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8 low-cost ways to make your onsite crew feel appreciated



[Article was originally posted on https://blog.buildingconnected.com]

By McKenzie Gregory,

With the labor shortage and steep competition for quality tradespeople, it's more crucial than ever for contractors to build lasting bonds with their onsite crew. Thankfully, one of the best ways to foster long-term loyalty is through simple acts of gratitude.

Affective commitment is an employee's emotional attachment to a company, and it's earned when employers demonstrate that they truly care about their workers' happiness and well-being. Often, these small gestures mean differentiating yourself from the competition and retaining talent that may grow out of your price range. For instance, a worker with 20 years of experience will be more inclined to turn down higher offers if they feel taken care of by their current employer.

If you're strapped for ideas for how to make your onsite crew feel appreciated, here are eight simple tips on how to start — all advice given by real-life workers on Reddit.

1. Replace their consumables

Even though it's expected, few contractors actually replace their workers' consumables.

One of the easiest ways to develop bad blood with onsite workers is by asking them to use their own

drill bits, blades, glasses, respirator filters, headlamp batteries — you name it — knowing that the money for those supplies is coming out of their own pockets.

Whenever you know your onsite workers are using their own consumables, pick up replacements at the hardware store and bill it to your current job, or ask the parts runner to grab them.

2. Give a uniform allowance

This one is simple: provide company shirts, sweaters, coats, hats, and gloves.

If you don't have company clothing to provide, one Reddit user recommends giving a stipend: \$200 a year for pants and \$200 a year for boots. Or, make it a generic uniform allowance that workers can use as needed.

Is the owner going to be onsite around noon? Bring the crew lunch or take them out to a restaurant. Is there millwork or cleaning to be done at the shop? Provide a barbecue lunch and stock the fridge with cold drinks. It can even be as simple as taking drink orders on a hot day.

A Reddit user recounted, "I ran a 4,800 squarefoot historical renovation, and one of the things I did was take orders for Circle K soft drinks or Powerade. Then, I'd go and hand out the orders to each of the crew members." No one wants to drink a weak, watery cup of joe at five o'clock in the morning. If you can, spend a little extra on quality coffee. According to one Reddit user, a decent standard for "cheap" coffee is medium roast Green Mountain Coffee.

"It's good enough for most people, can be bought in big bags for large offices, and it doesn't taste like it was cut with battery acid and motor oil. A Dunkin' Donuts box is always good for site runs as well, although it is more money. I've seen a lot of contractors on railways get a few dozen donuts and coffee for any weekend/night/12-hour work and allow their subs or even the inspectors to grab some."

5. Get to know your workers

While it might feel like a no-brainer, it's important to get to know your crew. Learn what everyone onsite does, talk to them about why their work matters, and accommodate their individual needs however you can.

There are tons of ways to do this. As one Reddit user mentioned, "When an employee shows up late often, ask them why. If they have to drop off their kids at school and it makes it their mornings tight, shift their schedule so they start 15 minutes later but also stay 15 minutes later."

California Sub-Bid Request Ads



Requests Sub-bids from All Qualified & Certified DBE Subcontractors/Suppliers

for:

Caltrans Contract 08-0Q75U4 Construction on State Hwy 60

in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties

from Euclid Avenue Undercrossing in Ontario to Route 60/91/215 Separation in Riverside

Bids Friday, February 15, 2019 per Addendum 5

Description of Work, Services & Supply (but not limited to): Asphalt, Aggregate Base, Aggregate Subbase, Alternative Inline Terminal System, Base Bond Breaker, Clear and Grub, Concrete Barrier (various types), Construction Area Signs, Demo, Drainage, Earthwork, Electrical, Erosion Control, Excavation, Fence, Flatwork, Furnish and Install Sign Structure (Truss), Grind Existing Concrete Pavement, Individual Slab Replacement (RSC), Joint Seals, Jointed Plain Concrete Pavement (including RSC), Landscape, Lean Concrete Base, Lean Concrete Base Rapid Setting, Maintenance of Traffic, MBGR, Minor Concrete (Curb / PCC Dike, various types / Stamped Concrete / Curb, Sidewalk and Curb Ramp / Vegetation Control), Midwest Guardrail System (Wood Post), Miscellaneous Iron and Steel, Maintenance of Traffic, Noise Monitoring, OHSS, Pavement, Pavement Marking / Traffic Stripe, Pavement Supply, PCCP Paving, Pipe Supply (18" Slotted Corrugated Steel Pipe - .064" thick), QA/QC, Rapid Strength Concrete Base, Road Barrier, Roadway, Roadway Excavation, Rock Blanket, Seal, Sign, Survey, Temporary Crash Cushion Module, Temporary Railing (Type K), Temporary Traffic Screen, Traffic Control System, Transition Railing (Type WB-31), Trucking.

REFER TO PROJECT SPECS FOR COMPLETE BID ITEM LIST.

ENGINEER'S ESTIMATE is \$140,000,000

14% DBE Project Goal *****Lower Tier DBE participation is greatly encouraged*****

> Guy F. Atkinson License # 1004388

18201 Von Karman Ave, 8th Floor, Irvine, CA 92612 socal.estimating@atkn.com | Phone: 949-382-7145 | Fax: 949-553-0252

Guy F. Atkinson is a union contractor and an Equal Opportunity Employer. Atkinson is signatory to the Carpenters, Cement Masons, Laborers and Operating Engineers Unions. 100% Performance & Payment Bonds from an approved surety company will be required for subcontractors with contract value greater than \$100,000. Atkinson will pay the cost of bonds up to 2.0%. We will assist in obtaining necessary equipment, supplies, materials or related services. We will split items of work (see project specs for full list of bid items) and provide assistance in obtaining bonding, lines of credit and insurance where needed. Prices must stay firm through subcontract and purchase order execution. Subcontractors will be expected to sign Atkinson's standard subcontract and to comply with our company's standard insurance requirements which include a waiver of subrogation. Please provide your contractor's license #, DBE cert # and DIR # with your quote. Atkinson requests that subs and vendors register and prequalify in our online system at https://www.atknextranet.com prior to bidding.

TO DOWNLOAD PLANS, SPECS, THE INFO HANDOUT, ANY ADDENDA, ETC and VIEW Q&A: Please go to the Caltrans Contracts web site

http://www.dot.ca.gov/des/oe/weekly-ads/oe-project.php?q=08-0Q75U4

Or contact Atkinson TO VIEW AND DOWNLOAD ALL BID DOCUMENTS through our online service, BuildingConnected.

Please contact Atkinson with any questions or for help with your bid.

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Utilize SBE's TARGET DISTRIBUTION to reach the DBEs, SBEs, DVBEs, MBEs, and OBEs that match the trades and goods you need. www.sbeinc.com



Requesting subcontractor bids for the Oak Leaf Meadows new apartment construction project in Oakdale, CA.

Plans and bid documents are available at:

Sisler and Sisler Construction, Inc., 2930 Ramona Ave. Suite 600, Sacramento, CA 95826 (916)852-6488 and Builder's Exchange of Stockton, www.besonline.com and Valley Builder's Exchange, www.valleybx.com

Bids due: Friday, 2/8/19 by 12:00 p.m.

to Sisler and Sisler Construction, Inc. Fax bids to: (916)852-6038.

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Publisher of

Small Business Exchange weekly newspaper

California Sub-Bid Request Ads

Project: State Hwy from Euclid Avenue Rte 60/91/215 Separation **CWS Construction Group INC.** Project # 08-0Q75U4 OWNER: CALTRANS – DBE GOAL 14% **General Contractor** Lic # 811153 BID DATE: FEBRUARY 7TH, 2019 • BID TIME: 2:00 P.M. **Please respond by 5:00 p.m., FEBRUARY 6TH , 2019** 94 San Benito Way Novato, CA, Coffman Specialties, Inc. (CSI) is requesting quotes from all qualified subcontractors and suppliers for the following items 94945Phone:415-599-6545 of work, including but not limited to: Fax:415-209-0228 TRUCKING / IMPORT BORROW, BASES ASPHALT CONCRETE / MINOR CONCRETE Invitation to bid as ASPHALT / ASPHALT PAVING / ASPHALT DIKE FOUIPMENT RENTAL Subcontractor, supplier or vendor LEAD COMPLIANCE PLAN / ADL WORK COLD PLANING / PULVERIZING Certified DVBE, MBE, LBE, SBE or WBE . SWPPP / WPC CLEAR & GRUB SURVEY/QC ELECTRICAL Contractors are encouraged to bid. CONSTRUCTION AREA & ROADSIDE SIGNS LANDSCAPING • Subtrades Needed: AGGREGATE SUPPLY / AGGREGATE BASE PAVEMENT MARKING / STRIPING Demolition, Hazardous Abatement, Electrical, TRAFFIC CONTROL CONCRETE BARRIER WATER TRUCK RFRAR Plumbing, Grading, Paving, Fencing EARTHWORK / GRADING . DRAINAGE / PIPE SUPPLY Project Name: FROSION CONTROL GRINDING / CRUSHING . **Clarendon ES Interim Housing** METAL BEAM GUARD RAIL (MBGR) / FENCING JOINT . CONCRETE SAWCUT & SEALING Location: DEMOLITION / EXCAVATION . 500 Clarendon Ave, San Francisco CA STREET SWEEPING DISPOSAL OF SOILS, PAVEMENTS & DEBRIS Bids Due: Coffman Specialties, Inc. is signatory to Operating Engineers, Laborers, Teamsters, Cement Masons and Carpenters unions. February 12th, 2019 @ 11:00 Quotations must be valid for the same duration as specified by the Owner for contract award. Insurance and 100% Payment & Performance Bonds will be required, and will pay up to 1.5% for the cost of the bond. Waiver of Subrogation will be required. We will provide assistance/advice with obtaining Bonds/Insurance/Credit/Equipment/Materials and/or supplies. Engineers Estimate: \$675,000 Participation Goals: **Subcontractors must provide a current contractor's license number and Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) DVBE 3%, Equal Opportunity current registration number with their quote. Please Contact Charlie Slack at Plans and specs are available at no cost to interested firms. Please contact our office @ (858) 536-3100, email us: estimating@coffmanspecialties.com or you can visit our San Diego Office. We are an EOE & seriously intend to negoti-Charliejr.cws@gmail.com ate with qualified firms. for contract documents **Please send quotes via email to estimating@coffmanspecialties.com or via fax to (858) 586-0164 Please Submit All Proposals To: If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Gus Rios or Marty Keane @ (858) 536-3100 Charlie Slack Charliejr.cws@gmail.com COFFMAN SPECIALTIES, INC. Or fax: 415-209-0228 GENERAL AND ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS For More information please call 415-599-6545 9685 Via Excelencia, Ste 200 • San Diego, CA 92126 Phone: (858) 536-3100 • Bid Fax: (858) 586-0164 e-mail inquiries to: estimating@coffmanspecialties.com **NBC Construction** as a "GENERAL CONTRACTOR" is requesting Proposal on "ALL TRADES" from all qualified subcontractors & suppliers, including DVBE, LBE, DBE, SBE, MBE, WBE O.C. Jones & Sons, Inc. firms for the following project: PROJECT TITLE: O.C. Jones & Sons, Inc. **PROP 39 ENERGY MEASURES** 1520 Fourth Street • Berkeley, CA 94710 AT SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL Phone: 510-526-3424 • FAX: 510-526-0990 HIGH SCHOOL Contact: Jason Martin SFUSD Project Number: 12009 PROJECT LOCATION: REQUEST FOR DBE San Francisco International High School SUBCONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS FOR: @ Enola Maxwell 655 DE HARO STREET Add Auxiliary Lane San Francisco, CA 94107 Hwy 50 Sacramento **Owner: San Francisco** Caltrans #03-1F1904 **Unified School District** BID DATE: February 12, 2019 @ 2:00 PM **NBC Construction** We are soliciting quotes for (including but not limited to): 850 South Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94110 Trucking, Temporary and Permanent Erosion Control Measures, Lead Compliance Plan, Construction Area Phone # 925-324-2727 · Fax # 800-622-9144 Signs, Traffic Control System, Type III Barricade, Plastic Traffic Drums, Portable Changeable Message Sign, SWPPP, Rain Event Action Plan, Storm Water Sampling & Analysis, Clearing & Grubbing, Chain Link Fence, All Bidders are hereby notified that the District has a Labor Compliance Program (LCP) - Prevailing Wages in Temporary Fencing, Sweeping, ADL Burial Location Report, Treated Wood Waste, Roadway Excavation effect on this Project and all contractors and subcon-(Type R-1 Aerially Deposited Lead), Geosynthetic Reinforcement, Planting & Irrigation, AC Dike, Tack Coat, tractors bidding this project will be required to comply CIDH Concrete Pile, Structural Concrete, Sign Structure, Underground, Rock Slope Protection, Minor Conwith the LCP. In addition, All the Certified Payrolls (CPR) crete, Misc. Iron & Steel, Delineator, Pavement Marker, Roadside Signs, Midwest Guardrail System, Transition must be reported through DIR website. Plans are avail-Railing, Alternative In-Line Terminal System, Striping & Marking, Electrical and Construction Materials able for viewing and ordering at: An Equal Opportunity Employer ARC 100 Hooper Street Suite 20, SF Phone Number 100% Performance & Payment Bonds may be required. Worker's Compensation Waiver of Subrogation 415-537-2235 required. Please call OCJ for assistance with bonding, insurance, necessary equipment, material and/or Submit & Fax all proposals to 800-622-9144 supplies. OCJ is willing to breakout any portion of work to encourage DBE Participation. Plans & Specs are For more information, available for viewing at our office or through the Caltrans Website at www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/oe/weekly_ads/ Please call Mike Schalchi at (925)-322-7473 index.php.

California Sub-Bid Request Ads



CAL LIC. NO. 723241 11555 Dublin Boulevard Dublin, CA 94568-2909 Phone: (925) 803-4333 • FAX: (925) 803-4334 Estimator: Chris Pieri cpieri@pacificstates.net

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

PROJECT: Water Pollution Control Plant Dirt Relocation 2019

> OWNER: City of San Leandro

BID DATE: February 6, 2019 @ 2pm

We hereby encourage responsible participation of LBE's and solicit their subcontractors or materials and/or suppliers quotation for the following types of work including but not limited to:

Trucking and Soil Treatment

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.

Specifications may be reviewed at our office located at 11555 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin, CA. PSEC is willing to breakout any portion of work to encourage LBE's and solicit their subcontractor or materials and/or suppliers and trucking quotation as well as increase the expectations of meeting the San Leandro business preference and participation goal. The Project plans and contract book may be obtained free of charge from the City's website http://www. sanleandro.org/depts/finance/purchasing/bids. If you require any assistance, or need help obtaining plans please contact the Estimator, Chris Pieri email him at cpieri@pacificstates.net or call (925) 803-4333 and bids may be faxed to us at (925) 803-4334. 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.

We are an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

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Is requesting quotes from qualified **DBE** Subcontractors, Suppliers, and Service Providers for the following (but not limited to) work:

SUBS Survey, Electrical, Fencing, Masonry, AC Paving SUPPLIERS

Aggregate, Rip Rap, Misc Iron & Steel, Sewer Pump Well, Ready Mix Concrete, Pipeline Materials

HI-Desert Water District Wastewater Reclamation Project Phase 1 Collection System

Bid Package B3 Kickapoo Pump Station Located in Yucca Valley, San Bernardino County, California

HI-Desert Water District

BID DATE February 26, 2019 @ 2:00 p.m.

Sub & Vendor Bids Due Prior

Sukut Construction, LLC

4010 W. Chandler Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92704 Contact: Rick Welshiemer

Phone: (714) 540-5351 · Fax: (714) 545-2003 · Email: estimating@sukut.com

Plans/specs are available for viewing at our office by appointment, and by Sukut FTP at no cost. Subcontractors must be prepared to furnish 100% performance and payment bonds and possess current insurance and workers' comp coverage. Sukut Construction will assist qualified subcontractors in obtaining bonds, insurance, and/or lines of credit. Subcontractors/Vendors will be required to sign Sukut's Standard Subcontract/Purchase Order. Copies are available for examination. Please contact Sukut Construction for assistance in responding to this solicitation.

Sukut Construction's listing of a Subcontractor in its bid to the agency is not to be construed as an acceptance of all of the Subcontractor's conditions or exceptions included with Subcontractor's price quotes. Quotations must be valid for the same duration as specified by Owner for contract award.

> Sukut Construction, LLC An Equal Opportunity Employer

Sub-Bids Requested from qualified DBE Subcontractors and Suppliers For: HORSETHIEF CANYON WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY EXPANSION Owner: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD) Location: Corona, CA

Bid Date: February 28, 2019 @ 2:00 P.M.

J.F. Shea Construction, Inc. 667 Brea Canyon Road, Suite 30 • Walnut, CA 91789 Phone: (909) 595-4397, Fax: (909) 444-4268 Contact: Lori Olivas, <u>lori.olivas@jfshea.com</u>

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, Geotextiles, Riprap, Aggregate, AC Paving, HDPE Liner, Ready-Mix Concrete, Reinforcing Steel, Precast Concrete, Welding, Structural Steel, Miscellaneous Metals, Architectural Casework, Insulation, Sealants, Metal Doors/Frames/Hardware, Overhead Coiling Doors, Glazing, Louvers, Metal Framing and Drywall, Painting & Coatings, Signage, Fire Protection, Metal Building Systems, Truck Scale System, HVAC, Equipment, Electrical & Instrumentation

Plans and Specifications: You may obtain a free download from EVMWD's online bid system at: https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=32069&BidID=54310

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 DBE 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.

8 low-cost ways to make your onsite crew feel appreciated

Continued from page 1

6. Make their lives easier

Another easy way to show your workers you care is by occasionally pitching in on the more menial tasks around the job site or office.

"I'll take out the garbage when I see one that is full," said one Reddit user. "I'll help load a truck if I'm nearby. Hell, if you want to go crazy, pick up a shovel and help."

Another user recounted, "I was working on fixing up my house before moving in and took time off to do so. I was offered any tool I needed, and our owner even offered to peel off a dude from a site and send him to help me for free. We have some pallets of tile and lumber that are just sitting around, take 'em if you want 'em. Need to move something? Please, take a company truck and handle it. Oh, your car is in the shop? Here's a loaner."

7. Involve their families

Your workers' families are important to them, so involve them in your plans and gestures as a company.

My president's wife sends everyone handwritten cards for every holiday and birthday — even a personal one to me for Veteran's Day. Once a month, they used to invite everyone to a cookout at the shop, kids and family included. They definitely showed everyone they cared," one Reddit user said.

- "Thank you."
- "You made this happen."
- "I appreciate you."
- "Our clients are happy."
- "Good job."

Saying thanks is easy and doesn't cost a thing, but these words aren't spoken nearly enough on job sites. Thanking your crew is the most important thing you must do to show them that you understand how pivotal they are to your success.

SOURCE:

https://blog.buildingconnected.com/8-lowcost-ways-to-make-your-onsite-crew-feel-appreciated/

California Sub-Bid Request Ads

Request for Quotes from Certified DBE Subcontractors and Suppliers Project: Route 60 Euclid, Ontario, CA Contract No. 08-0Q75U4 Owner: Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) <u>BID SUBMITTAL DATE: February 7, 2019 at 2:00 PM</u>

Federal-Aid Project ACSB1NH-P060(155)E

Request for quotes from Certified DBE's Subcontractors and Suppliers for the following, but not limited

to scopes of work: Aggregate Supply, Asphalt Dike, Asphalt Paving, CIDH (Sign Foundation), Clear & Grub, Cold Plane AC, Concrete Barrier, Concrete Supply, Construction Area Signs, Drill and Bond Dowel, Electrical, Fence, Grind Existing Pavement, Guardrail, Joint Seal, Minor Concrete, Miscellaneous Iron & Steel, Noise Monitoring, Overhead Signs, PCC Supplies, Pipe Supply, Pre/Post Construction Survey, Railing, Roadside Sign, Rock Blanket, Saw and Seal PCC, Spall Repair, Striping.

PLEASE SUBMIT QUOTES BY FAX TO (909) 597-8635 OR EMAIL TO SoCalBids@FlatironCorp.com

Plans and specifications are available, at no cost from Caltrans website: http://www.dot.ca.gov/des/oe/weekly-ads/specs-ntb.php?c=08-0Q75U4. Additionally, plans and specifications are available at Flatiron's San Marcos, CA and Chino Hills, CA offices. Please call to make an appointment to view plans and specifications.

This project has a 14% DBE Goal. In addition to request for participation from Certified DBE subcontractors and suppliers, Flatiron requests non-DBE subcontractors to provide lower-tier DBE subcontractor and/or supplier participation. Bidders are required to indicate lower-tier DBE participation as it will be evaluated as part of their quote.

Flatiron analyzes and considers each DBE quote, including those that are broken down into economically feasible units to facilitate bidding. Assistance in obtaining bonding, lines of credit, insurance, equipment, supplies and materials is available upon request. Additionally, please contact us if you require technical assistance.

Quotations must be valid for same duration as specified by Owner for contract award.

Subcontractors are required to possess and maintain a current contractor's license and must also be registered with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) as required by Public Contract Code Section 1725.5. Subcontractors will be required to execute Flatiron's Standard Subcontract Terms and Conditions and insurance requirements. A copy of our Standard Subcontract Terms and Conditions is available in electronic format upon request.

Bond Requirements: Notwithstanding any contrary language in a bid to Flatiron or any prior course of dealing between Flatiron and a bidder, and unless waived in writing by Flatiron, Flatiron reserves the right to require each bidder to provide payment and performance bonds assuring bidder's obligations to Flatiron in the amount of 100 percent of the bid to Flatiron. Flatiron will reimburse the bond premium at actual cost not to exceed 3%. The surety on the bonds must be a California admitted surety. WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

Flatiron West, Inc. 1770 La Costa Meadows Drive, San Marcos, CA 92078 Phone (909) 597-8413 / FAX (909) 597-8635 Email: SoCalBids@flatironcorp.com Point of Contact: Veronica Garcia, Estimating Admin.