in touch with the City's Housing Department. Housing inspector and Local 21 member Steve Mungovan was assigned to Audrey's case and quickly wrote up the property management company for multiple housing violations after inspecting the unit's condition. After being cited by the City, the management company has agreed to renovate Audrey's apartment to ensure that she has a safe place to live.



*Renovation work begins on Audrey's apartment (Photo: Local 21/Sean Aten)*

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## **PUC Water Services Career Fair**

On Friday, March 6, the Public Utilities Commission, together with the Santa Clara Valley Water District, Contra Costa Water District, and the Zone 7 Water District organized a career fair, which attracted hundreds of students and veterans looking for careers in the Water Industry. Local 21 was there, talking to attendees from around the Bay Area who attended the event, about issues ranging from career opportunities working for the city's water agencies, where many current Local 21 members already work, to enrollment in the union through their employer.

We also talked to visitors about how union representation can help them enjoy better job benefits, not just a complete health and retirement plan, but can also help them in meeting their immediate needs, such as managing student loan repayments.

Dozens stopped by the Local 21 booth to pick up information, union water bottles and pocket protectors, or just to chat. Many filled out surveys we had on the table.

The majority responded that while they are aware that the union can help them with career development, and provide better working conditions in the public sector, fewer were aware of the student loan management services that Local 21 offers through the Union Privilege Program. For more information on that program and more see: <http://www.unionplus.org/about>

In this video on the [PUC's new career website](#), General Manager Harlan L. Kelly Jr. explains the benefits of choosing a career in water, power and sewage management at the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.



## Career Opportunities at SFPUC

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### **Urgent Reminder to Nominate Delegates to International Convention**

Four hours and counting... now is the time to send in your nominations for delegates to the upcoming International Federation of Professional & Technical Engineers' convention to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada from July 27-30, 2015.

At the February 26, 2015 meeting of the Local 21 Executive Committee, officers voted to send eleven Local 21 delegates to the 58th international convention.

The twenty-two person delegation will be made up of the eleven delegates that will be elected and the eleven Executive Committee officers that were already elected

to attend in the fall of 2014. Delegates will have travel, lodging and per diem expenses paid for by Local 21. No lost time wages will be paid.

Nominations may be made by petition signed by no fewer than twenty (20) members in good standing of the union. Blank petition forms will be available in the Local 21 offices (San Francisco, San Jose and Oakland) and can be [downloaded from the Local 21 website](#). Completed original nomination petitions must be received **in Local 21's San Francisco office (1182 Market Street, Room 425, San Francisco, CA 94102) by no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 27, 2015.** (Emailed and/or faxed copies of completed nomination petitions will NOT be accepted — original signatures are required.) Nominees may submit a 75-word candidate statement for distribution along with the ballot that also must be turned in by March 27.

The election will be overseen by the Election Committee, which is made up of Larry Griffin, Gus Vallejo and Dean Coate.

A secret ballot will be mailed to each eligible member in good standing at his/her last known mailing address by no later than April 6, 2015 and must be returned to the Local 21 office in San Francisco by no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 30, 2015. Members will cast a vote for the delegate(s) running in their own region [only]. Ballots will be counted in the Local 21 office on May 1. The candidate(s) who receive the highest number of votes in each region will serve as delegates and proxies to the International Convention. Write-in votes are not permitted. [\*To be eligible to vote in this election, you must have a completed membership application on file in the San Francisco union office by 5:00 p.m. on March 27.]

If you have any questions or need additional clarification, please feel free to contact the union office.



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