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Voice of Small, Emerging Diversity Owned Businesses Since 1984 • NEWS

The President's Fiscal Year 2017 Budget:

Overview



Barack Obama, U.S. President

Under the President's leadership, we have turned our economy around and created 14 million jobs. Our unemployment rate is below five percent for the first time in almost eight years. Nearly 18 million people have gained health coverage as the Affordable Care Act has taken effect. And we have dramatically cut our deficits by almost three-quarters and set our Nation on a more sustainable fiscal path.

Yet while it is important to take stock of our progress, this Budget is not about looking back at the road we have traveled. It is about looking forward and making sure our economy works for everybody, not just those at the top. It is about choosing investments that not only make us stronger today, but also reflect the kind of country we aspire to be – the kind of country we want to pass on to our children and grandchildren.

The Budget makes critical investments in our domestic and national security priorities while adhering to the bipartisan budget agreement signed into law last fall, and it lifts sequestration in future years so that we continue to invest in our economic future and our national security. It also drives down deficits and maintains our fiscal progress through smart savings from health care, immigration, and tax reforms.

The Budget shows that the President and the Administration remain focused on meeting our greatest challenges - including accelerating the pace of innovation to tackle climate change and find new treatments for devastating diseases; giving everyone a fair shot at opportunity and economic security; and advancing our national security and global leadership - not only for the year ahead, but for decades to come.

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INNOVATION TO FORGE A BETTER **FUTURE**

The Budget invests in accelerating the pace of American innovation, so we can create jobs and build the economy of the future while tackling our greatest challenges, including addressing climate change and finding new treatments and cures for devastating diseases. The Budget includes investments in:

Building a 21st Century Transportation System. The Budget invests \$320 billion over 10 years in a multi-agency initiative to build a clean transportation system for the 21st Century that speeds goods to market while reducing America's reliance on oil, cutting carbon pollution, and strengthening our resilience to the effects of the changing climate. Overall, the 21st Century Clean Transportation Plan will increase American investments in clean transportation infrastructure by roughly 50 percent above current levels while reforming the transportation investments already being made to move America to more sustainable, low-carbon

Prioritizing Research and Development. The Budget sustains the Administration's consistent prioritization of R&D with an investment of \$152 billion for R&D overall through both discretionary and mandatory funding proposals, a four percent increase from 2016.

Visit the link below for the full article:

www.sbeinc.com/resources/cms.cfm?fuseaction=news. detail&articleID=1504&pageID=25

Source: www.whitehouse.gov

National Advisory Council on Minority Business Enterprise Recommendations

RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADVANCE MI-NORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

The National Advisory Council on Minority Business Enterprise ("NACMBE" or the "Council") was established in April 2010 to advise the Minority Business Development Agency ("MBDA") and the Secretary of Commerce on policy issues affecting minority-owned businesses in the U.S. and to provide recommendations for supporting the growth of these businesses, both domestically and internationally. The Council's collection of nationally recognized leaders from both private and non-profit organizations employed a data-driven approach to arrive at their conclusions, drawing on input from Minority Business Enterprise ("MBE") owners gathered through focus groups and firsthand accounts, review of new data that the Council collected and analyzed from third party sources as well as available U.S. government data.

With an eye toward sustainable growth and job creation as well as leveraging existing public-private partnerships to enable a brighter future for all Americans, the Council puts a focus on the follow-

1. Centralize and optimize minority business de-

- a. Consolidate currently fragmented government programs, functions and funding into one large, well-funded agency for minority business development with the authority and accountability for meaningful action and outcomes
- b. Standardize the definition of minority business enterprise, and apply one universal certification



Mark Hoplamazian, NACMBE Chairman

process consistently under this new umbrella organization

2. Broker and sustain commercial relationships

- a. Address the single biggest issue identified by MBEs, namely the need for securing "the deal" (i.e., contractual relationships with larger enterprises) and being able to leverage that into a sustained revenue base. This is in contrast to shortterm contract awards. One vehicle identified by MBEs is "commitment agreements" with large U.S. and non-U.S. companies
- b. Expand supplier relationship management ("SRM") programs to increase structured, formal commercial relationships that allow minority businesses to integrate themselves into customer supply chains
- c. Grow regional ecosystems and existing forums to

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Community Outreach

UPenn Receives \$5.1 Million to Boost Latino Faculty in the Humanities



The University of Pennsylvania has announced a \$5.1 million grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in support of efforts to increase the number of Latino professors in the humanities at U.S. colleges and universities.

With the grant, the Center for Minority Serving Institutions in Penn's Graduate School of Education will launch Pathways to the Professoriate, an initiative to prepare ninety students from His-

panic-serving institutions (HSIs) for Ph.D. programs over five years. Undergraduates selected to participate in the program will take part in intensive summer research programs and cross-institutional conferences, while receiving mentoring and assistance applying to and enrolling in graduate school. Partners in the effort include three HSIs — Florida International University; the University of Texas, El Paso; and California State University, Northridge — and five research institutions —

New York University; the University of California, Berkeley; Northwestern University; the University of California, Davis; and Penn.

"As the demographic profile of the U.S. changes, the country has a compelling interest in obtaining the full participation of previously underrepresented communities," said Mellon Foundation vice president Mariët Westermann. "The past decade has seen considerable gains in doctoral de-

gree attainment for Latinos, yet these gains have not kept up with the growth of the U.S. Hispanic population. We have every confidence that this program will build on the successful pipeline programs piloted by the Penn Center for Minority Serving Institutions at Historically Black Colleges and Universities."

Source: http://philanthropynewsdigest.org

Tech Companies Support Computer Science for All Initiative



As part of the Obama administration's plan to provide all students with access to computer science courses in school, Salesforce.org, Google, and other leading tech companies have announced more than \$60 million in philanthropic investments.

The administration's budget plan calls for \$4 billion in federal funding for states and \$100 million directly for districts to support and train computer science teachers, backed by more than \$135 million in investments over five years from

the National Science Foundation and Corporation for National and Community Service. On the private sector side, Salesforce.org plans to invest \$13 million in support of CS and STEM education, starting with a \$1 million grant to EducationSuperHighway to upgrade and expand broadband in K-12 public schools nationwide, while Google will invest an additional \$23 million this year to support CS education for five million more students. Through various initiatives, the search giant also plans to expand access to high-quality CS professional development for K-12 teachers, support mentors and student developers, fund nonprofits like Code.org and the National Girls Collaborative Project, and work to showcase positive portrayals of women and underrepresented minorities in tech.

Elsewhere, the Cartoon Network will launch a \$30 million initiative to engage young people in creative coding, including a project to create free coding tutorials with

characters from two new series in partnership with Scratch — a program of the Lifelong Kindergarten Group at the MIT Media Lab — and the Scratch Foundation, and will work to develop a new PSA campaign targeting children between the ages of 6 and 11 that highlights positive STEM role models and connects creativity with STEM disciplines; Apple will continue to expand its Swift coding workshops and work with ConnectED schools to disseminate coding content and curricula to communities, students, and teachers; Facebook will expand its outreach efforts to underrepresented communities and will work to connect them to coding resources; and the Mozilla Foundation will launch a new opensource Web Literacy 2.0 initiative that provides workshops for the teaching and learning of Web literacy skills. To complement a \$75 million commitment it announced last September to increase access to CS, Microsoft

Continued on page 13

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SUB-BID REQUEST AD ORDER FORM

FAX completed form to (415) 778-6255 or EMAIL your ad to Nabil Vo at nvo@sbeinc.com

SUB-BIDS REQUESTED FROM QUALIFIED:

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PROJECT LOCATION:(City, County, or District)
PROJECT NUMBER:
BID DATE:
BID TIME:
COMPANY NAME:
ADDRESS:
CITY/STATE/ZIP:
PHONE:
FAX:
CONTACT:
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SBE Today E-edition (Daily) / Electronic Distribution
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www.sbeinc.com: Beginning

PUBLICATION INFO: Reserve space by 3 p.m. the day preceding publication date. Late ads subject to a 25% late fee **STANDARD SIZE:** AD MEASURES 2.5" X 4", company logo may be included with 2.5" X 4" ad or larger.

Hartford, CT Sub-Bid Request Ad

M/WBE BIDDING OPPORTUNITY

M/WBE firms <u>must</u> be certified as follows: To constitute a MBE or WBE for the purpose of meeting the agency thresholds, an enterprise must be formally certified as such by at least one of the following entities: The Connecticut Department of Administrative Services, The Connecticut Department of Transportation, The Federal Environmental Protection Agency, The Federal Small Business Administration OR other states as evidenced by the appropriate state certificate which specifies the applicable WBE or MBE designation. In the event the certificate from a state other than Connecticut does not contain the applicable designation, the certificate should be presented to the Owner (The Metropolitan District) for review and consideration.

Shea-Skanska Joint Venture invites qualified contractors, specifically M/WBEs certified by the agencies and requirements listed above, to contact Shea-Skanska JV (Prime Bidder/Contractor listed below) regarding subcontracting services and material supply opportunities in connection with the upcoming tunnel and shaft project.

The Work under this contract is located in South Hartford, Connecticut. The participation rates are 3% for MBEs and 5% for WBEs of the total contract price. Additionally, the goals are 6% MBE and 5% WBE. The Work consists of the construction of a deep rock tunnel, drop shafts, and an odor control facility along with support equipment and accessories as shown and specified.

Owner: The Metropolitan District South Hartford Conveyance and Storage Tunnel: Tunnel and Shaft Construction Contract No. 2 (2015B-27) BID DATE: February 25, 2016 AT 2:00 PM

Opportunities to participate exist in the following specific areas of soil and rock excavation, hauling, excavation support systems, mechanical rock excavation, structural steel, engineering, survey, instrumentation and monitoring services, materials testing, demolition and site preparation, environmental investigation, utility relocation, paving, fencing and gates, geotechnical and structural instrumentation, slurry wall, castin-place concrete structures, reinforcing steel, ground stabilization, rock-bolts, steel dowels, shotcrete, concrete finishing, waterproofing, service utilities, grouting, mechanical equipment – hydraulic, sluice & weir gates, electrical services, landscaping, dewater pump station, pest control, IT services, waste disposal, cleaning services, and security services.

Any business seeking to participate as a M/WBE must submit current valid certification documents with proposal. We have set up an FTP site where you can view all plans and specifications for your convenience. Please contact Brett Campbell at (909) 594-0982 (brett.campbell@jfshea.com) to receive instructions on accessing the FTP Site.

Shea-Skanska Joint Venture

(J.F. Shea Construction, Inc. — Skanska USA Civil Northeast Inc.) 667 Brea Canyon Road, Suite 22, Walnut, CA 91789 909-595-4397, 909-869-0827 (fax)



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California Sub-Bid Request Ads

Tutor Perini ZACHRY PARSONS, A Joint Venture

REQUEST FOR AT&T UTILITY BIDS

Inviting qualified bidders including, but not limited to, certified SBEs, DBEs & DVBEs, for:

Proposed AT&T Duct bank as detailed by the Ready for Construction Drawings
"AT&T Duct Bank South of Clinton Ave. to Belmont Ave"
AT&T BP-01
Plans Dated 11-13-2015
Contract Range: 10-25 Million Dollars.

BIDS DUE February 24, 2016 by 2:00 PM

Address bids to: TPZPJV, 1401 Fulton St. Suite 400, Fresno, CA 93721, Attention: William Sario, William.Sario@tpzpjv.com

TPZPJV and or the California High speed Rail, may reject any and all bids. Bidders bond (10%), payment & performance Bonds will be required.

 $Pre-Bid\ meeting\ will\ be\ held\ on\ February\ 17,2016/9:00\ AM\ to\ present\ contracting\ details\ with\ the\ CaHSR\ \&\ TPZP.$ All bidding documents for review at:

• TPZPJV's Office – 1401 Fulton Street, Suite 900, Fresno, CA 93721 or WWW.CP1.TPZPJV.com

UPON REQUEST to INTERESTED BIDDERS:

The bidder's package will be provided on a disk or disks and will include: Instructions to Bidders, Proposal, Additional Special Provisions, Signature Page, Non-Collusion Affidavit, Subcontracting List, Buy America Form, Bid Question Form, copy of the CBA, Plans & Specifications, and Copy of TPZP contract. The information will also be online as a convenience, only.

Request bid package via email to: Email William.Sario@TPZPJV.COM or call (559) 400-6001.

TPZPJV and the CaHSR Intends to conduct itself in good faith with SBE, DBE & DVBE participation on this

Bidder's questions will be emailed to William.Sario@TPZPJV.COM in the appropriate provided format. Questions will be answered to all bidders up until 2 working days from the bid opening.

CaHSR Design-Build Contract can be found at:

http://www.hsr.ca.gov/Programs/Construction/HSR11-16_Design_Build_Contract/index.html

Bids will be publicly opened at bid time and notice of intent to award will be to the lowest responsive bidder approved by the CaHSR and TPZP, within 14 calendar days of bid opening. Notice to proceed will be issued following execution of all contract documentation.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

RELATED

RFP FOR GOODWILL SITE:

Elevators, Exterior Building Maintenance Equipment, Trash Chutes, Pool/Spas and Wind Canopy

RFP DUE DATE: Monday, February 15, 2016

Related California ("Developer") is seeking firms interested in providing Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing, Fire Protection, and Precast/GFRC.

The Project is to demolish most of the two existing buildings on the project site and construct a mixed-use development with two components, a residential and retail development and an office development and permit center to be occupied by several City and County of San Francisco departments.

We encourage interested firms to review documents available at:

http://mission.sfgov.org/OCABidPublication/BidDetail.aspx?K=10464

Local Business Enterprises (LBEs)—including MBEs and WBEs—are encouraged to respond. Contact: Harold Hill at hhill@related.com

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REQUEST FOR DBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS FOR:

San Tomas Expressway Projects **El Camino Real to Homestead Road County of Santa Clara BID DATE: February 18, 2015 @ 2:00 PM**

We are soliciting quotes for (including but not limited to): Trucking, Traffic Control System, Type III Barricade, SWPPP, Adjust Utilities, Tree/Bird Survey, Clearing & Grubbing, Hydroseed, Roadside Signs, Untreated Lumber & Timber, Soundwall, CIDH Concrete Piling, Temporary Fence with Privacy Screen, Underground, Curb & Gutter, Minor Concrete, Storm Drain Manhole, Concrete Paver, Fencing, Removable Bollard, Transition Railing, Terminal System, Concrete Barrier, Striping & Marking, Signal Pole and Foundation, Electrical, Detector Loop, Cold Plane AC, Structure Excavation, Structure Backfill, Crack Seal/Filler, AC Dike, Retaining Wall, Microsurfacing, Sound Wall – Precast Panels & Columns, Bioretention Swales, Misc. Iron & Steel and Construction Materials

100% Performance & Payment Bonds may be required. Worker's Compensation Waiver of Subrogation required. Please call OCJ for assistance with bonding, insurance, necessary equipment, material and/or supplies. OCJ is willing to breakout any portion of work to encourage DBE Participation. Plans & Specs

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McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.

Subcontractor Solicitation of Interest

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., MEDICAL CAMPUS EAST PARKING, JR., MEDICAL CAMPUS
EAST PARKING STRUCTURE PROJECT
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - Specifications No. 7305
Los Angeles, CA
Bid Date: 3-3-2016

McCarthy Building Companies, Inc. (Design-Builder) is soliciting interest from qualified subcontractors and suppliers to participate in the bidding for award phase of the project upon completion of the design. The Scope of Work pertains to:

The design and construction of a new multi-level parking structure and associated site improvements at the east side of the MLK campus. The new parking structure will include at least 1,400 parking spaces to accommodate the parking demands for the new services to be provided on campus. The structure will replace an existing surface parking lot. The site and infrastructure work include landscape, access roads, wayfinding signage, infiltration basin, and pedestrian walkways in the

This Project is composed of three packages:

- Package 1 Parking Structure and Site & Infrastructure Work (Part of this work scope)
- Package 2 On-site Make Ready (Part of this work scope)
- Package 3 Off-site Make Ready (Part of this work scope)

The Design-Builder will be responsible for Packages 1, 2 and 3.

The on-site make-ready package (Package 2) includes the demolition of the parking lot, relocation of existing underground utilities, re-routing of the entry drive loop, widening roadways, traffic striping and signage, and preparation of a certified building pad. The off-site make-ready package (Package 3) includes the removal of the bus turnout and relocation of the bus stop. The off-site make-ready package scope will be performed by the Design-Builder.

Work categories include: Demolition; Site Clearing & Earthwork; Shoring & Underpinning; Asphalt Concrete Paving & Striping; Site Concrete/Pavers; Site Utilities; Pavement Markings/Striping/Tactile Warning Mats; Fences & Gates; Landscaping & Irrigation; Site Furnishings; Reinforcing Steel and P.T.; Structural Concrete; Masonry; Structural Steel; Metal Decking; Misc. Metal Fabrications; Ornamental Metal; Rough Carpentry; Roofing; Waterproofing; Sheet Metal/Metal Pan-el/Exp. Joints; Joint Sealants; Doors/Frames/Hardware; Coiling/Overhead Doors; Tile; Painting & Wall Coverings; Signage and Wayfinding; Fire Extinguishers/Cabinets; Wire Mesh Partitions; Artwork (by Owner); Glass and Glazing; Metal Stud Framing/Drywall/Plaster; Parking Control Equipment; Elevators; Fire Protection

- * This is a Prevailing Wage Project.
- * A 100% Performance and Payment Bond from an admitted surety will be required upon award of contract for all trades.
- * McCarthy is an equal opportunity employer and encourages qualified Small Business and Minority Business

Please contact us if you have any questions regarding project specifics:

McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.

Jane Shon, Administrative Assistant, E-Mail: jshon@mccarthy.com 20401 SW Birch Street, Newport Beach, CA 92660 Phone: (949) 851-8383 • Fax: (949) 756-6841



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REQUEST FOR DBE & SBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS FOR:

East Bay Bus Rapid Transit Project Infrastructure and Station Platforms AC Transit IFB #2016-1354 BID DATE: February 17, 2016 @ 2:00 PM

We are soliciting quotes for (including but not limited to): Trucking, Traffic Control System, Construction Survey, Stormwater Pollution Control Plan, Clearing & Grubbing, Water Pollution Control, Subgrade Enhancement Geosynthetic (Class B1 Geotextile), Adjust Utilities, Cold Plane AC, Slurry Seal, Tack Coat, Portland Cement Concrete Pavement, Minor Concrete, Concrete Station Platform Curb, Detectable Warning Surface, Parking Space Meters, Pedestrian Barricade, Colored Stamped Concrete, Manhole, Catch Basin Insert, Architectural Fence, Artistically Enhanced Handrail and Windscreen Panels, Concrete Pipe, Iron Pipe, Sewer Pipe, Building Sewer Connection, Sanitary Sewer Cleanout, Sanitary Sewer Manhole, Traffic Signal & Lighting, Landscape & Irrigation, Painted Curb & Striping, Thermoplastic Striping & Marking, Object Marker, Pavement Marker, Roadside Signs, Bollard, Contract Arborist, Precast Architectural Pavers, Rain Even Action Plan, Storm Water Annual Report, Temporary Hydraulic Mulch, Temporary Fencing, Sweeping, Abandon Culverts, Cap Inlet, Jointed Plane Concrete Pavement, Off-Platform Wayfinding Signage, Reinforced Concrete Box Culvert, Inlet Frame & Grate, Concrete Forming and Accessories, Cast-In-Place Concrete, Structural Steel Framing, Benches, Map Display, Detectable Directional Surface, Walking Deterrent Dome, Contrasting Warning Strip, Tubular Handrailing, Windscreen, CCTV System, Communication Cabinets, Public Address System, Station Conduits and Junction/Outlet Boxes, Central Command and Communication, Conductors (Cable), Ticket Vending Machine, Magnetic Ticket Handheld Devices, Clipper Mountain Pole, Centralized Fare Collection, Electrical, Testing, Waterlines, Tree Grates, Temporary Erosion Control, Hazardous & Contaminated Material Removal and Construction Materials.

100% Performance & Payment Bonds may be required. Worker's Compensation Waiver of Subrogation required. Please call OCJ for assistance with bonding, insurance, necessary equipment, material and/or supplies. OCJ is willing to breakout any portion of work to encourage DBE Participation. Plans & Specs are available for viewing at our office or through the AC Transit website at http://www.actransit.org/acpronet/east-bay-bus-rapid-transit-brt-project-infrastructure-and-station-platforms/

National Advisory Council on Minority Business Enterprise

Continued from page 1

foster innovation and support minority business enterprise growth with a focus on high-growth industries

d. Leverage existing portals to develop and maintain a centralized, easily accessible minority business enterprise portal that connects minority-owned businesses with new customers

3. Expand access to capital for minority business owners

- a. Assess and improve bank lending processes in partnership with the Consumer Financial Protection
- b. Enhance access to existing sources of capital that support business export activities (e.g., EXIM's Global Credit Express Pilot Loan Program, etc.).
- c. Establish a new MBE Academy (see 4(a) below) that offers access to comprehensive curricula, in-

cluding education on the types, sources and uses of financing alternatives

d. Create or foster new sources of capital (e.g., through a newly established U.S. Enterprise Bond Fund for minority-owned businesses; through a tax credit in exchange for equity capital investments in minority-owned businesses, etc.)

4. Train minority-owned businesses in order to build capacity and provide opportunities

a. Establish an MBE Academy and curricula under a public-private partnership that addresses specific needs and provides continuous learning

5. Build data infrastructure and other capabilities to support long-term policymaking

a. Create a comprehensive, longitudinal database related to minority businesses to serve as the basis for analyzing characteristics and performance of b. Support the use of this database with entities or institutions with analytical capabilities

MBEs: UNTAPPED POTENTIAL FOR ECO-NOMIC PROSPERITY

The U.S. has a proud history as a "melting pot," and we pride ourselves on celebrating differences and cooperating toward common good. Increasingly, however, participation in capitalism and the free market economy occurs unevenly across populations. With today's quickly shifting population, labor force and global landscape, we cannot afford to allow these trends to continue.

U.S. Census projections make it clear the country's minority population will become the majority population by the middle of this century1. The Bureau of Labor Statistics forecasts a dramatic increase in minority labor force participants between 2010 and 2020 - a 10.2 percent increase in Black workers, a 30.1 percent increase in Asian workers, and a

34 percent increase in Hispanic workers. Meanwhile, the number of White, non-Hispanic workers is expected to decline2. As the rate of growth of the overall labor pool contracts, in part due to a slowing birth rate and aging baby boomer population, growth in immigration is expected to add 1.5 million U.S. residents annually and this will increase the country's minority workforce3. With this trajectory, it is clear that robust participation among minority groups in the civilian labor force is critical for overall U.S. economic development and growth.

At the same time, the wealth gap between White and minority households widens. The Pew Research Center shows median income for White households is 18 to 20 times higher than that of Hispanic and Black households. In 2009, a typical White household held \$113,149 in net worth, while a Hispanic household held \$6,325 and a Black household held \$5,677. The disparity became more severe between 2005 and 2009,

Continued on page 12

California Sub-Bid Request Ads



Pulice Construction, Inc.

591 Camino De La Reina, Suite 1250 | San Diego, CA 92108 TEL: (619) 814-3700 | FAX: (619) 814-3770 Email: msimmons@pulice.com Equal Opportunity Employer

Invitation to Bid from certified SBE & Non-SBE Union Subcontractors, Material and/or Suppliers, and Professional Services for:

FULLERTON ROAD GRADE SEPARATION State Project No. TCIF 6303(042) **OWNER: Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority LOCATION: City of Industry, CA COUNTY: Los Angeles** SUB-BIDS DUE ON: Feb 29th, 2016 BID DATE: March 2, 2016 SBE Goal: 10%

Plans and Specifications can be downloaded for free at: $\underline{https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=15588}$

The project generally consists of the following:

Eliminate the existing at-grade crossing, through construction of a railroad flyover and roadway underpass, as well as a railroad street overcrossing and pedestrian bridge south of the railroad bridge.

Quotes for Services & Supplies requested for the following items for bid including, but not limited to: 136# TRACK, AC PAVING, AGGREGATES, BOOSTER PUMP, CIDH, CONCRETE SUPPLY, CONC BARRIER, CONC. FLATWORK, CONC. PAVEMENT, DEMO, DEWATERING, ELECTRICAL,

FENCE/RAILING, FIBER OPTIC, HAZMAT DISPOSAL, HDPE, LANDSCAPE & IRRIGATION, MANHOLES, NOISE/VIB. MONITORING, PRECAST RCB, RAIL ELECTRIC, RCP, REINFORC-ING STEEL, ROCK BLANKET, SAWCUT/CURING, SHEET PILE, SOLDIER PILE, STEEL CAS-ING, STEEL PILE, STRIPING, STRUCTURAL STEEL, SURVEYING, TEMP. MSE WALL, TRAFFIC CONTROL, TRUCKING, T-WALL, SIGNS, V-DITCH/SLOPE PAV., WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

Opportunities for quotations will be needed throughout the life of the project. Terms and conditions should be made part of the quotations. 100% performance and payment bonds may be required for the full amount of the subcontract price. Pulice Construction, Inc. will assist with obtaining bonding. lines of credit, insurance by encouraging the SBE to work with state supportive services programs. All responsive subcontractors must possess a current contractor's license, insurance, and worker's compensation coverage complying with Pulice Construction, Inc. requirements and will be required to sign the standard Subcontract Agreement

Pulice Construction, Inc. will analyze and consider each SBE quote received, including those that are broken down into economically feasible units to facilitate bidding. Quotes must be valid for the same period of time as specified by Owner for contract award. Any conditions or exceptions in Subcontractor's quote are expressly rejected unless accepted in writing. Plans and Specifications are available online at www.pulice.sharefile.com. Send SBE certification (DGS) with quote. Non SBE- Subs/ Suppliers: Indicate 2nd tier SBE participation offered on your quotation as it will be evaluated with

Pulice Construction, Inc. is committed to ensuring that SBE's have the maximum opportunity to successfully perform on this project, and to making good faith efforts in achieving the SBE goal.



Kiewit Infrastructure West Co. 4650 Business Center Drive Fairfield, CA 94534 Attn:Victor Molina - victor.molina@kiewit.com

Requests quotes/bids from qualified Subcontractor, Service Providers, Consultants, and/or Suppliers seeking to participate in the City of San Jose, Digester and Thickener Facilities Upgrade Project in San Jose, CA. http://www.epa.gov/http://www.sba.gov/ www.californiaucp.org

Digester and Thickener Facilities Upgrade Contract No. 7382 Owner: City of San Jose Bid Date: March 17, 2016 @ 3:00 P.M.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs)

Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), Women Business Enterprise (WBE), Small Business Enterprise (SBE), Small Business Enterprise (SBE), Small Business in a Rural Area (SBRA), Labor Surplus Area Firm (LSAF), or Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Zone Businesses wanted for the following scopes, including, but not limited to:

Asphalt Paving, Carpentry, Casework, Concrete, Concrete Pumping, Concrete Readymix, Concrete Reinforcement Supply & Install, Concrete Forming, Cast in Place Concrete, Grouting, Shotcrete, Dewatering, Demolition, Access Doors, Frames & Windows, Electrical, Communications, Equipment, Geotextiles, Grading, Fire-Suppression & Detection, Hazardous Waste Abatement, HVAC, Masonry, Metals, Paintings & Coatings, Plumbng, Piping & Valves, Process Interconnections, Shoring, Signage, Street Sweeping, Thermal & Moisture Protec-tion, Canopies, Metal Buildings, Earthworks, Membrane Roofing, Joint Sealant, Sheet Metal Flashing and Trim, Trucking & Hauling, Woods, Plastics, and Composites, Water Truck, Geo Foam and Tanks.

Bonding, insurance, and any technical assistance or information related to the plans or specification and require-ments for the work will be made available to interested CUCP, MBE, SBE, SBRA, LSAF or HUB Certified DBE business suppliers and subcontractors. Assistance with obtaining necessary equipment, supplies, materials, or services for this project will be offered to interested certified suppliers and subcontractors.

Subcontractor and Supplier Scopes are due March 11, 2016 and Quotes NO LATER THAN March 16, 2016 at 5 PM.

Plans are available for viewing at our office at our address below and through SmartBidNet (SBN).

All subcontractors that are registered in our SBN database will receive an invitation to bid.

Please visit http://www.kiewit.com/districts/northern-california/overview.aspx to register your company to be able to receive bidding information, Plans and Specifications

Performance and Payment Bonds may be required for Subcontractors and Supply Bond for Suppliers on this

Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Provisions apply Buy American Iron & Steel (AIS) requirements apply

An Equal Opportunity Employer CA Lic. #433176 DIR#1000001147



Kiewit/Manson, AJV 4650 Business Center Drive Fairfield, CA 94534 Contact: Matt DiCrescentis at matthew.dicrescentis@kiewit.com

Requests bids from qualified California Department of General Services (DGS) certified Small Business Enterprises (SBEs), Micro (SBs), and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises (DVBEs) subcontractors, consultants and suppliers to participate in

Phase 2 of the Demolition of the Old San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge Marine Foundations in San Francisco Bay, CA.

For information on Small Business & Disabled Veterans Business Enterprises, certification etc. please visit the link below: http://www.pd.dgs.ca.gov

ner: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Contract No. 04-013544 Bid Date: February 26th, 2016@ 5:00 P.M. all Business Enterprises (SBEs), Micro (SBs) and

Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises (DVBEs) wanted for following scopes, including, but not limited to

Diving, Tug Boat Support, Mechanical Demolition, Traffic Control, Hydrographic Survey, Concrete Disposal, Demolished Concrete Trucking, and Steel Fabrication.

Bonding, insurance and technical assistance or information related to the plans or specification and requirements for the work will be made available to interested DGS Certified SBE, Micro SB and DVBE, suppliers and subcontractors. Assistance with obtaining necessary equipment, supplies, materials, or services for this project will be offered to interested suppliers and subcontractors.

Quotes and Proposals due by February 26, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Submit quotes/bids to Matthew Dicrescentis at $\underline{matthew.dicrescent is@kiewit.com}$

All subcontractors registered in Kiewit's SmartBidNet database will receive an invitation to bid Visit http://bit. ly/BidList-Registration to register your company and to be able to receive bidding information.

For Plans Contact: Matt DiCrescentis at matthew.dicrescentis@kiewit.com

Performance bonds and Payment bonds for subcontractors and supply bonds for permanent materials supply maybe required for this project. Please include cost of bond in your quote if applicable. Cost of bond is reimbursable.

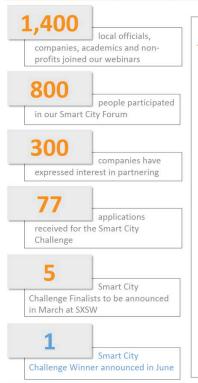
All contractors and subcontractors who bid or work on a public works project must be registered with the California Department of Industrial Relations

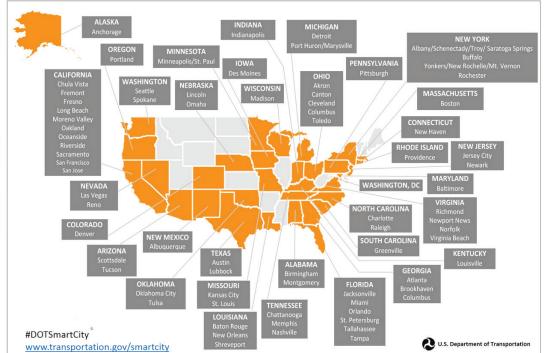
> An Equal Opportunity Employer CA Lic. #973007 DIR#1000001684

Transportation

Overwhelming Response by Cities across the Country to U.S. Department of Transportation Smart City Challenge

DOT Smart City Challenge





Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx announced today that seventy-seven cities have submitted applications for the first-of-its-kind U.S. Department of Transportation Smart City Challenge. Medium-sized cities from across the country from Reno to Rochester and Anchorage to Albuquerque represent the depth and breadth of this Challenge. The competition seeks to create an innovative, fully integrated model city that uses data, technology and creativity to shape how people and goods move in the future.

The winning city will be awarded up to \$40 million from USDOT to implement bold, data-driven ideas that make transportation safer, easier, and more reliable. Additionally, Paul G. Allen's Vulcan Inc., has announced its intent to award up to \$10 million to the challenge winner to support electric vehicle deployment and other carbon emission reduction strategies, and Mobileye announced that it would outfit the entire fleet of the winning city's public bus system with its Shield +TM driver-assistance safety technology.

Applications were submitted from cities across the country and applicants were asked to include a range of innovations and data-driven platforms to anticipate and address community needs. Specifically, USDOT is looking at how to integrate multiple innovations such as automated vehicles, the sharing economy and other technologies into a network that connects people to their intelligent transportation system.

Continued on page 9

USDOT OSDBU Celebrates Minority-Owned Businesses during Black History Month

The United States Department of Transportation's (USDOT) Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU), is celebrating Black History Month by highlighting the success of Minority-Owned businesses.

"Thank you to the U.S. Department of Transportation for opening their doors to increase the capacity of small business owners." -- Sharon Douglas, Founder and Owner of Bradley Douglas Construction

This week's feature business is Bradley Douglas Construction based in Forth Worth, Texas. Owned by Sharon Douglas, this African-American woman-owned business began operating as a cleaning service in 1995, and has since evolved into to a construction company. In 2011, Sharon Douglas sought to expand her business in order to bid more effectively on bigger projects, but she simply lacked the resources to make that happen.

Sharon eventually received assistance from the DOT's Gulf Region Small Business Transportation Resource Center (SBTRC). Her company became eligible to participate in the DOT'S Bonding Education Program. Since that time, Bradley Douglas Construction's bonding capacity increased nearly 400 percent, from \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000. Sharon has doubled her company's revenue, and she continues to obtain the experience and capac-

ity Bradley Douglas needs to be a viable candidate for future construction projects.

Bradley Douglas Construction also participates in the DOT's Women In Transportation initiative by mentoring young women interested in pursuing careers in transportation. Sharon Douglas was recently honored for her success in front of more than 200 small business owners at a Small Business Day event held in Dallas, TX.

Sharon credits the success of her company to God, the people on the Bradley Douglas team, outside supporters, and the major contractors that believe in her. She says that "Success is remembering the roads from which you have traveled, reaching out to others, by assisting them in reduction of high traffic and pot holes along the way."

The Gulf Region SBTRC provides services to DBEs and other small businesses in the civil transportation industry in the states of Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and New Mexico. The Gulf Region SBTRC is operated by the Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce through a Cooperative Agreement with the USDOT/OSDBU. For more information on the Gulf Region SBTRC, please visit their webpage at https://www.transportation.gov/osdbu/gulfregion-sbtrc.

Source: U.S. Department of Transportation



From left to right: Sharon Douglas, Lauren Adedokun, Deputy Secretary Victor Mendez and Tony Arps of the Gulf SBTRCPlymouth, Massachusetts

Success Delivered

Oprah wisely says:

"The more you praise and celebrate your life, the more there is in life to celebrate. We're such a goal-oriented culture and we get a thrill from achieving our goals – but are all too quickly straight onto the NEXT achievement. It's so easy to shift from the end of one year and straight into the next – without pausing to celebrate the success we've achieved."

The **Small Business Exchange, Inc. (SBE)** offers you he opportunity to celebrate your achievements in diversity and inclusion – to brag through our **SUCCESS DELIVERED** column.

Contact sbe@sbeinc.com for pricing to reserve space weekly or monthly



Voice of Small, Emerging Diversity Owned Businesses

Small Business Exchange Newspaper

ADVERTISING INSERTION ORDER

Please print or type.

Submit completed form prior to advertising closing date.

SBE Print Publications

Small Business Exchange Newspaper
Publishes every Thursday

Closing Date:

3:00 PM Tuesday prior to publishing

SBE Today Daily Electronic Newsletter
Publishes everyday

Closing Date:

3:00 PM the day before publishing

Return Insertion Order by Fax, Email, or Mail

Refer to contact information at the bottom of this form

Please reserve space for

Name of COMPANY			
Contact			
Address			
City	State/Province	Zip + 4/Postal Code	
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Billing address/contact

wame or	AGENCY		
Contact _			
Address			
City	State/Province	Zip + 4/Postal Code	
Phone -		Fax	
E-mail _			

Publication / Issue

Refer to Editorial Calendar for weekly features and topics. Please check publication AND indicate date(s) to run ad in the space provided

Small Business Exchange Weekly Newspaper — Publishes every Thursday

SBE Today Daily Electronic Newsletter — Publishes every Monday to Friday

Internet — www.sbeinc.com

Size of Ad
Full Page

1/2 pg (V or H)
1/4 pg

Color / Placement 🖵 Black/White - Pages 2-7, 10-15 🖵 2C (Black & PMS 355) - Front & Back Cover, Center Spread Pages 8-9 🖵 4C (CMYK Build) - Special

Contract Rates Available. Contact SBE 415-778-6250

Black Business Leaders - Past and Present

From the Editors: In celebration of Black History Month, SBE will acknowledge Black business leaders of the past and present.



Benjamin Banneker

Benjamin Banneker was a largely self-educated mathematician, astronomer, compiler of almanacs and writer.



Frederick Douglass

Abolitionist leader Frederick Douglass was born into slavery sometime around 1818 in Talbot County, Maryland. He became one of the most famous intellectuals of his time, advising presidents and lecturing to thousands on a range of causes, including women's rights and Irish home rule.



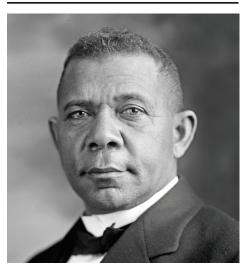
Harriet Tubman

Harriet Tubman escaped slavery to become a leading abolitionist. She led hundreds of enslaved people to freedom along the route of the Underground Railroad.



Martin Delany

Martin Robison Delany was an African-American abolitionist, journalist, physician, and writer, and arguably the first proponent of black nationalism. He was one of the first three blacks admitted to Harvard Medical School.



Booker T. Washington

One of the dominant figures in African-American history from 1890 to 1915; did much to improve the friendship and working relationship between the races.



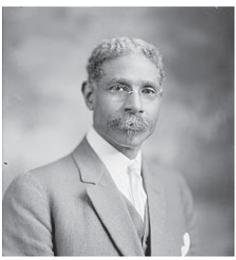
George Washington Carver

George Washington Carver was a prominent African-American scientist and inventor. Carver is best known for the many uses he devised for the peanut.



Phillis Wheatley

Having been kidnapped from West Africa and enslaved, Phillis Wheatley became the first African American and one of the first women to publish a book of poetry in the colonies, doing so in 1773.



George Washington Buckner

George Washington Buckner was an African-American physician and diplomat. He was United States minister to Liberia from 1913 to 1915



Madam C. J. Walker

Also known as Sarah Breedlove, Madam Walker was the first American woman to become a millionaire for her own achievements. Experiencing hair loss at an early age, she experimented with home products until she developed a workable salve. Parlaying her \$1.50-a-day job as a washer into a hair-care empire in only 12 years time, this fascinating 19th-20th century mogul is a true inspiration and pioneer for African-Americans and businesswomen everywhere. Walker used her money to forward anti-lynching campaigns and black education, dying in 1919 at the age of 51.



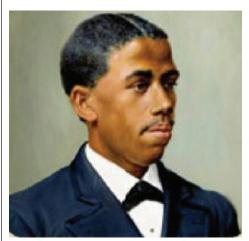
W.E.B. DuBois

W.E.B. Du Bois was one of the most important African-American activists during the first half of the 20th century. He co-founded the NAACP and supported Pan-Africanism.



Henry Ossawa Tanner

Naturalist painter Henry Ossawa Tanner was born and raised in Philadelphia in 1859. He studied art in his early 20s at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. He later moved to Paris (where he'd settle primarily for the rest of his life), soon getting accepted into French galleries and establishing his career. His career in America was propelled by an article Booker T. Washington wrote about him in 1899, setting him up for an established stateside career.



Henry Blair

Henry Blair (1804–1860) is the first black man to be identified on a U.S. patent application. The identification of Blair as black was an accident, as the U.S. Patent Office usually didn't identify patent holders by race.

Letter from Frederick Douglass to William A. White (30 July 1846)

To William A. White My Dear William:

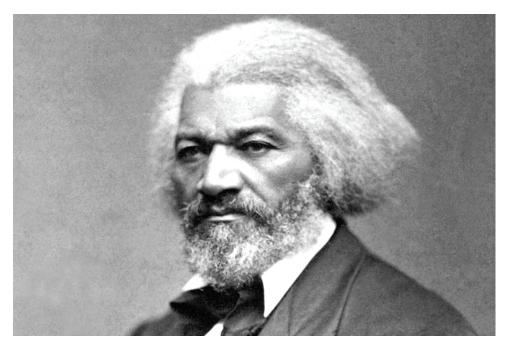
I dreamed last night that you would not be angry at receiving a letter from your friend Frederick Douglass. It may be all a dream, yet for once I feel like acting under the direction of a dream. I have thought of you a thousand times since I left the U.S. and have as often promised myself the pleasure of writing to you—but somehow or other, I have managed to postpone it until now I am prompted by a dream. That you may the more readily excuse me for presuming to dream of you I will mention that I went to bed thinking about Pendleton Indianna [sic]. You may remember such a place, and also certain events which transpired in that region in the summer of 1843. All dreams aside I shall never forget those days and I may add those nights. I shall never forget how like two very brothers we were ready to dare, do, and even die for each other. Tragic awfully so-yet I laugh always when I think how comic I must have looked when running before the mob, darkening the air with the mud from my feet. How I looked running you can best describe but how you looked bleeding—I shall always remember. You had left home and a life of ease and even luxury that you might do something toward breaking the fetters of the Slave and elevating the despised black man. And this too against the wishes of your father and many of your friends. When I thought I did indeed wish to bleed in your stead. Such a noble blood so warm so generous—was too holy to be poured out by the rough hand of that infernal mob. Dear William, from that hour you have been loved by Frederick Douglass.

I hold you in grateful and affectionate remembrance, and though I have not written to you before, I assure you it has not been for want of the disposition. Among those who stand forth prominently in behalf of the Antislavery cause, I looked to none upon whom I can rely in the trial hour more than yourself. I am with you in spirit, and shall welcome the day which shall again find me by your side in this good cause. I write thus freely to you because I know you to be above the miserable and contemptible prejudices, too common even among those who claim to regard the

Negro as a brother. I could say many things to you about my journeys here, but I prefer to write from within rather than from without—but enough.

What is to become of Old Massachusetts? I have nearly lost all confidence in her honesty, fidelity and love of liberty. Her doom is sealed, her glory has departed. You have labored nobly, and faithfully for her salvation, but there was not enough of moral life within her borders to save her from destruction. The American government is now in the piratical grasp of Texas, and possessing all the money and patronage. Our Massachusetts politicians will follow her in her atrocious robbery of Mexico, like sharks in the bloody wake of a slave ship. Money and office is the order of the day with them, and for these they seem willing to go to perdition, and if need be drag every one else after them. Who would have believed twelve months ago, that the Whig governor of Massachusetts would be seen calling upon the free citizens of that State to leave their homes, families and friends to go and fight the plundering battles of Slave holding Texas? As low as my opinion of the Honesty sincerity and uprightness of that governor was, I should have repelled such a prediction as altogether unjust, and a malicious attempt to injure the character of Governor Briggs. He ought [to be] hurled from his place as quick as possible.

I am more than ever convinced that New England can only be saved by a dissolution of the American Union. Three years from this time will see the seat of the American government removed from Washington into the South west for the accommodation of Slave holding Texas, and as many more states of which the U.S. shall find it convenient to rob Mexico. I need not dwell upon this subject. I know you must feel the degradation of your state keenly. I will not however despair. There is yet a glorious phalanx of noble men in New England whose mighty souls if once kindled by the holy fire of freedom will consume every thing of the hay, wood and stubble of pro slavery by which they are surrounded. Go forth then, go forth, and scatter your eloquence like sparks from the smitten steel. It will have its influence.



Freedom's battle once begun Bequeathed from bleeding sire to son Though baffled oft, is ever won.

You will perceive that I am now in Edinburgh. It is the capital of Scotland, and is justly regarded as one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. I never saw one with which for beauty elegance and grandeur to compare it. I have no time even had I the ability to describe it. You must come and see it if you ever visit this country. You will be delighted with it I am sure. The Monument to Sir Walter Scott, on Princes Street is just one conglomeration of architectural beauties. The Calton Hill, Salisbury Craggs and Arthur Seat give the city advantages over any city I have ever visited in this or in your country. I enjoy every thing here which may be enjoyed by those of a paler hue-no distinction here. I have found myself in the society of the Combes, the Crowe's and the Chamber's, the first people of this city and no one seemed alarmed by my presence.

I shall leave here for London on Saturday, first of August. I hope to meet Mr. Garrison there. I long to see a face which I have seen in America. I indulged a hope of seeing you over here this summer. I suppose there is no

prospect of your being over now, it is so late in the season. Do tell me is it true that you are married. I think I heard you were. If you are I am glad of it. If you are not I hope you will be soon. I want to see more William A. Whites in the world as well as to see those happy who are already here.

William, do you think it would be safe for me to come home this fall? Would master Hugh stand much chance in Mass? Think he could take me from the old Bay State? The old fellow is evidently anxious to get Hold of me. Staying in this country will not be apt to increase his love for me. I am playing the mischief with the character of Slave holders in this land. The [y] will find the atmosphere very hot here for them. The Rev. Thomas Smyth D. D. of Charleston South Carolina has been kept out of every pulpit here. I think I have been partly the means of it. He is terrible mad with me for it. Pardon this poorly written scrawl. I have not time to correct the spelling or composition. It comes quick from pen as it comes warm from my heart.

Sincerely yours, Frederick Douglass

Smart City Challenge

Continued from page 6

"I issued this Challenge in December and quite frankly, we are very impressed by the response by community leaders across the country. Cities understand that in order to plan for tomorrow, they need to embrace technology and innovation." said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "This Challenge is going to do more than just help one city adopt innovative ideas. Instead, it will serve as a catalyst for widespread change in communities across America."

"The extensive interest this Challenge has generated demonstrates the tremendous opportunity

to transform our country's transportation systems," said Barbara Bennett, President and Chief Operating Officer of Vulcan Inc. "Electrification of transportation will play a critical role in reducing greenhouse gases. Paul Allen's support for this program underscores his belief that innovation is a critical component in the pursuit to protect our planet."

USDOT developed the Smart City Challenge as a response to the trends identified in the Beyond Traffic draft report. That report, issued in February of 2015, reveals that our nation's aging infrastructure is not equipped to deal with a dra-

matically growing population inregions throughout the country and identifies a need to increase mobility options in developing megaregions – and specifically, that this will be especially challenging for mid-sized cities.

For the challenge, USDOT invited cities to submit a high-level description of their vision by February 4, 2016, and supported prospective applicants with numerous forums, webinars, and other resources. Five finalists will be announced at SXSW in Austin on March 12, and the finalists will each receive one hundred thousand dollars to hone their proposals and develop applications

for the final selection process scheduled for June 2016. Vulcan will be working with USDOT to assist the five finalist cities with technical guidance and other support in keeping with its commitment to leverage technology, investments and philanthropy to drive a low-carbon future.

List of cities that have submitted applications for the Smart City Challenge:

https://www.transportation.gov/smartcity/applicant-list

Explore Smart City Challenge partnership opportunities, visit www.transportation.gov/smartcity.

Source: U.S. Department of Transportation

Public Legal Notices

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY (CSU)

NOTICE INVITING STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS Project Number RTOCAC-1601 Task Order-Construction Agreement for Multiple Projects California State University, Office of the Chancellor

Project Description: In general, the work consists of design-build and construction manager services with lump sum pricing for the design, preconstruction, and construction of multiple projects under a master enabling agreement (MEA) for the CSU campuses in the Central region which may include the following Central Campuses: California State University, Bakersfield; California State University, Fresno; California State University, Monterey Bay; California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo; and California

State University, Stanislaus. SOQ Date: March 9, 2016

SOQ Opening Time: 2:00 p.m.

Trustees' Construction Budget: \$8,500,000.00

Contractor License Requirement: B

RFQ documents are available online at the PlanetBids website on or after February 10, 2016. Respondents shall register and log in to https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=15331 to download the RFQ documents. If you have problems viewing this website, please contact the office below on or after February 10, 2016.

CONTACT: Arlene Lee California State University, Office of the Chancellor 401 Golden Shore, Long Beach, CA 90802 562-951-4116 or e-mail cocm@calstate.edu

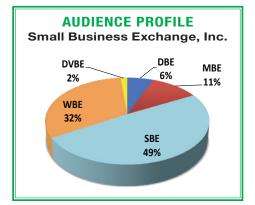
The Trustees require the successful bidder to achieve three percent (3%) Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise participation in contracting construction projects as established in the bidding documents, and this must occur prior to the bid opening. Bidders shall contact the Trustees' DVBE Program Advocate,

Maria Hernandez at 562-951-4586 or e-mail mhernandez@calstate.edu.

This project is a public works project and is subject to prevailing wage rate laws (see Contract General Conditions, Article 4.02-c). All contractors and all tiers of subcontractors bidding on this project shall register to bid public works projects with the Department of Industrial Relations, and maintain current this registration pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5. Please go to http://www.dir.ca.gov/Public-Works/PublicWorks. html for more information and to register.

All contractors must be prequalified prior to receiving a bid package, see Notice to Contractors in the specifications for further details.

2/11/16 CNS-2844592# SMALL BUSINESS EXCHANGE





CITY & COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Contract No. 2190J(R) (ID No. FCA16070) CITY HALL FIRE ALARM REPLACEMENT (REBID)

Sealed bids will be received at 1155 Market Street, 4th Floor, San Francisco, California 94103 until 2:30 p.m. on February 24, 2016, after which they will be publicly opened and read. Digital files of Bid Documents, Plan Holders Lists, and Addenda may be downloaded at no cost from the Public Works Electronic Bid Documents Download site at www.sfdpw.org/biddocs. Please visit the Contracts, Bid Opportunities and Payments webpage at www.sfdpw.org for more information. Notices regarding Addenda and other bid changes will be distributed by email to Plan Holders.

The Work is located at San Francisco City Hall and includes the design, replacement and/or removal of existing fire alarm devices, installation of new fire alarm initiating & notification devices, testing of new devices & all related & incidental work. The time allowed for completion is 200 consecutive calendar days. The Engineer's estimate is approximately \$600,000. For more information, contact the Project Manager, Glenn Hunt at 415-557-4782.

On July 1, 2014, the registration program under section 1725.5 of the California Labor Code went into effect. The program requires that all contractors and subcontractors who bid or work on a public works project register and pay an annual fee to the California Department of Industrial Relations ("DIR").

No contractor or subcontractor may be listed in a bid or awarded a contract for a public works project unless registered with the DIR as required by Labor Code section 1725.5 [with limited exceptions from this requirement for bid pur-

poses only under Labor Code section 1771.1(a)].

This Project shall incorporate the required partnering elements for **Partnering Level 1**. Refer to Section 01 31 33 for more details.

Pursuant to San Francisco Administrative Code ("Administrative Code") Section 6.25 and Chapter 25 of the Environment Code, "Clean Construction" is required for the performance of all work.

The Specifications include liquidated damages. Contract will be on a Lump Sum Bid Items With Unit Prices basis. Progressive payments will be made.

The Contract will be awarded to the lowest responsible responsive bidder.

A bid may be rejected if the City determines that any of the bid item prices are materially unbalanced to the potential detriment of the City.

Bid discounts may be applied as per Administrative Code Chapter 14B. LBE Subcontracting Participation Requirement is 25%. Call Kelly Dwyer at 415-554-4080 for details. In accordance with Administrative Code Chapter 14B requirements, all bidders shall submit documented good faith efforts with their bids, except those who exceed the above stated LBE Subcontracting Participation Requirement by 35%. Bidders must achieve 80 out of 100 points to be deemed responsive. Bidders will receive 15 points for attending the pre-bid conference, if scheduled. Refer to CMD Form 2B.

A pre-bid conference will be held on **February 10**, **2016 at 10:00AM** at 30 Van Ness Ave, 4th Floor Main Conference Room, followed by a site walk-

For information on the City's Surety Bond Program, call Jennifer Elmore at (415) 217-6578.

A corporate surety bond or certified check for ten percent (10%) of the amount bid must accompany each bid. Administrative Code Section 6.22(a) requires all construction greater than \$25,000 to include performance and payment bonds for 100% of the contract award.

Class "C-10" license required to bid.

In accordance with Administrative Code Chapter 6, no bid is accepted and no contract in excess of \$600,000 is awarded by the City and County of San Francisco until such time as the Mayor or the Mayor's designee approves the contract for award, and the Director of Public Works then issues an order of award. Pursuant to Charter Section 3.105, all contract awards are subject to certification by the Controller as to the availability of funds.

Minimum wage rates for this project must comply with the current General Prevailing Wage as determined by the State Department of Industrial Relations. Minimum wage rates other than applicable to General Prevailing Wage must comply with Administrative Code Chapter 12P, Minimum Compensation Ordinance.

This Project is subject to the requirements of the San Francisco Local Hiring Policy for Construction (''Policy'') as set forth in Administrative Code Section 6.22(g). Bidders are hereby advised that the requirements of the Policy will be incorporated as a material term of any contract awarded for the Project. Refer to Section 00 73 30 of the Project Manual for more information.

Bidders are hereby advised that the Contractor to whom the Contract is awarded must be certified by the Contract Monitoring Division as being in compliance with the Equal Benefits Provisions of Chapter 12B of the Administrative Code within two weeks after notification of award.

If a bidder objects on any ground to any bid specification or legal requirement imposed by this Advertisement for Bids, the bidder shall, no later than the 10th working day prior to the date of Bid opening, provide written notice to the Contract Administration Division, San Francisco Public Works, setting forth with specificity the grounds for the objection.

Right reserved to reject any or all bids and waive any minor irregularities.

2/11/16 CNS-2843101# SMALL BUSINESS EXCHANGE

EASTERN CONTRA COSTA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

NOTIC

INVITING PROPOSALS FOR THE OPERATION OF FIXED ROUTE TRANSIT AND PARATRANSIT BUS SERVICES

Notice and Invitation to Proposers

Eastern Contra Costa Transit Authority (ECC-TA), also known as Tri Delta Transit, a Joint Powers Agency located in eastern Contra Costa County, California, is accepting proposals for contracting the operation of its fixed route transit and paratransit services for a four year period plus three optional two year extensions. ECCTA will provide the successful Contractor all vehicles and operations facilities.

ECCTA was formed in 1976 as a Joint Powers Agency (JPA) consisting of the cities of Antioch, Brentwood, Pittsburg and the county of Contra Costa. Oakley incorporated as a city and joined the JPA in 1999. ECCTA provides over 2.8 million fixed route trips and 140,000 paratransit trips each year to a population of nearly 306,000 residents in the 225 square miles of eastern Contra Costa County.

This project shall include the furnishing of all labor and services as set forth in the Scope of Work section of the RFP. A pre-proposal conference will be conducted at 10:00 am, local time, on February 17, 2016, in the ECCTA boardroom located at 801 Wilbur Avenue, Antioch, California. Attendance at this conference is recommended but not required.

Technical and Price Proposals are due to ECC-TA on or before 2:00 pm, local time, on March

25, 2016, at ECCTA's facility, 801 Wilbur Avenue, Antioch, California, 94509. Proposals received after said time or at any other place other than the time and place stated in the RFP will not be considered. Submitted proposals must include the ECCTA Proposal Cover Form and the ECCTA Price Proposal Form. Any proposal submitted without these forms will be considered non-responsive and will be rejected.

Copies of the RFP documents may be obtained from:

Ann Hutcheson Director of Administrative Services Eastern Contra Costa Transit Authority 801 Wilbur Avenue, Antioch, CA 94509 Telephone: (925) 754-6622 Facsimile: (925) 757-2530 ahutcheson@eccta.org

It is the intent of awarding the contract according to the process and procedures described in the RFP. ECCTA intends to procure the highest quality service possible for the best value possible. Accordingly, the Proposal and Contract Award process contains seven periods:

- 1. RFP publication period
- 2. Technical and Price Proposal submission period
- 3. Technical Review Committee screening period
- 4. On site interview period
- 5. Technical Review Committee preliminary evaluation period

- 6. Technical Review Committee recommendation period
- 7. Contract award period

Definition and terms of this seven-step process are contained in the Information for Proposers section of the RFP.

This contract is subject to the receipt of financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Transportation and local sales tax funds, and may also be subject to a Grant Contract between the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and ECCTA. The contract is subject to laws and regulations governing the use of such funds. Proposers will be required to certify that they have not been suspended or debarred from participation in federally funded contracts. Proposers must also disclose lobbying activities. Full compliance with applicable Safety and Health Standards, Equal Employment Opportunity and Americans with Disabilities Act laws and regulations will be required of the successful proposer.

ECCTA will affirmatively ensure that, in regard to any contract entered into pursuant to this Request for Proposal (RFP); Disadvantaged Business Enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this request and will not be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, sex, or national origin.

Submittals shall be in accordance with the requirements set for in the Request for Proposal documents. Submission of a proposal shall constitute a firm offer to ECCTA.

Public Legal Notices

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

DOCUMENT 00 11 16 CUPCCAA INVITATION TO BID

1. Notice is hereby given that the governing board ("Board") of the Oakland Unified School District will receive sealed bids for the following: Project No., 13124-2

Madison Middle School – UDG Piping & Onsite Hydrant 400 Capistrano Drive, Oakland, CA 94603

- 2. Sealed Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m., on Thursday, February 25, 2016, at the District Office, located at 900 High Street, Front Desk, Oakland, California, at or after which time the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud. Any claim by a bidder of error in its bid must be made in compliance with section 5100 et seq. of the Public Contract Code. Any bid that is submitted after this time shall be nonresponsive and returned to the bidder.
- 3. The Project consists of:

Provide new private fire hydrant and trenching for new water pipe. Patch and repair concrete walkway and A/C paving. Obtain permit form City of Oakland.

- 4. Engineer's Estimate: \$125,000.00.
- 5. Project Manager for this project is **William Newby**, he can be reached at **(510) 532-2802**.
- 6. All bids shall be on the form provided by the District. Each bid must conform and be responsive to all pertinent Contract Documents, including, but not limited to, the Instructions to Bidders.
- 7. To bid on this Project, the Bidder is required to possess one or more of the following State of California Contractor Licenses:

A - General Engineering

The Bidder's license(s) must be active and in good standing at the time of the bid opening and must remain so throughout the term of the Contract.

- 8. As security for its Bid, each bidder shall provide with its Bid form:
- bid bond issued by an admitted surety insurer on the form provided by the District,
- · cash, or
- cashier's check or a certified check, drawn to the order of the Oakland Unified School District, in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the total bid price. This bid security shall be a guarantee that the Bidder shall, within seven (7) calendar days after the date of the Notice of Award, enter into a contract with the District for the performance of the services as stipulated in the bid.
- 9. The successful Bidder shall be required to furnish a 100 % Performance Bond and a 100% Payment Bond if it is awarded the contract for the Project.
- 10. The successful Bidder and its subcontractors shall pay all workers on the Project not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages and the general prevailing rate for holiday and overtime work as determined by the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations, State of California, for the type of work performed and the locality in which the work is to be performed within the boundaries of the District, pursuant to sections 1770 et seq. of the California Labor Code. Prevailing wage rates are available from the District or on the Internet at: http://www.dir.ca.gov. Bidders and Bidders' subcontactors shall comply with the registration and qualification requirements pursuant to sections 1725.5 and 1771.1 of the California Labor Code.
- 11. The successful Bidder may substitute securities for any monies withheld by the District to ensure perfor-

mance under the Contract, in accordance with the provisions of section 22300 of the Public Contract Code.

12. Effective January 1, 2015: The Oakland Unified School District has the duty to notify Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) when awarding a contract for a public works project **over one thousand dollars** (\$1,000), using the online **Contractor's Affidavit form**. This requirement, found in Labor Code Section 1773.3, now applies to ALL public works projects.

Effective March 1, 2015: NO contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal for a public works project unless registered with DIR.

Effective April 1, 2015: NO contractor or subcontractor may work on a public works project unless registered with DIR.

- 13. A MANDATORY pre-bid conference and site visit will be held on Thursday, Thursday, February 11, 2016, 11:00 a.m. at Front Entrance, James Madison Middle School. All participants are required to sign in at the Site Visit. The Site Visit is expected to take approximately [1] hour. Failure to attend or tardiness will render bid ineligible.
- 14. Contract Documents are available on Wednesday, February 3, 2016, for review at East Bay Blue Print, located at 1745 14th Avenue, Oakland, CA 94606. All requests should be addressed Attention: Sandy. Plans can be ordered by:

Ph: 510-261-2990 Fax: 510-261-6077 Email: ebbp@eastbayblueprint.com, Attn Sandy

Online using the Plan Command system at www.east-bayblueprint.com or plans can be delivered to a place of business, at requester's own expense. Payment for plan sets must be made with East Bay Blue Print and are NON-REFUNDABLE.

In addition, Contract Documents are available for review at the following builders' exchanges:

Builder's Exchange of Alameda County McGraw Hill Construction Data San Francisco Builder's Exchange Reed Construction Market Data Contra Costa Builder's Exchange Marin Builder's Exchange

15. The District's Board has found and determined, pursuant to Resolution 1415-0161, approved and adopted on February 11, 2015 and incorporated herein by this reference, that specific materials, products, things, or services ("Designated Products") shall be used on District projects based on the purpose(s) indicated in Resolution 1415-0161, as applicable. (Public Contract Code section 3400(c).) The Designated Products are designated by specific brand or trade name, as more fully set forth in Resolution 1415-0161, for the following purpose(s):

A. In order to match other products in use on a particular public improvement either completed or in the course of completion; and/or

B. In order to obtain a necessary item that is only available from one source.

- 16. The District's Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids and/or waive any irregularity in any bid received. If the District awards the Contract, the security of unsuccessful bidder(s) shall be returned within sixty (60) days from the time the award is made. Unless otherwise required by law, no bidder may withdraw its bid for ninety (90) days after the date of the bid opening.
- 17. **Project Labor Agreement:** The District has entered into a Project Labor Agreement with Building and Construction Trade Council of Alameda County, AFL-CIO.
- 18. The District shall award the Contract, if it awards it at all, to the lowest responsive responsible bidder based on: The base bid and Allowance amount only

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY STANISLAUS

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS CORP YARD AND BOILER PLANT RE-ROOF PROJECT, PROJECT NUMBER 9908 CSU STANISLAUS

One University Circle, Turlock CA 95382

The Trustees of the California State University will receive sealed bid proposals in the Mary Stuart Rogers Building, Room MSR270 at the above address, for furnishing all labor and materials for construction of the Corp Yard and Boiler Plant Re-Roof Project, for California State University, Stanislaus.

Proposals will be received in the above-mentioned room until 2:00 p.m. on March 1, 2016, in accordance with the contract documents, at which time the proposals will be publicly opened and read.

In general, the work consists of the removal of existing built-up roofing including ACM abatement and replacement with 60mil PVC roof membrance over cover board and rigid insulation board in accordance with the plans and specifications prepared by CRC Consulting Group, 1400 Easton Dr., Ste 138, Bakrsfield CA 93309. Plans and specifications may be seen at the office of the University and Plan Rooms. Engineer's construction estimate is \$515,000.

Plans and specifications may be obtained after February 8, 2016 by requesting them from ARC by going to www.e-ARC.com/ca/modesto then clicking on "Public Planroom" or by calling the ARC Modesto location at (209) 524-2924 asking for the PlanWell Department. Plans and specifications cost approximately \$125 plus tax and shipping payable to ARC and are non-refundable

Each bidder offering a proposal must comply with bidding provisions of Article 2.00 et seq. in the Contract

General Conditions, and should be familiar with all the provisions of the Contract General Conditions and Supplementary General Conditions.

This project is a public works project and is subject to prevailing wage rate laws (see Contract General Conditions, Article 4.02-c). All contractors and all tiers of subcontractors bidding on this project shall register to bid public works projects with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR), and maintain current this registration pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5. Please go to http://www.dir.ca.gov/Public-Works/PublicWorks.html for more information and to register.

A mandatory pre-bid walkthrough has been scheduled for February 16, 2016 at 10:00 am. Interested bidders should assemble at the Mary Stuart Rogers Building, Conference Room MSR130C, Building #27 on the campus.

The Trustees require the successful bidder to achieve three percent (3%) DVBE participation in contracting construction projects as established in the bidding documents, and bidders shall identify the DVBEs to be used to satisfy this requirement in their bids. The University is granting a DVBE bid incentive of up to 1% as described in the Contract General Conditions. Bidders shall contact the Trustees' DVBE Coordinator at (209) 667-3243 or Debbie DaRosa at (209) 667-3987.

It will be the responsibility of each bidder to obtain a bid proposal package in sufficient time to fulfill requirements therein. Bid proposal packages are obtainable only by prequalified contractors, licensed in the State of California with a C-39 license, and registered with the DIR to bid public works projects. The bid packages must be requested from the Trustees, located at CSU Stanislaus, One University Circle, Turlock CA 95382; Attention: Debbie DaRosa, (209) 667-3987, ddarosa@csustan.edu

STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITIATION

BIDDER NOTICE

PLEASANT VALLEY STATE PRISON HEALTH CARE FACILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT BID NUMBER: 6000001964

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) intends to receive bids and issue a contract for the Health Care Facility Improvement Project at the Pleasant Valley State Prison in Coalinga, California.

PRIME CONTRACTORS INTERESTED IN BIDDING MUST ATTEND THE SCHEDULED MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE AND WALK-THROUGH. The walk-through of the project construction site will be conducted after the pre-bid conference. For more information regarding security clearance to be eligible to attend the pre-bid conference and walk-through, refer to the Notice to Contractors (Document 00 21 00).

THE NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS which includes the Projected Timetable & all bid information is available to view and download on the Department of General Services website at www.dgs.ca.gov/pd/home.aspx, or at the following websites:

www.caleprocure.ca.gov or http://www.signa-turerepro.com.

Reference Bid Number 6000001964.

CDCR Contact: Ms. Toshi Cordova, Contract Analyst E-mail: Toshi.Cordova@cdcr.ca.gov

DRAWINGS & SPECIFICATIONS: Drawings, specifications and a sample bid proposal can be obtained by contacting Signature Reprographic at (916) 443-1322 or email print@ signaturerepro.com. The bid documents can be viewed & ordered by selecting the project from the On-Line Plan Well at http://www.signaturerepro.com/PlanroomLinks.htm. Prime contractors shall be required to order full bid document sets (plans & specifications) only; subcontractors may order partial sets. Bid documents may be purchased either in hard copy or electronic media format.

Drawings & specifications may also be viewed at local builder's exchanges.

THE STATE'S DISABLED VETERAN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DVBE) 3% MINIMUM PARTICIPATION GOAL IS A REQUIREMENT OF THIS PROJECT.

In accordance with M&VC §999.5(a) and PCC §10115, an incentive will be given to bidders who provide DVBE participation.

An award of a contract is dependent upon the availability of interim financing or bond proceeds to fund construction of the project. The State's Estimate for the project is approximately Thirteen Million, Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$13,700,000.00.).

2/4, 2/11/16

CNS-2840247# SMALL BUSINESS EXCHANGE

Public Legal Notices

CSII MONTEREY RAY

NOTICE INVITING BIDS Project No. CPD-14008 , 8th Avenue & Inter-Garrison Road Roundabout

In general, work will consist of the construction

of a traffic roundabout to be located at the intersection of 8th Avenue and Inter-Garrison Road, on the campus of California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB). Bid Date: March 10, 2016, Bid Opening Time: 2:00 p.m. Estimated Construction Cost: \$ 2,287,000.00 California Contractor License Requirement: Current A License. A Mandatory Pre-bid Conference Walkthrough Date: February 17, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. in the University Center (Building 29), Living Room 101. Google Maps Address: 4314 6 th Avenue, Seaside, CA. A parking permit will be required to park in any campus parking lot. Permits can be purchased for \$4.00 from any ticket dispenser on campus. Place ticket prominently in windshield on driver's side. Plans and specifications may be seen on the DGS' BIDSYNC Website starting on February 11, 2016. Register and login to www.bidsync.com to view documents for the 8th Avenue & Inter-Garrison Road Roundabout Project. If you have problems viewing BIDSYNC, contact Reyola Carlisle, at (831) 582-3506, after February 11, 2016. State Prevailing Wage Rate applies to this project. This project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR). In addition, the Contractor shall meet the minimum Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) participation goal of 3%. The Contractor shall also possess a current financial prequalification from the CSU. Contractors go http://www.calstate.edu/cpdc/cm/contractor_prequal_bidders.shtml under 'Project Bidder Prequalification'. Contractors shall register and log in to the database using the link provided by (PlanetBids). Contractors and all tiers of subcontractors bidding on this project shall register to bid public works projects with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR), and maintain current this registration pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5. Please go to: http://www.dir.ca.gov/Public-Works/Public Works.html for more information and to register. Contractors should be aware of the additional insurance coverage that shall be required. (Section 4.06 of the Contract General Conditions.) Ouestions regarding this project should be directed to Revola Carlisle after February 11, 2016 by email: rcarlisle@csumb.edu.

2/11/16 CNS-2842767# SMALL BUSINESS EXCHANGE

Yerba Buena Island in San Francisco

Opportunity to Provide

Design-Build Services for three (3) Water Tanks on Yerba Buena Island

Lennar Urban is requesting qualified, interested construction firms to respond to a public request to provide

Design-Build Services for the Construction

Design-Build Services for the Construction of three (3) 1.34 Million Gallon (MG) domestic water pre-stressed concrete tanks on Yerba Buena Island as part of the Treasure Island Project

For more information, please visit: http://mission.sfgov.org/OCABidPublication/ BidDetail.aspx?K=10471

Treasure Island Development Authority (TIDA) has established the 41% Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Participation goal for construction firms.

Respondents are encouraged to check this website regularly for updates.

Pre-Bid Conference: February 2, 2016 @ 2:00 PM One Sansome Street, Suite #3200 San Francisco, CA 94104

Proposals must be submitted by February 16, 2016 @ 2:00 PM (PST).

Hunters Point Artists Parcel Mass Grading,Demo & Phase II Utility Project-Opportunity to Perform

Demolition and Abatement of existing infrastructure and structures, mass grading, and construction of new infrastructure at the Hunters Point Shipyard.

Lennar Urban is requesting qualified, interested construction firms to respond to a public request for proposals to perform:

Demolition and Abatement of existing infrastructure and structures, mass grading, and construction of new infrastructure to support future development inclusive of a new artists

building
For more information, please visit:
http://mission.sfgov.org/OCABidPublication/
BidDetail.aspx?K=10535

The Successor to the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency (SFRA) has established the 50% Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Participation goal for construction firms. Respondents are encouraged to check this website regularly for updates.

Pre-Bid Coordination Meeting and Job Walk:

February 16, 2016 @ 10:00 AM Building 101 101 Horne Ave. San Francisco, CA 94124

Proposals must be submitted by March 3, 2016@ 2:00 PM (PST).



DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES (DMV)

HVAC Replacement, Duct Cleaning and Air Balancing Project For The Fremont DMV Field Office. Project No. 15-357

Provide the Dept of Motor Vehicles (DMV) all labor, materials, tools and equipment necessary to replace existing HVAC unit with new unit manufactured to replicate performance and dimensions of existing unit.

A mandatory pre-bid conference is scheduled at 10:00 am on 02/08/2016 at the Fremont DMV field

office (meet at the flagpole), located at 4287 Central Ave., Fremont, CA 94536, for the purpose of discussing concerns regarding this IFB.

Contractor must possess a C-20 license. Air Balancing Certification (AABC) OR National Environmental Balancing Bureau (NEBB), AND Certified Energy Manager certification, issued by the Association of Energy Engineers. Successful bidder shall furnish a Payment Bond, must pay prevailing wages, and meet DVBE requirements. (Estimate: \$275,000.00)

Bid Opening: March 7, 2016 at 3:00 PM

Contact: For additional information, please download the Invitation For Bid Package at: www.caleprocure.ca.gov.

CNS-2838349# SMALL BUSINESS EXCHANGE

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. A-0368841-00

Fictitious Business Name(s): Cornerstone Janitorial Services Address 745 Brazil Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94112

Full Name of Registrant #1 Allan Steve Castro Address of Registrant #1

Address of Registrant #1
745 Brazil Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94112

This business is conducted by **An Individual.** The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/14/16

Signed: Allan S. Castro

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on 1/14/16.

Notice: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to this date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the right of another under Federal, State or Common Law

Filed: Jennifer Wong
Deputy County Clerk
1/14/2016

2/4/16 + 2/11/16 + 2/18/16 + 2/25/16

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. A-0368938-00

Fictitious Business Name(s):
Pink Lotus Nails
Address
1085 Fillmore Street T-1, San Francisco, CA 94115
Full Name of Registrant #1
Tran Cam Dam

This business is conducted by An Individual. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/20/16

Signed: Tran Cam Dam

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on 1/20/16.

Notice: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to this date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the right of another under Federal, State or Common Levy.

Filed: Jennifer Wong
Deputy County Clerk
1/20/2016

2/4/16 + 2/11/16 + 2/18/16 + 2/25/16

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. A-0369298-00

Lindstrom Food Law
Address
1950 Clay Street #504, San Francisco, CA 94109
Full Name of Registrant #1
Eric Stefan Clay Lindstrom
Address of Registrant #1
1950 Clay Street #504, San Francisco, CA 94109

This business is conducted by **An Individual.** The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 2/2/2016

Signed: Eric Lindstrom

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on 2/9/2016

Notice: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to this date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the right of another under Federal, State or Common Law

Filed: Maribel Jaldon
Deputy County Clerk
2/9/2016

2/11/16 + 2/18/16 + 2/25/16 + 3/3/16

CALIFORNIA SUB-BID REQUEST AD

Pacific States Environmental Contractors, Inc. CALLIC. NO. 723241

11555 Dublin Boulevard • Dublin, CA 94568-2909
Phone: (925) 803-4333 • FAX: (925) 803-4334
Estimator: Keith Donahue
Fmail: Kdonahue@pacificstates.net

Pacific States Environmental Contractors, Inc (PSEC) is preparing a bid as a Prime Contractor for the project listed below:

Improvements of a Portion of Ardenwood Creek (Line P) in the Vicinity of Paseo Padre Parkway to Tupelo Street, and Construction of Wetland Mitigation Area for Alameda Creek, in Fremont, Alameda County, California Zone 5 Project.

Owner:

Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. BID DATE: March 1, 2016 @2pm

We hereby encourage responsible participation of Disadvantaged/Minority/Women-Owned Enterprises (D/M/WBE's) and solicit their subcontractor or materials and/or suppliers and trucking quotation for the following types of work including but not limited to:

Concrete, Trucking, Fencing, Hydroseeding, Pipe Ramming/Jacking, Underground Pipe, Storm Drain, Striping, Signage, SWPPP, Erosion Control, Painting, Landscaping, Irrigation, Street Pile Shoring and Light Weight Concrete Fill.

At our discretion, 100% Payment and 100% Performance bonds may be required as a subcontract condition. Please call if you need assistance in obtaining bonding, insurance, equipment, materials and/or supplies for this project.

This will be a PREVAILING WAGE JOB.

Plans and specifications may be reviewed at our office located at 11555 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin, CA, as well as: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/lf9cj45m1oes5ko/AABKLAvq0qumWZiElwSLIV_ba?dl=0

Plans and Specs may be viewed and purchased online at www.ipdservices.com/clients/easbay?ALCO or by contacting Central blue Print at 17132 E. 14th Street Hayward, CA 94541 (510) 276-3375, East Bay Blue Print and Supply at 1745 14th Avenue, Oakland, CA 94606 (510) 261-2990, or Custom Blue Print 1944 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 (925) 932-3113.

PSEC is willing to breakout any portion of work to encourage Disadvantaged/Minority/Women-Owned Business Enterprises (D/M/WBE's) and solicit their subcontractor or materials and/or suppliers and trucking quotation. If you require any assistance, please contact the Estimator, Keith Donahue email him at Kdonahue@pacificstates.net or call (925) 803-4333 and bids may be faxed to us at (925) 803-4334.

We are an equal opportunity employer.

Minority Business Enterprise

Continued from page 5

in part because home values represented a larger proportion of household wealth for minority households than for White households. Particularly for the Hispanic population, households have relatively higher representation in markets such as California, Arizona, Nevada and Florida that experienced especially sharp declines in home values.

Visit the link below for the full article: www.sbeinc.com/resources/cms.cfm?fuseaction=news.detail&articleID=1505&pageID=25

Source: NACMBE

California Sub-Bid Request Ads

DeSilva Gates Construction

11555 Dublin Boulevard • P.O. Box 2909 Dublin, CA 94568-2909 (925) 829-9220 / FAX (925) 803-4263 Estimator: STEVE LIPPIS Website: www.desilvagates.com An Equal Opportunity Employer

DeSilva Gates Construction, L.P. is soliciting for DBEs for the following project:

PRIMARY TREATMENT FACILITY PACKAGE 1 SITE PREPARATION PROJECT, Bid No. PW16-19, Public Works Project No. UY-15/01-19

OWNER: CITY OF SUNNYVALE

650 West Olive Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94086

BID DATE: FEBRUARY 24, 2016 @ 3:00 P.M.

DGC is soliciting quotations from certified Disadvantage Business Enterprises, for the following types of work and supplies/materials including but not limited to:

CLEARING AND GRUBBING/DEMOLITION, ELECTRICAL, FENCING, UNDERGROUND, TRUCKING, WATER TRUCKS, STREET SWEEPING.

Plans and specifications may be reviewed at our offices located at 11555 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin, CA or 7700 College Town Drive, Sacramento, CA, or at your local Builders Exchange, or reviewed and downloaded from the ftp site at; ftp://ftp%25desilvagates.com:f7pa55wd@ pub.desilvagates.com (if prompted the username is ftp@desilvagates.com and password is f7pa55wd) or from the

Fax your bid to (925) 803-4263 to the attention of Estimator Steve Lippis. If you have questions for the Estimator, call at (925) 829-9220. When submitting any public works bid please include your DUNS number and DIR number. For questions regarding registration for DIR use the link at: www.dir.ca.gov/Public-Works/PublicWorks.html

If you need DBE support services and assistance in obtaining bonding, lines of credit, insurance, necessary equipment, materials and/or supplies or related assistance or services, for this project call the Estimator at (925) 829-9220, or contact your local Small Business Development Center Network (http://californiasbdc.org) or contact the California Southwest Transportation Resource Center (www.transportation.gov/osdbu/SBTRCs). DGC is willing to breakout portions of work to increase the expectation of meeting the DBE goal.

At our discretion, 100% Payment and 100% Performance bonds may be required as a subcontract condition. This will be a PREVAILING WAGE JOB. DGC is an equal opportunity employer.

CAHILL CONTRACTORS, INC.

Contact: Julie Park estimating@cahill-sf.com, (415) 986-0600

CAHILL CONTRACTORS, INC. requests bids from Certified SBE/LBE/DBE **Subcontractors and Suppliers** for the following TRADES:

Structural & Misc. Steel / Cabinets / Countertops / Door and Door Hardware / Window & Storefronts / Signage / HVAC / Plumbing / Electrical ***Note: Fire Sprinkler has already bid out.

ROSA PARKS I, PHASE II, RAD - EARLY BID

(SELECT TRADES) 1251 Turk Street, San Francisco, CA 94115

This is an MOHCD project with construction workforce, PLA Agreement and prevailing wage requirements.

BID DATE: 3/11/16 @ 2 PM

Voluntary Pre-bid Meeting/Job - Walk: TBD BID DOCUMENTS: Please contact Julie for access to documents on BuildingConnected.



DeSilva Gates Construction

11555 Dublin Boulevard • P.O. Box 2909 Dublin, CA 94568-2909 Estimator: VICTOR LE Website: www.desilvagates.com An Equal Opportunity Employer

DeSilva Gates Construction, L.P. is soliciting for DBEs & SBEs for the following project:

EAST BAY BUS RAPID TRANSIT PROJECT INFRA-STRUCTURE AND STATION PLATFORMS, IFB No. 2016-1354, Disadvantaged Business Enterprise goal assigned is 8%, Small Business Enterprise goal assigned is 20%

OWNER:

AC TRANSIT

1600 Franklin Street, Oakland, CA 94612

BID DATE: FEBRUARY 3, 2016 @ 2:00 P.M.

DGC is soliciting quotations from certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprises and local Small Business Enterprises, for the following types of work and supplies/ materials including but not limited to:

ADJUST IRON, STATION BUILDING, CLEARING AND GRUBBING/DEMOLITION, ELECTRICAL, TEMPORARY EROSION CONTROL, FENCING, LANDSCAPING/IRRIGATION, MINOR CONCRETE, MINOR CONCRETE STRUCTURE, PRECAST AR-CHITECTURE PAVER, PCC PAVEMENT, JOINTED PLAIN CONCRETE PAVEMENT, ROADSIDE SIGNS, OBJECT MARKERS, MARKERS, STRIPING, SUR-VEY/STAKING, SWPPP/WATER POLLUTION CON-TROL PLAN PREPARATION, SWEEPING, UNDERGROUND, TRUCKING, WATER TRUCKS, CLASS 2 AGGREGATE BASE MATERIAL, CRUSHED AG-GREGATE BASE, SELECT SUBBASE, HOT MIX AS-PHALT (TYPE A) MATERIAL, RUBBERIZED HMA (GAP GRADE) MATERIAL.

Plans and specifications may be reviewed at our offices located at 11555 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin, CA or 7700 College Town Drive, Sacramento, CA, or at your local Builders Exchange, or reviewed and downloaded from the ftp site at; ftp://ftp%25desilvagates.com:f7pa55wd@ pub.desilvagates.com (if prompted the username is ftp@desilvagates.com and password is f7pa55wd) or from the

Fax your bid to (925) 803-4263 to the attention of Estimator Victor Le. If you have questions for the Estimator, call at (925) 829-9220. When submitting any public works bid please include your DUNS number and DIR number. For questions regarding registration for DIR use the link at: www.dir.ca.gov/Public-Works/PublicWorks.html

If you need DBE or SBE support services and assistance in obtaining bonding, lines of credit, insurance, necessary equipment, materials and/or supplies or related assistance or services, for this project call the Estimator at (925) 829-9220, or contact your local Small Business Development Center Network (http://californiasbdc.org) or contact the California Southwest Transportation Resource Center (www.transportation.gov/osdbu/SBTRCs). DGC is willing to breakout portions of work to increase the expectation of meeting the DBE and SBE goals.

At our discretion, 100% Payment and 100% Performance bonds may be required as a subcontract condition. This will be a PREVAILING WAGE JOB. DGC is an equal

Computer Science for All Initiative

Continued from page 2

also will mount a campaign to encourage all states to invest in and adopt policies that support CS education.

We clearly need the tech sector to continue to do more. Microsoft is one of many companies in the tech sector that is committed to this effort," wrote Microsoft president and chief legal officer Brad Smith in a blog post. "But the private sector and philanthropy cannot fill this gap without public funding....[This proposal] can provide the accelerant to help more states and school districts progress more quickly."

Source: Source: http://philanthropynewsdigest.org

RGW Construction, Inc.

550 Greenville Road • Livermore, CA 94550 • Phone: 925-606-2400 • Fax: 925-961-1925 **An Equal Opportunity Employer**

RGW Construction Inc. is seeking all qualified WBE (Women Business Enterprises) & MBE (Minority Business Enterprises) for the following project:

Primary Treatment Facility Package 1: Site Preparation Project Public Works Project No. UY-15-01-19 WBE Goal: 1% MBE Goal: 2% Engineer Estimate: \$11,,797,720 Bids: March 2nd, 2016 3:00 p.m.

Requesting Sub-quotes for (including but not limited to: Construction Area Signs, Traffic Control, Demolition/Bridge Removal, Clear & Grub, Roadway Excavation, Structure Excavation/backfill, Erosion Control, Lime Treatment, CIDH Piles, Structure Concrete, Joint Seal, Reinforcing Steel-Rebar, Signs Roadside, Rock Slope Protection, Fencing, Surveyor, SWPPP, Water Truck, Sweeper, Trucker, Storm Drain(Underground), Coffer Dam and Dewatering.

Scope of Work: Demolition and site preparation, installation of storm water bypass system, misc. electrical and controls modifications, ands site fill.

RGW is willing to breakout any portion of work to encourage WBE & MBE participation. Contact us for

Plans and Specs are available to view and copy at our office or www.sunnyvale.ca.gov. Contact Andrew Eldridge 925-606-2400 andrew.eldridge@rgwcosntruction.com for questions, including bonding, lines of credit, or insurance or equipment or material suppliers. Subcontractors should be prepared to submit payment and performance bonds equal to 100% of their quotation. For bonding and other assistance, please call.



Sixth Street Viaduct Replacement Project

Skanska Stacy and Witbeck is seeking additional DBE participation for the following scopes of work:

SSW is seeking qualified DBE manufacturers/distributors with the following inventory for purchase: cranes of all sizes, forklifts, man lifts and other small equipment.

If your firm provides this scope and would like to be considered, please send an email to: 098009CRD@skanska.com. You will be required to complete a Questionnaire and submit by Wednesday, February 24, 2016 at 5:00pm PST.

DWP Underground Installation

SSW is seeking qualified DBE contractors interested in providing utility installation services for this opportunity.

Scope includes: Excavating, saw cutting, backfilling and laying conduit.

Contractors may need to provide crane services; shoring installation and traffic control services and oversee

If your firm provides this scope and would like to be considered, please send an email to: 098009CRD@ skanska.com. You will be required to complete a Questionnaire and submit by Monday, February 22, 2016

We will be inviting all interested and qualified firms to a meeting on Wednesday, February 24, 2016.

Granite Rock Company
7700 Edgewater Drive, Building B, Suite 300 • Oakland, CA 94621
Phone (510) 729-5075 Fax (510) 729-5079
Contact: Patrick McDonald • Email: estimating@graniterock.com

REQUESTING SUB-QUOTES FROM QUALIFIED SBE & DBE SUBCONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS FOR:

AC Transit East Bay Bus Rapid Transit Project Infrastructure and Station Platforms IFB #: 2016-1354

Owner: Alameda – Contra Costa Transit District **Engineers' Estimate: \$90 - \$95 Million** BID DATE: February 17, 2016 @ 2:00 PM

Items of work include but are not limited to: Traffic Control, Construction Staking, QC Testing & Inspection, Striping, Pavement Marking & Markers, Clear & Grub, Demolition, Storm Drain, Sanitary Sewer, Traffic Signals & Street Lighting, Adjust Utilities, Slurry Seal, Minor Concrete, Landscape, Irrigation, Roadside Signs, Precast Pavers, Storm Water Prevention, Street Sweeping, Arborist, Trucking, Tubular Handrail, Architectural Fence, CCTV System, Ticket Vending Machine, Fare Collection System, Rebar, Excavation & Grading, Asphalt Concrete, Cold Plane Pavement Grinding, Saw Cutting and Utility Potholing.

Granite Rock Company 'Graniterock' is signatory to Operating Engineers, Laborers, Teamsters, Carpenters and Cement Masons unions. 100% performance and payment bonds will be required from a qualified surety company for the full amount of the subcontract price. Bonding assistance is available. Graniterock will pay bond premium up to 1.5%. In addition to bonding assistance, subcontractors are encouraged to contact Graniterock Estimating with questions regarding obtaining lines of credit, insurance, equipment, materials and/or supplies, or with any questions you may have. Subcontractors must possess a current contractor's license, insurance and worker's compensation coverage. Subcontractors will be required to enter into our standard contract. Graniterock intends to work cooperatively with all qualified firms seeking work on this project. Granite Rock Company is an equal opportunity employer.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer

Asian Black Latino Enterprises

Calif. Assemblyman Bonta Authors AB 2719 to Support Innovative Small Businesses



Assemblymember Rob Bonta

By Rocelle Tangi

Filipino-American Assemblymember Rob Bonta's innovative small business bill passed the leig-slature with "strong bipartisan support" and now awaits the approval of Governor Jerry Brown.

Bonta believes in the incredible importance of small businesses in the economy of California that led to the creation of AB 2719.

"There are over 3.3 million small businesses in California, providing 51.6 percent of the total private sector jobs in the state." Bonta said. "AB 2719 supports small businesses by standardizing the regulatory process for pop-up and mobile

boutique retailers across the state through creation of a model local ordinance for adoption by local jurisdictions," he added.

He envisions his bill as a bridge to the "gap between the new retail environment and outdated law and regulatory frameworks that do not meet the demands of the new market."

Pop-up businesses sell non-food products from temporary venues. These new outlet of businesses are modeled to "pop-up" at one location and eventually move to other locations. Though small and temporary, it can build up interest and sales by consumer exposure. It is often used by marketers for seasonal items such as Halloween costumes and decorations, Christmas gifts and trees, or fireworks

On the other hand, mobile boutique retailers are businesses that sell non-food products from mobile vehicles, typically trucks. It allows the retailers to bring their products directly to a consumer across a potentially wide area. Fashion boutiques are one of the most common busiest to retail in this way.

"Mobile boutique retailers and pop-ups are both confronted with similar regulatory challenges because there is no standard process for regulating mobile boutique and pop-up retail operations in local jurisdictions," said Bonta.

"A mobile business attempting to operate in different local jurisdictions must bear the expense and difficulty of modifying their operation to comply with regulations in each new location." he warned.

"AB 2719 standardizes the process across the state by providing a model local ordinance that will provide regulatory guidelines for items including: licensing, revocation, timelines, vehicle specifications, and other necessary provisions," said Bonta. "This bill requires the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to develop, in consultation with local governmental entities, a model local ordinance or resolution regulating mobile retail operations based on walkability, proximity to economic hubs, and other relevant factors."

The bill is sponsored by Popuphood, an Oakland based advocacy group for pop-up businesses, and the West Coast Mobile Retail Association, a Los Angeles based advocacy group for mobile retail businesses.

Source: http://newamericamedia.org

For One Martial Arts Academy, Small Business Program Brings New Hopes

By Anna Challet

When James and Deundra Hundon opened Universal Martial Arts Academy in the Bayview-Hunters Point district of San Francisco in 2010, many people were skeptical – and some still are.

"We get a lot of doubters, a lot of naysayers, who say, 'Why would you open up a martial arts school on 3rd Street? You know how that neighborhood is ... Aren't you scared to open up a business there?" says Deundra. "But my husband and I said, 'This is the exact place for us to open up our business, it's the exact community."

Especially because in the Bayview, there isn't "a fitness center on every corner," she says. She and her husband wanted to bring more healthy options to the neighborhood.

"We have children in our program now who come, and it is an oasis for them. We have women who come, some who have been hurt in the street, who are learning to take care of themselves. We have men who themselves were bullied when they were young kids who are now coming to our center to work through that bullying as they are now adults," she says.

But, three years after opening the academy, the Hundons were struggling financially. Without a business background and needing more cash flow, they weren't sure how to keep moving forward.

In January, they started working with Wells Fargo as part of the Wells Fargo Works Project, which is geared toward providing small businesses with financial help and mentoring from small business experts.

When the Hundons started with the project, their office didn't have a computer and the academy's website wasn't functional.

Through the project, they were able to meet with a marketing consultant to learn about attracting new clients, including corporate clients. A designer helped them create a new website with professional photos, one that allows customers to sign up for classes online and pay with credit cards. And their office now has a computer and other necessary equipment.

"We're now taking online payments, and we had customers sign up online in the last couple of weeks," says Deundra.

They were able to hire an employee to handle social media and are working with a bookkeeper. Right away, they began seeing an increase in profits. "We have made more income from January to today than we did in all of 2013," says Deundra.

The Hundons spoke at an event in San Francisco last week publicizing Wells Fargo's recent launch of Wells Fargo Works for Small Business, an initiative aimed at helping entrepreneurs grow their small businesses with resources, services and guidance. Wells Fargo has also announced a lending goal of \$100 billion in new small business loans by 2018.

The Wells Fargo Works Project has helped other small businesses across the country, like Golden Harvest Foods of St. Paul, Minn., owned by Shua Xiong and Jou Lee, who are both immigrants from Laos. Like the Hundons, the owners of Golden Harvest needed a website and wanted to grow their business in other ways, such as holding cooking



demonstrations in the store and developing a retirement plan for their long-time employees.

"Small business owners are crawling out of the recessionary impact," said Wells Fargo small business segment manager Doug Case. "Small businesses felt the brunt of the impact post-recession ... This is still a recovery period for small businesses in this county."

The average commitment size of a business line of credit is between \$25,000 to \$30,000, Case says, which can help small businesses to "keep the doors open in the best and the worst of times" and allow for periods of fluctuation.

"We see this as being a long-term investment that we're making in small business as a company," he said.

Deundra Hundon says that embarking on the project with Wells Fargo has, above all, given her and her husband "confidence." "We have that now, where we didn't have that before. We're learning how to ask for the sale," she says.

"We are so glad we took the time to go through the process," she says. "I know that this is just the beginning because so many things have happened [already]."

Source: http://newamericamedia.org

Access to Capital

New Markets Tax Credit Program

The New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) program is a powerful vehicle for Wells Fargo to help meet the needs of these communities. The NMTC program is a federal tax incentive authorized by Congress in 2000 to help spur the investment of capital in small businesses and commercial real estate located in communities of need. Through NMTC allocations, Wells Fargo reduces borrowing costs for non-profits and entrepreneurs, enabling higher risk loans and investments that shoulder collateral shortfalls and credit risks.

Eligible businesses

There are three primary types of businesses eligible for the New Markets Tax Credit Program:

- 1. Community facilities (such as charter schools, child care centers, healthcare clinics, and community and performing arts centers)
- High-impact real estate development (such as redevelopment projects, mixed-use and transitoriented developments, and neighborhoodserving retail developments)
- 3. Job creation and small business finance (such as owner-occupied facilities finance and expansion capital projects)

Eligible communities

Targeted communities are in highly distressed areas and generally have at least one or more of the following characteristics:

- \bullet Poverty rates greater than 30%
- Unemployment rates at least 1.5 times the national average
- Median income less than 60% of area median income
- Located in empowerment zones, enterprise and renewal communities, HUB zones and Brownfield sites
- Located in a redevelopment project area

Our Vision

Our vision is: "We want to satisfy our customers' financial needs and help them succeed financially."

It is just as relevant today as when it was written more than 20 years ago. We didn't know then that at only 84 characters, it would be succinct enough to tweet today!

Our vision of financially successful customers is based on a simple premise: We believe customers across all business segments can be better served, and save time and money, if they bring their financial services to one trusted provider that knows them well, provides reliable guidance and advice, and can serve their full range of financial needs through a wide choice of products and services.

Our journey toward this customer-centered vision has required hard work, persistence, and determination. We've made steady progress toward this goal. But we still have much to accomplish. For example, our own customers still give a significant amount of their financial business to our competitors. Our job — central to our vision — is to make it easy for them to bring more of their business to us so we can satisfy their financial needs.

Our vision has nothing to do with transactions, selling products, or getting bigger for the sake of bigness. It's about building lifelong relationships one customer at a time.

Each of our customers defines "financial success" differently and very personally. Some want financial security and self-sufficiency. Others want

to be disciplined about spending and saving so they can afford to buy a home, start or grow a business, save for education, or prepare for retirement. And some just want to be better informed about financial matters. Knowing what financial success means to each of our customers is the starting point for serving them well.

The reason we wake up in the morning is to help our customers succeed financially and to satisfy their financial needs, and the result is that we make money. It's never the other way around. Our time-tested vision will forever be what matters to Wells Fargo. We'll never put the stagecoach ahead of the horses.

Our Values

Our values should guide every conversation, decision, and interaction. Our values should anchor every product and service we provide and every channel we operate. If we can't link what we do to one of our values, we should ask ourselves why we're doing it. It's that simple.

Source: Wells Fargo

4 VA Loan Myths That Hamper Veteran Home Buyers

By Chris Birk

Part of the original GI Bill of 1944, VA home loans — mortgage loans guaranteed by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) — have soared since the housing crash.

During a time of tight credit and tough lending, this long-cherished program backed a record 631,151 loans in fiscal year 2015. VA loans aren't just grabbing market share — they're snagging headlines, too, from talk of their industry-low interest rates to their surprising safety.

But countless veterans and military families are still missing out, in part because of longstanding myths and misconceptions. A perception of red tape and bureaucracy is something Department of Veterans Affairs officials continue to combat.

Mike Frueh, the head of the loan program, calls it the "myth of my father's VA."

"It's the myth that the loan takes too long to get, it's too cumbersome, it's difficult," Frueh said. "We can counter that through education, and through constantly addressing our program to make it better."

To that end, let's take a look at four pervasive VA loan myths that can keep veterans from exploring their hard-earned home loan benefits.

Myth 1: You need perfect credit

This one is almost laughably wrong. VA loans were created to help level the playing field for veterans and military members who've sacrificed for our country. More flexible and forgiving credit guidelines are a key part of the benefit.

While the VA doesn't require a certain credit score, the private lenders ultimately making these loans certainly will. The good news is, many are looking for a minimum 620 FICO score to qualify. That's considered just "Fair" credit, a step below "Good" and two beneath "Excellent."



VA loans also typically feature shorter waiting periods than conventional loans following negative credit events like a bankruptcy or foreclosure.

Myth 2: VA loans cost more

These \$0 down loans come with a host of bigtime benefits that have made homeownership possible for millions of veterans and service members who might otherwise be left on the sidelines. They also don't inherently cost more than other loan types.

The VA limits what lenders can charge in closing costs, and these no-down-payment loans also come with no mortgage insurance. The latter can prove especially costly and eat into a veteran's buying power.

Conventional buyers without a 20-percent down payment usually need to pay for private mortgage insurance. FHA buyers face both upfront and annual mortgage insurance charges.

Compared to FHA, the VA estimates its 2015 buyers will save \$44 billion in mortgage insurance costs over the life of their loans.

VA buyers do have to contend with an upfront funding fee, which can be paid in cash at closing or rolled on top of the loan. The VA Funding Fee varies depending on your down payment, your service history and whether it's your first use of the benefit. For most first-time buyers, it's 2.15 percent of the loan amount. Veterans who receive compensation for a service-connected disability don't have to pay this fee.

Myth 3: VA loans take forever to close

VA loans have long fought a reputation for being slow and choked with red tape. Some of that reflects old truths, but the program has become considerably more efficient over the past 15 years.

Long a sore spot for buyers and real estate agents, VA appraisals now come back in under 10

business days on average, which is on par with the other loan types, Frueh said. Wait times can be longer in more remote parts of the country.

There's also little difference between VA and conventional loans in terms of getting to the finish line. The average VA purchase in December closed in 51 days, which was a day longer than the typical conventional loan, according to mortgage software provider Ellie Mae.

VA loans also had a higher closing success rate than conventional loans throughout all of 2015.

Myth 4: No down payment makes VA loans risky

This is one of the surprising — and surprisingly neglected — stories of the housing recovery. These \$0 down loans have had the lowest foreclosure rate of any mortgage on the market for most of the past eight years, according to data from the Mortgage Bankers Association.

That success is partly due to the VA's commonsense guideline for discretionary income, which helps ensure buyers can weather financial hiccups and stay current on their mortgage. But the VA's foreclosure prevention team deserves a lot of credit, too.

Foreclosure specialists get regular updates on each of the 2.5 million active VA loans, and they can reach out to homeowners at the first sign of danger. The foreclosure team also encourages lenders and mortgage servicers to offer foreclosure alternatives to borrowers in jeopardy.

Those efforts helped more than 90,000 veterans avoid foreclosure last year alone.

"There's not many times that a government agency is leading the industry in something, and in something as important as housing," Frueh said. "I want our children's VA to be better than it is today, and we're doing everything we can in our power to get there."

Source: http://www.foxbusiness.com

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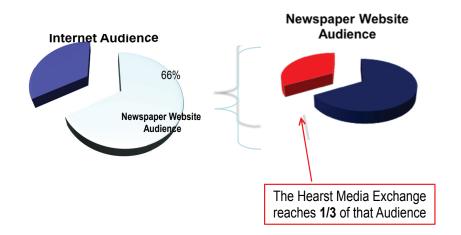
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