

## White House Expands Aid to Drought-Stricken States



Photo credit: Flickr/James Marvin Phelps

### Drought drops Lake Mead

By Curtis Tate

The White House expanded drought assistance to California and other western states on Friday with \$110 million in new grants to aid farmers and communities.

Officials from seven states, including California Gov. Jerry Brown, participated in an hourlong video conference with President Barack Obama in the White House Situation Room to discuss the drought. About 35 percent of the West is experiencing severe to exceptional drought conditions.

The new grants from the Departments of Interior, Agriculture and Labor are in addition to the \$190 million the Obama administration has pledged so far, Brian Deese, a senior adviser to the president, told reporters on a call following the video conference.

They include \$6.5 million for agriculture water conservation, \$10 million for wildfire landscape resilience, \$10 million for emergency water assistance and \$18 million to offset job losses related to the drought.

A "sizable" portion of those resources will go to California, administration officials said, including all of the job assistance.

"We're marshaling every resource we have," said Mike Connor, deputy secretary of the Interior.

The president talked to the governors about the longer-term challenges, including the effects of climate change: hotter summers, more severe weather events and longer wildfire seasons.

Deese said wildfires are squeezing the U.S. Forest Service's budget, forcing the agency to spend money intended to prevent future fires to fight current ones.

Robert Bonnie, undersecretary for Natural Resources and the Environment at the Department of Agriculture, said the wildfire season is 60 to 80 days longer than it was historically. Wildfire suppression accounted for 16 percent of the Forest Service's budget 20 years ago, Bonnie said, but now it's north of 40 percent.

"We're looking at bigger, more catastrophic fires," he said.

The president's 2015 budget includes provisions that would increase funding for fire suppression and end the need to transfer funds from other programs; "robbing Peter to pay Paul," as Bonnie described it.

The Center for Watershed Sciences at the University of California, Davis estimated last year that the drought cost the state's agriculture industry \$2.2 billion and resulted in the loss of 17,000 jobs.

The Labor Department grants wouldn't support permanent jobs, said Portia Wu, the agency's assistant secretary for Employment and Training. Rather, she said, the funds would provide employment in public agencies and nonprofit groups to 1,000 workers for six months.

The secretary of Agriculture has designated 57 of California's 58 counties as disaster areas, making them eligible for emergency loans. The department estimates that it will provide \$1.2 billion to assist livestock producers whose grazing areas have been reduced by the drought.

"We're going to do everything we can at the federal level," Deese said.

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Every Subcontractor is required to be registered to perform public work pursuant to Section 1725.5 of the Public Contract Code. No Contractor or Subcontractor shall be qualified to bid on, be listed in a bid proposal pursuant to Section 4104 of the Public Contract Code, or engage in the performance of any contract for public work, unless currently registered to perform public work pursuant to Section 1725.5. No bid shall be accepted nor any subcontract entered into without proof of the Subcontractor's current registration to perform public work pursuant to Section 1725.5.

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Subcontractors and Suppliers interested in this project may contact Cu Mai by phone at (510) 777-5005 or cmai@shimmick.com.

100% Performance and Payment bonds with a surety company subject to approval of Shimmick Construction Company, Inc. are required of subcontractors for this project. Shimmick 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 SCCI Long Form Standard Subcontract incorporating prime contract terms and conditions, including payment provisions. Shimmick 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. Shimmick Construction requires that Subcontractors and Suppliers price quotes be provided at a reasonable time prior to the bid deadline to enable a complete evaluation. For assistance with **bonding, insurance or lines of credit contact Scott Fairgrieve at (510) 777-5000.**

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**Project Name: Transbay Block 8  
Project Location: San Francisco, CA  
Pre-Bid Meeting: June 22, 2015 at 2:00PM**

**Bid Due Date: July 2, 2015**

**Meeting Location:**

**SFPUC Contractors Assistance Center  
5 Thomas Mellon Cir  
Suite 168  
San Francisco, CA 94134  
(415)467-1040**

**Requesting Bids for:**

**Mass Excavation & Shoring**

Related California and Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation are currently requesting bid proposals from qualified subcontractors and material suppliers based in San Francisco, including those certified with the Office of Community Investment and Infrastructure (OCII), Successor to the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency (SFRA), for the construction of the Transbay Block 8 Project. The OCII has established a subcontractor participation goal for this project at 50% SBE participation.

The Project is comprised of approximately 546 residential units and 18,000 square feet of neighborhood retail over a 3-level subterranean parking structure. The design features a 55-story tower, 65' and 85' podium buildings, townhomes and a publicly accessible mid-block paseo. The Project's residential program includes 116 for-sale condominiums, 280 market rate rental units and 150 below market rate rental units

For more information please email TB8@related.com. A member of the team will be able to provide clarifications and answers to any questions. Please do not send your bids via email to this email address. Electronic bid submittals will not be reviewed. Bid proposals shall be submitted no later than 3pm on July 2, 2015 via hard-copy delivery to 44 Montgomery, Suite 1050, San Francisco, CA 94104 to the attention of: Jeff Lucas.

**Transbay 8 Urban Housing, LLC**

44 Montgomery, Suite 1050  
San Francisco, CA 94104

Phone: 415-677-4406 • Fax: 888-371-8739

**Contact: Jeff Lucas**

**Email: TB8@related.com**

Sub Bids Requested From Qualified  
DBE Subcontractors & Suppliers for  
**County of San Joaquin - Austin Road Bridge  
(29C-259)**

.....  
**County of San Joaquin -  
Stanley Road Bridge (29C-112)**  
.....  
**County of San Joaquin - Van Allen Bridge  
(29C-115)**

**Location: San Joaquin County, CA**

**Bid Date: June 18, 2015 @ 1:30 PM**

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**Contact: Dave Koerber**

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Invitation to Bid from certified **SMALL BUSINESS, SMALL DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS, WOMAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS, HUBZONE SMALL BUSINESS, VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS, and SERVICE DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS**

Subcontractors, Material and/or Suppliers, and Professional Services  
 which must be certified with the SBA for:

**ADDICKS AND BARKER DAMS Modification of Dams, New Outlet Structures and Cutoff Walls, (HARRIS AND FORT BEND COUNTIES), HOUSTON, TX**

**Solicitation No.W9126G-15-R-0001**

**BID DATE: Monday, July 06, 2015**

**OWNER: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District**  
**LOCATION: Houston, Texas**

**COUNTY: Harris & Fort Bend Counties**

**OUR QUOTE DEADLINE: Thursday, July 2, 2015**

**Quotes for Services & Supplies requested for the following items for bid including, but not limited to:** SWPPP, Piezometers & Monuments, Reinforcing Steel/Rebar, Communications, Web Cameras, Aerial Photography, Concrete Reinforcing & Accessories, Bridge Expansion Joints, Metal Wall Louvers, Civil Works Fabrication, Articulating Concrete Block Revetments, Bituminous Prime Coat, Project Identification, Preconstruction Surveying, Turfing, Metals / Structural Welding, Electronic Safety & Security, Mobile Office Buildings, Landscape Restoration, Precast Architectural Concrete, Clearing & Grubbing, Water Repellent Treatment for Bridges, Sluice Gates, Precast Concrete Blocks, Project Schedule, Environmental Protection & Plan, Quality Control, Fencing / High Security Chain link & Gates, HVAC, Generator & Prefab Buildings, Office Furnishing, Dewatering, Reinforced Concrete Bridge Slabs, Cellular Concrete Grouting, Instrumentation, Electrical Distribution System Underground, Riprap and Blanket Stone, Temporary Construction Facilities, Ultrasonic Inspection of Weldments, Geotech & Verification Drilling, AC Paving / Asphaltic Concrete, Electrical, Janitorial Service, Utility Terrain Vehicles, Demolition & Deconstruction, Pedestrian Access Bridge, Painting: Hydraulic Structures, Utilities, Telecommunications Outside Plant, Conduit Steel Liner & Transition, Cultural & Biological Resource Surveys, Precast Prestressed Concrete Bridge Girders

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. Dragados Pulice JV will assist with obtaining bonding, lines of credit, and insurance by encouraging the subs and vendors to work with state supportive services programs. Responsive subcontractors must possess a current contractor's license, insurance, and worker's compensation coverage complying with Dragados Pulice JV requirements and will be required to sign a standard Subcontract Agreement.

Dragados Pulice JV will analyze and consider each 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.

**RFP, Plans and Specifications are available by contacting our office or on FedBizOpps.Gov online at:**

[https://www.fbo.gov/index?s=opportunity&mode=form&tab=core&id=af69439c2e502d1f0b626bc0972d1cf1&\\_cview=1](https://www.fbo.gov/index?s=opportunity&mode=form&tab=core&id=af69439c2e502d1f0b626bc0972d1cf1&_cview=1)

Dragados Pulice JV is committed to ensuring that subcontractors and vendors have the maximum opportunity to successfully perform on this project, and to making good faith efforts to utilize small, minority, HUBZone, and women's business enterprises.

## Houston comes out against sole-source contracts

By Jo Clifton

At the June 4 City Council meeting, Council Member Ora Houston voted against an Austin Water Utility contract with Austin White Lime that would allow the company to provide about 21.5 tons of lime per year to soften the city's water. She also voted against three other contracts that were designated "sole-source" by the Purchasing Department.

When asked about her votes, Houston told the Austin Monitor, "I'm going to be voting no on all of those (contracts) that don't have participation goals for small businesses, women and minorities."

However, the contract with Austin White Lime was not sole-source, as Purchasing Officer James Scarboro explained to Council. He said the item was let out for bids, but only one company made a bid.

Council Member Sheri Gallo, who was concerned about the apparent lack of competition in the bidding process, asked how many notices had been sent out to potential bidders. Scarboro said there had been 78.

But Gallo told Scarboro that her staff had done some research and found a company in Fort Worth that does the same kind of work.

"(W)ith this particular purchase, since 2004 we only received bids from this particular company," Scarboro said. "Because of the frequency of the deliveries, proximity from the contractor to the water locations is a necessity, and also the type of truck that they use has to have certain equipment so that it can deliver the material to the various water treatment plants."

AWU Assistant Director Jane Burazer told the Monitor that it would be difficult and expensive for a company as far away as Fort Worth to make daily deliveries, as Austin White Lime does, so it is unlikely it would make a competitive bid.

Scarboro further explained that because of the large sum of money involved — more than \$13.7 million for a 24-month contact with two 12-month extensions — the city did not authorize the contract as sole-source.

The city uses lime to soften the water and has done so since at least 1924. Burazer said the product used in the softening process decreases the hardness of the water by about 50 percent. The city uses 1,000 pounds of

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# California Sub-Bid Request Ads



Requests sub-bids from qualified Subcontractors and/or Suppliers seeking to participate in the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD) Sacramento Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (SRWTP) Disinfection Chemical Storage Project in Elk Grove, CA.

<http://www.epa.gov> / <http://www.sba.gov> / [www.californiaucp.org](http://www.californiaucp.org)

Subcontractors and Suppliers for the following project:

**Disinfection Chemical Storage Project  
Contract No. 4207**

**Owner: Sacramento Regional County  
Sanitation District**

**Bid Date: July 2, 2015 @ 2:00 P.M.**

**Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs)**

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

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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, 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 Quotes are due  
NO LATER THAN Jun 30, 2015 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](mailto:victor.molina@kiewit.com)**

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100% Performance Bond and Payment Bonds are required for this project. Cost of bond will be reimbursable.

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DeSilva Gates Construction is soliciting for DBE's for the following project:

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**Bid No. 7659, Federal**

**Project No. STPL-5005(134)**

**OWNER:**

CITY OF SAN JOSE

200 E. Santa Clara Street, 5th Floor, San Jose, CA 95113

**BID DATE: June 18, 2015 @ 3:00 P.M.**

We hereby encourage responsible participation of local Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, and solicit their subcontractor or materials and/or suppliers quotation for the following types of work including but not limited to:

**ADJUST IRON, COLD PLANE, COLD IN-PLACE RECYCLING, CONSTRUCTION AREA SIGNS, CRACK FILLER, ELECTRICAL, EMULSION SUPPLIER, MINOR CONCRETE, PAVING FABRIC, STRIPING, WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLAN, TRUCKING, WATER TRUCKS, STREET SWEEPING, HOT MIX ASPHALT (TYPE A) MATERIAL, RUBBERIZED HMA (GAP GRADE) MATERIAL.**

100% Performance and Payment Bonds may be required for full amounts of the subcontract price. Surety company will have to be approved by DeSilva Gates Construction. DeSilva Gates Construction will pay bond premium up to 2%. Subcontractors must possess current insurance and worker's compensation coverage meeting DeSilva Gates Construction's requirements. Please call if you need assistance in obtaining bonding, insurance, equipment, materials and/or supplies. Plans and specifications are available for review at our Dublin office.

**DeSilva Gates Construction**

11555 Dublin Boulevard

P.O. Box 2909

Dublin, CA 94568-2909

(925) 829-9220 / FAX (925) 803-4263

**Estimator: Alan McKean**

Website: [www.desilvagates.com](http://www.desilvagates.com)

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## Houston comes out against sole-source contracts

Continued from page 3

lime per million gallons of water. Suddenly changing the formula or eliminating the lime could create problems for both residential customers and businesses, she said.

Houston told the Monitor, "My vote does not stop it from passing, so I don't know why I have to ... there's so many things about the process that people in the community are concerned about. That's why I keep asking about how can scopes be broken down. ... There are other lime companies around. Sometimes we just use the same people we've always used" because staff is more comfortable with them.

Houston said she wants to make staff think more about using women and minority contractors.

Houston also voted against three sole-source contracts, one for the Library Department and two for Austin/Travis County EMS.

James Smart, Shamard, chief of staff for Austin/Travis County EMS, explained that the city uses a specific patented medical device in its ambulances to resuscitate patients in cardiac arrest. The vendor the city currently uses, he said, is the only one that sells that device.

"The medical director has selected the use of that device," Shamard said, "because research shows patients who have use of this device enjoy better outcomes."

Houston asked, "So every EMS company in the United States uses this?"

No, replied Shamard, but there are no other manufacturers of this particular medical device. "The medical director has chosen to use it because the science says that the outcome is greater if you do use it," he said.

"OK," Houston said. "So I understand that is a preference."

She also objected to another sole-source contract because, she said, EMS already has similar devices and the new devices would work with the old ones.

The Library Department contract concerned the purchasing of recorded books, which anyone with a library card can check out. Brenda Branch, director of the department, told Council that the authors of the books only contract with the vendor selected for the city contract.

Council Member Don Zimmerman objected, saying people can get audio books from other sources. Council Member Leslie Pool told Zimmerman that the difference between those sources and library books is that the latter are free. But Zimmerman rejected that argument because, he said, books are not free to taxpayers. Houston did not comment on the item but voted against the contract.

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