

Huge Sinkholes Are Now Appearing in the Wrong Places



Image credit: <http://www.enr.com>

Dora Linda Nishihara, 68, was driving in San Antonio one dark evening in early December when she suddenly disappeared from sight. Later, her car, with her body inside, was found at the bottom of a 12-foot-deep (3.7-meter), water-filled sinkhole that had swallowed the road ahead of her. Two days later, a school bus driver in Brooklyn, New York, ran into an 8-foot-wide (2.4-meter) crater on his route. Luckily, no children were on board and the driver survived with minor injuries.

Just last week, massive holes opened up in New York City's lower Manhattan, suburban Atlanta and San Francisco.

Sinkholes are not a new phenomenon in the United States, especially in a half dozen states where the geology makes them more likely. But a recent spate of huge, sudden-appearing caverns is prompting alarm because they're happening in places where they shouldn't, and now seem to be proliferating nationwide. The usual cause: crumbling water, drain and sewer pipes, often neglected by cities with budget problems.

"What we're seeing is a greater occurrence of sinkholes, a greater reporting of sinkholes in

places where they normally don't happen," said George Veni, executive director of the National Cave and Karst Research Institute in Carlsbad, New Mexico.

Some experts are calling now for a national study to assess the risk and potential remedies, which could involve high costs for many jurisdictions.

"The financial impact on cities is in the millions of dollars a year around the country," said Bob Brinkmann, a professor of geology, environment and sustainability at Hofstra University.

No government agency keeps track of sinkholes from man-made causes. Most of the scientific research has focused on areas where limestone, caves and natural springs create prime conditions for earthen collapses. Florida has the most.

But scientists who study natural sinkholes say the caverns from infrastructure failures are becoming a bigger problem.

From early December through April, according to a review by The Associated Press of media coverage, 39 significant sinkholes related to fail-

ing infrastructure — a rate of about one every four days — struck across the country in places as varied as Chicago, Los Angeles, Hoboken, New Jersey, Sioux City, Iowa, and Seattle.

One person was killed and four were injured in the incidents, which also prompted extensive evacuations and disruption of utilities.

On Christmas Eve, a hole the size of a football field suddenly swallowed parts of three houses and a section of road in a Detroit suburb. The sudden crater in San Francisco last week, 20 feet long (6 meters), pulled in a semi-truck. The cause of that one has not been determined.

The sinkhole that killed Nishihara in San Antonio was caused by a sewer line that ruptured during heavy rains. The break happened where a 50-year-old pipe scheduled for replacement joined a newer pipe. The city has been under a federal consent decree since 2013 to replace its aging sewer lines.

■ Continued on page 3

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GOLDEN GATE CONSTRUCTORS

11555 Dublin Boulevard • Dublin, CA 94568-2909
Phone: (925) 829-9220
Estimator: ALAN MCKEAN
Website: www.desilvagates.com
An Equal Opportunity Employer

Golden Gate Constructors (GGC) is preparing a bid as a Prime Contractor for the project listed below:

TEMPORARY ROADWAY AND AOA PERMANENT BUMP OUT AT SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, Contract No. 10515.71, Local Business Enterprise Requirement is 25%

OWNER:

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
c/o Webcor Builders –
Project Trailer, 56 South MacDonnel Road,
San Francisco, CA 94128

BID DATE: May 22nd @ 2:00 P.M.

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

BLAST FENCE, CEMENT TREATED BASE SUPPLIER, CLEARING AND GRUBBING/DEMOLITION, ELECTRICAL, FENCING, MINOR CONCRETE, STRIPING, TEMPORARY EROSION CONTROL, UNDERGROUND, TRUCKING, WATER TRUCKS, STREET SWEEPING, AGGREGATE BASE MATERIAL, HOT MIX ASPHALT MATERIAL.

Plans and specifications may be reviewed at our office located at 11555 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin, 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](ftp://ftp%25desilvagates.com) and password is [f7pa55wd](ftp://ftp%25desilvagates.com)) or from the Owner.

Fax your bid to (925) 803-4263 to the attention of Estimator Alan McKean. 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 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). GGC is willing to breakout portions of work to increase the expectation of meeting the LBE requirement.

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

DESILVA GATES CONSTRUCTION

11555 Dublin Boulevard • P.O. Box 2909
Dublin, CA 94568-2909
(925) 829-9220 / FAX (925) 803-4263
Estimator: Jim Yackley
Website: www.desilvagates.com
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DeSilva Gates Construction (DGC) is preparing a bid as a Prime Contractor for the project listed below:

CITY OF PALO ALTO – PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, AIRPORT DIVISION APRON RECONSTRUCTION PHASE 1 (BID SET A) IFB NUMBER 167808, AT PALO ALTO AIRPORT, PALO ALTO, CA. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Goal Assigned is 11.2%

OWNER:

CITY OF PALO ALTO
250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94301

Bid Date: MAY 18th, 2017 @ 3:00 P.M.

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

Adjust Iron, Cement Treated Base, Clearing and Grubbing/Demolition, Cold Plane, Electrical, Emulsion Supplier, Joint Seal, Minor Concrete, Minor Concrete Structure, Prime Oil Supplier, Reinforced Concrete Pipe, Jacked Reinforced Concrete Pipe, Corrugated Metal Pipe, Roadway Excavation, Striping, Survey/Staking, Underground, Class 2 Aggregate Base Material, Hot Mix Asphalt (Type A).

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](ftp://ftp%25desilvagates.com) and password is [f7pa55wd](ftp://ftp%25desilvagates.com)) or from the Owner's site available through the City of Palo Alto's Purchasing and Contract Administration bid Portal: http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/depts/asd/planet_bids_how_to.asp.

Fax your bid to (925) 803-4263 to the attention of Estimator Jim Yackley. 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/Public-Works.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.

DESILVA GATES CONSTRUCTION

11555 Dublin Boulevard • P.O. Box 2909
Dublin, CA 94568-2909
(925) 829-9220 / FAX (925) 803-4263
Estimator: Victor Le
Website: www.desilvagates.com
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DeSilva Gates Construction (DGC) is preparing a bid as a Prime Contractor for the project listed below:

CALTRANS ROUTE 80 – FOR CONSTRUCTION ON STATE HIGHWAY IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, IN AND NEAR RICHMOND, EL CERRITO, SAN PABLO, PINOLE AND HERCULES, FROM ALAMEDA/ CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LINE TO ROUTE 80/4 SEPARATION, Contract No. 04-4J3404 Federal-Aid Project ACIM-080-1(117)E, Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Goal Assigned is 14%

OWNER:

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
1727 30th Street, Bidder's Exchange, MS 26,
Sacramento, CA 95816

Bid Date: June 1st, 2017 @ 2:00 P.M.

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

AC Dike, Clearing and Grubbing/Demolition, Cold Plane Asphalt Concrete Pavement, Concrete Barrier (Anchor Block), Construction Area Signs, Alternative Crash Cushion, Develop Water Supply, Electrical, Geosynthetic Pavement Interlayer, Hazardous Material, Lead Compliance Plan, Metal Beam Guardrail, Minor Concrete, Minor Concrete Structure, Roadside Signs, Delineator, Markers, Striping, Survey/Staking, SWPPP / Water Pollution Control Plan Preparation, Temporary Erosion Control, Vegetation Control, Trucking, Street Sweeping, Class 2 Aggregate Base Material, Class 2 Permeable Material, Hot Mix Asphalt (Type A) Material, Rubberized HMA (Open Grade) 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](ftp://ftp%25desilvagates.com) and password is [f7pa55wd](ftp://ftp%25desilvagates.com)) or from the Owner's site at www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/oe/weekly_ads/all_adv_projects.php

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/Public-Works.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.

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BROSAMER & WALL, INC.

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Professional services, sub-contractors, material suppliers and trucking for the following project:

BART EARTHQUAKE SAFETY PROGRAM AERIAL STRUCTURES

FRUITVALE STATION AND COLISEUM STATION

Contract No. 15PJ-130B

Bid Closing Date: JUNE 6, 2017 @ 2:00 PM

DBE GOAL: 12%

CONTACT:

Robert Rosas

Brosamer & Wall Inc.

1777 Oakland Blvd, Suite 300

Walnut Creek, California 94596

PH: 925-932-7900 FAX: 925-279-2269

PROJECT SCOPE:

The work in this Contract includes but is not limited to providing structural retrofit of pier foundations, columns and pier caps; demolition of selected existing facilities; shoring for excavation support; excavation; steel and concrete structure retrofit at girders, and stairs; drilling and bonding dowels in concrete; electrical work at piers and the main concourse, defined as the covered area between station entrances; architectural work at stairs and curtain walls, retrofit of escalator trusses, restoration of paving, striping, sidewalks, signage, traffic control, utilities. Optional Work; Breakrooms improvements at Coliseum station and/or Fruitvale station may be included at the discretion of the District as described in the Contract Documents. Duration of Project is 1200 Calendar Days.

Note: This project includes a Buy America Clause and Owner Controlled Insurance Program (OCIP)

Subcontractors and Suppliers being solicited include but not limited to:

Construction Staking, Traffic Control System, Project Signs, Construction Area Signs, Construction Site Mgmt., Prepare SWPPP, Rain Event Action Plan, Storm Water Annual Report, Temporary SWPPP Devices, Street Sweeping, Temporary Concrete Washout, Temporary Fence (Type ESA), Abatement (Asbestos/Lead) & Demolition, Select Structure Concrete Removal, Pre-Stressing/Post Tensioning, Concrete Reinforcing, Concrete Reinforcing (Foundation). Cast-in-Place Concrete, Cast-in-Place Concrete (Foundation), Drill and Bond Dowels, Drill and Bond Dowels (Chemical Adhesive), Fiber Reinforced Polymer Column Casing, Structural Steel Framing, Architectural Work (Aluminum Walls, Glazing and Storefronts), Fire Suppression, Plumbing & HVAC, Electrical and Communication, Earthwork, Shoring and Underpinning for Safeguarding Structures, Asphalt Paving, Concrete Paving, Minor Concrete (Concrete Curbs, Gutters, and Walks), Signage and Pavement Markings, Chain Link Fences and Gates, Utilities, Building General Contractors for Breakroom(s) Optional Improvements, Temporary Fence, Trucking, Portable Toilets, Concrete Supply and Placement.

Requirements: Brosamer & Wall, Inc. will work with interested subcontractors/suppliers to identify opportunities to break down items into economically feasible packages to facilitate DBE Participation. Brosamer & Wall, Inc. is a union signatory contractor. Subcontractors must possess a current contractor's license, insurance coverage and worker's compensation for the entire length of the contract.

All subcontractors will be required to sign our standard Subcontract Agreement. 100% payment and performance bonds may be required. If you have any questions regarding this project or need assistance in obtaining/waiving insurance, bonding, equipment, materials and/or supplies please call or email Robert Rosas contact information below.

Plans and specifications can be viewed at our office located at 1777 Oakland Blvd Suite 300, Walnut Creek, Ca. 94596 or at the Districts Offices for plan room locations please call BART at 510-851-3174. B&W will also make plans electronically please email rosas@brosamerwall.com for free online link. Brosamer & Wall INC., intends to work cooperatively with all qualified firms seeking work on this project. If you are interested in submitting a subcontractor bid for this project, you may contact Robert Rosas Chief Estimator at 925-932-7900 or fax us your quote at 925-279-2269. PLEASE SUBMIT A COPY OF YOUR CURRENT DBE CERTIFICATION WITH YOUR BID. Subcontractors, Dealers/Suppliers and Brokers please provide your designation code to us on or before the bid date. B&W, INC., IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

Huge Sinkholes Are Now Appearing in the Wrong Places

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In a report last year, the American Society of Civil Engineers said that public spending is running far short of what's needed to replace water and wastewater systems that will be outmoded by 2025. The funding gap was estimated at \$105 billion now, up from \$55 billion in 2010.

"We're way underfunded on these systems," said Greg DiLoreto, who heads the group's infrastructure committee. "That's causing more and more of these pipe systems to fail. In Washington, D.C., for example, they're using pipes that were installed during the Civil War."

Most water lines in the U.S. are at least 50 years old and many mains in urban areas date to the early 1900s, according to American Water Works Association, which warned recently that "the replacement era" had arrived. Obsolete cast iron and asbestos cement lines are now replaced with more durable ductile iron or plastic. Maintaining current service would require at least \$1 trillion over the next 25 years.

Similar upgrades are needed for old concrete or clay tile sewer lines, DiLoreto said.

In the Detroit suburb of Fraser, no total damage estimate has yet been compiled for the huge sinkhole that suddenly routed 22 families after a 44-year-old sewer line collapsed at 6 a.m. on Christmas Eve. The cost of replacing the road and sewer line alone could exceed \$70 million, and Macomb County has set aside \$1 million for the three houses lost.

Officials are beginning a study of its entire pipeline system that serves 500,000 residents in 11 communities, said Macomb County Public Works chief Candice Miller.

It can't wait any longer, Miller said. "We're going to manage our assets and the first way to do that you need to know what their condition is."

Follow Roger Schneider on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/rogschneider>

SOURCE: <http://www.enr.com>

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Sub-Bids Requested from qualified DBE Firms Subcontractors and Suppliers For:

STERLING RESERVOIR AND PUMP STATION

SPECIFICATION W-238B

Owner: Western Municipal Water District

Location: Riverside County, CA

Bid Date: May 31, 2017 @ 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, 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:

Base Materials, AC Paving, Dewatering, Landscaping, Ready-Mix Concrete, Reinforcing Steel, Precast Concrete Vaults, Masonry, Structural Steel, Miscellaneous Metals, Metal Decking, Metal Framing & Drywall, Metal Wall Panels, Roofing, Sheet Metal, Roof Hatches, Metal Doors/Frames/Hardware, Sealants, Floor Hatches, Overhead Coiling Doors, Tubular Skylights, Glazing, Painting & Coatings, Louvers, Signage, Fire Extinguishers & Cabinets, Toilet Accessories, Equipment, HVAC, Electrical and Instrumentation.

Plans and Specifications: Email your request to katie.desmith@jfshea.com.

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.

Long Island (Babylon), NY Sub-Bid Request Ad

SHEA McNally JV BIDDING OPPORTUNITY

MBE/WBE/DBE Certified with the following certifying authority:

A DBE is a Disadvantaged, Minority, or Woman Business Enterprise that has been certified by an entity from which EPA accepts certifications as described in 40 CFR 33.204-33.205 or certified by EPA. EPA accepts certifications from entities that meet or exceed EPA certification standards as described in 40 CFR 33.202.

Inviting qualified contractors, specifically MBE/WBE/DBE firms certified/eligible as listed above, to contact Shea McNally JV (Prime Contractor listed below) regarding subcontracting services and material supply opportunities in connection with the upcoming tunnel and shafts project.

The Work under this contract is located in Long Island (Babylon), New York. The Work consists of:

Southwest Outfall Replacement, Capital Project No. 8108
Owner: County of Suffolk – Dept. of Public Works-Yaphank, NY

Capital Project No. 8108
BID DATE: June 8, 2017 at 11:00 AM

Opportunities to participate exist in the following specific areas of soil and rock excavation, hauling, excavation support systems, underground blasting, 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, cased auger shaft construction, secant piles, cast-in-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, pest control, IT services, security, waste disposal, cleaning services, and security services.

Any business seeking to participate as a MBE/WBE/DBE in the Contract that is not currently certified DBE by the EPA and the requirements set forth above should review 40 CFR 33.204-33.205 or certified by EPA shown above to obtain current certification.

Shea McNally JV set up an FTP site where you can view all plans, specifications and addendums for your convenience. Please contact Steve Fiore at (909) 595-4397, Steven.Fiore@jfshea.com, to receive instructions on accessing the FTP Site.

Shea McNally JV An EEO Employer

(J.F. Shea Construction, Inc. – McNally Tunneling Corporation)

667 Brea Canyon Road, Suite 22 • Walnut, CA 91789

909-594-0990 • 909-869-0827 (fax)

Attn: Dennis Poulton, Chief Engineer