

Water Utilities Target Private, Leaky Pipes



By Daniel C. Vock

Water utilities are increasingly turning their attention to a part of the system that, well, they don't actually own: the private pipes that connect houses and buildings to the sewer system. In many cases, these pipes -- called "laterals" -- are old and leaky and cause big problems, such as sinkholes and overflows of sewage into rivers.

The focus on these pipes comes as utilities are struggling to reduce costs and comply with federal clean water mandates, said Amanda Waters, the general counsel and director of public affairs for the National Association of Clean Water Agencies. But the idea of fixing private property for the public good can be dicey, so utilities have had to fashion approaches that are both financially feasible and politically possible.

So far, those approaches run the gamut from a program in the Cincinnati area that helps owners cover the costs of repairing the part of their laterals that runs beneath city streets, to one in Oakland, Calif., that requires property owners to get their laterals tested when they sell or significantly remodel their properties, and if the laterals don't pass muster, pay for repairs.

"You may privately own [a lateral], but if it's leaky or cracked, then you are contributing flow

that shouldn't be there to the system," Waters said. "In the end, the public pays for it; it's a community problem."

Indeed, leaky pipes can result in untreated sewage "overflowing" the pipes and leading to pollution and other potential health hazards. In addition, groundwater seeping into the pipes can overload the sewer system or, at least, make water treatment plants treat more water than they need to, which increases costs for ratepayers. This is what's known in the industry as infiltration and inflow, which significantly adds to the amount of water handled by the sewage systems.

On top of faulty laterals, excess water comes in when people illegally hook up downspouts and sump pumps to channel rain water into sewer lines; or when the main sewer lines themselves are damaged and allow more run off in. In the Pittsburgh area, 40 percent of the water sent to the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority's water treatment plant comes from infiltration and inflow during dry water. When it rains, the rate rises to 60 percent.

Jim Good, the executive director of the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA), said the agency is targeting laterals because Pittsburgh, like many cities, is under a consent decree with the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that requires major construction to reduce the pollution that gets into the area's rivers.

"If those [lateral] lines aren't adjusted as well," Good said, "you find yourself in a situation where you spend millions -- maybe even billions of dollars -- to make the sewer system more water tight. But if you haven't addressed the private laterals, it's all for naught."

Pittsburgh, a city of 305,000 residents, has 100,000 private sewer hook-ups. Although, individually, the laterals are an average of 42 feet long, together they make up 750 miles of pipe, more than half the length of the 1,300 miles of sewer pipes owned by the PWSA. The agency has made lateral repair a major priority. It has been pushing legislation in the Pennsylvania Legislature that would let the water utility repair damaged laterals that owners won't fix on their own. Under the proposed law, the agency could recoup the cost of the repair by either charging the owner and/or cutting off the own-

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**Sub-Bids Requested from qualified SBE/VSBE/LSBE Subcontractors and Suppliers For:
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SPEC. NO. R-7029**

Owner: City of Long Beach

Location: Long Beach, CA

Bid Date: December 16, 2015 @ 10:00 A.M.

J.F. Shea Construction, Inc.

667 Brea Canyon Road, Suite 30 • Walnut, CA 91788-0489

Phone: (909) 595-4397 • Fax: (909) 444-4268

Contact: Lori Olivas, lori.olivas@jfshea.com

J.F. Shea Construction, Inc. is soliciting your participation in the preparation of this bid. We are particularly interested in bids from subcontractors/suppliers for the following work items: Demolition, Dewatering, Base Materials, Curb & Gutter, Traffic Striping, AC Paving, Landscaping, Ready-Mix Concrete, Reinforcing Steel, Pre-Cast Concrete, Equipment, Electrical & Instrumentation

You may obtain a free download of Plans and Specifications from: The City of Long Beach's website at <http://www.longbeach.gov/finance/business-info/purchasing-division/purchasing-division>. You must register online to view and download documents. Plans may also be viewed at the Dodge Plan Rooms or at our Walnut Office.

J.F. Shea Construction, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer and intends to negotiate in good faith with interested SBE/VSBE/LSBE firms and intends to utilize the lowest responsive bidder. J.F. Shea expects potential subcontractors to be bondable. J.F. Shea will pay for up to 1% for subcontractor bond costs. Subcontractors and Suppliers are expected to bid per plans and specifications, including requirements for warranties. Standard manufacturer's warranties, if not in conformance with owner's specifications, will not be accepted.



Kiewit

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

Requests sub-bids from qualified Subcontractor, Consultants, and/or Suppliers seeking to participate in the City of Pinole, Pinole-Hercules Water Pollution Control Plant Upgrade Project in Pinole, CA.

<http://www.epa.gov> / <http://www.sba.gov> / www.californiaucp.org

Subcontractors and Suppliers
for the following project:

**Pinole-Hercules Water Pollution Control Plant
Upgrade Project
Contract No. 000101
Owner: City of Pinole**

Bid Date: December 10, 2015 @ 10:00 A.M.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs)

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

Asphalt Paving, Aggregates, Minor Concrete, Concrete Pumping, Concrete Readymix, Concrete Reinforcement Supply & Install, Concrete Forms, Precast Concrete, Structural Concrete, Clear & Grub, Dewatering, Doors & Windows, Demolition, Electrical, Equipment, Erosion Control, Fencing, Hazardous Abatement, HVAC, Lime Treatment, Masonry, Metals, Paintings & Coatings, Piping & Valves, Potholing, Sawcutting, Shotcrete, Specialties, Street Sweeping, SWPPP, Support of Excavation, Thermal & Moisture Protection, Trucking & Hauling & Water Truck.

Bonding, insurance, and any technical assistance or information related to the plans or specification and requirements for the work will be made available to interested CUCP, DVBE, 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
December 4, 2015 and**

Quotes NO LATER THAN December 9, 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.

Kiewit Infrastructure West Co., 4650 Business Center Drive Fairfield, CA 94534

Attn: Victor Molina victor.molina@kiewit.com

You can view the plans in our office during regular business hours by appointment.

100% Performance Bond and Payment Bonds are required for this project.

American Iron and Steel requirements apply.

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California Sub-Bid Request Ads

McGuire and Hester

9009 Railroad Avenue • Oakland, CA 94603 • Phone: (510) 632-7676 • Fax: (510) 562-5209
 Contact: Robert Herrera • An Equal Opportunity Employer

Sub Bids Requested From Qualified DBE Subcontractors & Suppliers for
County of San Joaquin - Woodbridge Street Improvements Phase III
CFD #14.218 • Location: Woodbridge, CA
Bid Date: December 10, 2015 @ 1:30 PM

McGuire and Hester is seeking qualified subcontractors in the following trades: traffic control; SWPPP; cold plane AC; clearing & grubbing; AC dike; minor concrete; striping & signs; and trucking. We will pay up to and including one and one-half percent (1-1/2%) of your bonding cost. Certification assistance is available, as well as viewing plans and specs.

O.C. Jones & Sons, Inc.

1520 Fourth Street • Berkeley, CA 94710 • Phone: 510-526-3424 • FAX: 510-526-0990
 Contact: Donat Galicz • An Equal Opportunity Employer

REQUEST FOR DBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS FOR:
Hwy 101 San Jose – Morgan Hill
Resurface and Repair Flexible Pavement, PCC Slab
Caltrans #04-1J6304
BID DATE: December 15, 2015 @ 2:00 PM

We are soliciting quotes for (including but not limited to): Trucking, Lead Compliance Plan, Construction Area Signs, Portable Changeable Message Sign, SWPPP, Storm Water Annual Report, Sweeping, Cold Plane AC, Asphalt Treated Permeable Base, Base Bond Breaker, AC Dike, Geosynthetic Pavement Interlayer, Shoulder Rumble Strip, AC Dike, Tack Coat, Drill and Bond (Dowel Bar), Spall Repair (Polyester Concrete), Individual Slab Replacement (RSC), Grinding, Object Marker, Midwest Guardrail System, Vegetation Control, Transition Railing, Concrete Barrier, Striping & Marking, Loop Detector 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 Caltrans Website at www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/oe/weekly_ads/index.php.

Sub-Bids Requested From Qualified DBE Subcontractors & Suppliers

Los Angeles County At Various Locations From 0.2 Mile East Of Long Beach Boulevard Undercrossing In Long Beach To Orange County Line District 07

Location: 07-LA-91-R1 1.3/R20.7
Contract No. 07-306204
Bid Date: 12-03-2015 @ 2:00 PM

We have information about the plans, specifications, and requirements in our office located at 14425 Joanbridge Street, Baldwin Park, CA. Please call to arrange an appointment, our office hours are 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Copying services are available.

Chumo Construction, Inc.

14425 Joanbridge Street, Baldwin Park, CA 91706
 Phone: (626) 960-9502 Fax: (626) 960-3887
 Contact: George Chumo

100% Performance and Payment Bonds with a surety company subject to approval of Chumo Construction Company, Inc. are required of subcontractors for this project. Chumo Construction will pay bond premium up to 1.5%. Subcontractors will be required to abide by terms and conditions of the AGC Master Labor Agreements and to execute an agreement utilizing the latest AGC Standard Long Form Subcontract incorporating prime contract terms and conditions, including payment provisions. Chumo Construction's listing of a Subcontractor is not to be construed as an acceptance of all of the Subcontractor's conditions or exceptions included with the Subcontractor's price quote. Chumo Construction requires that Subcontractors and Suppliers price quotes be provided at a reasonable time prior to the bid deadline to enable complete evaluation. For assistance with bonding, insurance or lines of credit contact George Chumo at (626) 960-9502.

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er's service. The matter is still moving through the legislature, but no one has opposed it so far.

The EPA often requires wastewater agencies to address laterals as part of those consent decrees. "While EPA's consent decrees do not directly require homeowners and businesses to address private laterals, they do require cities to have programs to address problems with private laterals," said an EPA spokesperson, who declined to be identified by name.

It's not just federal oversight that's prompted agencies to focus on laterals, though. A sanitation district in Northern Kentucky, for example, started offering assistance for property owners because damaged laterals were causing sinkholes in city roads. Many water utilities are also looking at ways to divert or slow down rainwater from stormwater systems. They're using "green infrastructure," such as rain gardens, cisterns, permeable pavements, and other devices for filtering and absorbing stormwater.

Andy Lukas, a vice president with the environmental consulting firm Brown and Caldwell, cautions that utilities should thoroughly research where, specifically, water is entering their system through laterals. The utilities should focus on where their intervention -- and what kind of intervention -- will make the biggest difference.

"At some point somebody's going to ask the question: How does this help? Was this a good investment?" Lukas said. "They should ask those questions. You should be prepared to provide that answer."

Source: <http://www.governing.com>

Best Contracting Services, Inc. is requesting sub bids from all qualified LBE/MBW/WBE Suppliers, Subcontractors and Truckers for:

Owner: City and County of San Francisco
Port of San Francisco
Project: Pier 31 Roof & Structural Repair Project
Contract No.: 2762R
Bid Due Date: 12/15/2015 at 10:30 am

For the following (but not limited to) work:
 Sheet Metal, Electrical, Trucking, Concrete, Carpentry, Painting, Abatement, Hazardous Material Demolition

If you are interested in bidding on this work or know someone who is, please contact: Tom Ryan/Candys Simpkins at P: (310) 328-6969, F: (310) 328-9176

Plans, Specs, and Requirements for the project are available for review at our office in Union City or at Port of San Francisco, City and County of San Francisco - Pier 1, The Embarcadero San Francisco, CA 94111 and are available at the Port's website address: <http://www.sfport.com/index.aspx?page=18>.

For assistance in obtaining bonds, line of credit, and/or insurance for this project please contact Thomas Ryan/Candys Simpkins at the noted phone number.

Best Contracting Services, Inc.
 4301 Bettencourt Way Union City, CA 94587
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