

SBE TODAY

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King's Forgotten Manifesto



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**By David W. Blight and Allison Scharfstein
Op-Ed Contributors**

ON May 17, 1962, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered an extraordinary manifesto to the White House. Constructed as both a moral appeal and a legal brief, the 64-page document called on President John F. Kennedy to issue a "second Emancipation Proclamation," an executive order outlawing segregation — just as President Abraham Lincoln had done with slavery a century earlier.

The civil rights era, like the Civil War, produced a wealth of great writing. But unlike King's "I Have a Dream" speech or his "Letter From Birmingham Jail," which we remember for their visionary rhetoric, this extraordinary document has been virtually forgotten.

And yet the manifesto is a wonderful example of King's close reading of American politics, as well as his understanding of the role that moral leadership, in this case through an executive order, could have on the American public. It's a lesson we should take to heart today, when a deadlocked Congress stands in contrast to a president willing to take a bold stand on same-sex marriage. Americans have

rarely explicitly voted for equality; history, through institutions and a few courageous leaders, has enacted it.

During the 1960 presidential debates, Kennedy had suggested that he would address equality of opportunity by the "stroke of the president's pen." Yet when civil rights activists pressed him on this promise, his political ties to white Southern Democrats proved to be a formidable obstacle. Indeed, it was the hold of Southern segregationists on Congressional committee chairmanships that prompted civil rights leaders to put their hope in an executive order rather than legislation.

King infused his executive-order campaign with the gravitas of the centennial of the Civil War and emancipation. "What we need to do," he told Clarence B. Jones, his trusted legal adviser, "is to get Kennedy to issue a second Emancipation Proclamation on the anniversary of the first one."

On June 6, 1961, at a news conference in New York, King explicitly invoked the memory of the Civil War: "Just as Abraham Lincoln had the vision to see almost 100 years ago that this nation could not exist half-free, the present

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REQUESTS FOR BIDS & SUB-BIDS

RGW Construction Inc.
is seeking all qualified UDBE owned
subcontractors and supplies
for the following project:

**Suisun Valley Road Bridge at Suisun Creek
Bridge No. 23C0077, County of Solano
Engineer Estimate: \$2,600,000
UDBE Goal 15.4%, 130 working days
Bids: May 24, 2012 @ 2:00 PM**

The available areas of work include, but are not limited to: SWPPP, Fence, Construction Area Signs, Barricade, Bridge Removal, Signs, Sound-wall, Clear & Grub, Roadway Excavation, Erosion Control, Planting, Aggregate Base, CIDH Piles, Joint Seal, Rebar, Striping & Markers, Concrete Barrier and Trucking.

Scope of Work: Replacing existing bridge with a single span cast-in-place concrete box girder bridge 32.3 meters long by 13 meters wide. Other work: temporary bridge, drainage, soundwalls, fence, planting, road striping and signs.

RGW Construction, Inc.

Contractors License A/B 591590
550 Greenville Road • Livermore, CA 94550
Phone: 925-606-2400 • Fax: 925-961-1925

RGW is willing to breakout any portion of work to encourage participation. Plans and Specs are available to view and copy at our office or at the County of Solano, Resource Management, 675 Texas Street, #500, Fairfield, CA 94533 (707) 784-6754. Contact **Tim Ross 925-606-2400** for any questions, including bonding, lines of credit, or insurance. Subcontractors should be prepared to submit payment and performance bonds equal to 100% of their quotation. For bonding and other assistance, please call.

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REQUEST FOR DVBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS FOR:

Sonoma State University Parking Lot F Reconstruction

**Project Bid No.: 3030432
BID DATE: May 31, 2012 @ 2:00 PM**

We are soliciting quotes for (including but not limited to): Trucking, Concrete, Electrical, Landscape, Survey, Striping and Construction Materials

O.C. Jones & Sons, Inc.

1520 Fourth St., • Berkeley, CA 94710
Phone: 510-526-3424 • FAX: 510-526-0990

Contact: Mike Crowley
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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 DVBE participation. Plans & Specs are available for viewing at our office.

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for the following project:

**Caltrans Contract 05-1A7104
Rte 17 near Scotts Valley
Engineer Estimate: \$3,240,000
UDBE Goal 12%
Bids: May 30, 2012 @ 2:00 PM**

The available areas of work include, but are not limited to: Fence, Signs, Clear & Grub, Roadway Excavation, Planting/Irrigation, Erosion Control, Concrete Barrier and Trucking.

Scope of Work: Construction retaining wall with concrete slab and barrier, and pave HMA.

RGW Construction, Inc.

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RGW is willing to breakout any portion of work to encourage participation. Plans and Specs are available to view and copy at our office or Caltrans website www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/oe/. Contact **Tim Ross 925-606-2400** for any questions, including bonding, lines of credit, or insurance. Subcontractors should be prepared to submit payment and performance bonds equal to 100% of their quotation.

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Sub-Bids Requested From Qualified
DBE/SBE/LBE subcontractors/suppliers for:

Third Street Light Rail Program Phase 2

Chinatown Station

Contract No. 1254

Location: San Francisco, CA

Bid Date: June 5, 2012 @ 3:00 PM

Trades: demolition, abatement, shotcrete, GFRC, concrete, reinforcing steel, masonry, steel/misc metals/stairs, rough carpentry, building insulation, concrete floor sealer, waterproofing, metal wall panels, crystalized glass wall panels, TPO roofing, firestopping, flashing and sheet metal, fire proofing, intumescent fireproofing, expansion joints, doors/frames/hardware, glass and glazing, luminous, plaster, tile, resilient flooring, terrazzo, painting, toilet accessories, lockers, fire protection specialties, site furnishings, signage, elevators/escalators, HVAC, plumbings, fire protection, electrical



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Email: mhobbs@webcor.com

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Shimmick Construction Company, Inc.
DBE Subcontractor/Supplier Bids
Requested For:

**San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District
BART Train Control Room Battery Replacements
Contract No. 20LZ-110
Bid Date: May 29, 2012 until 2:00PM
Fax all quotes to 510-777-5099**

Requesting certified DBE Subcontractor and Supplier Quotes on **Electrical, Environmental, Environmental & Hazardous Disposal, DC Battery Systems, Battery Charging Systems.**

Contract Documents may be purchased from the District Secretary's Office, San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District, in person on the 23rd Floor at 300 Lakeside Drive, Oakland, CA 94612 or by mail at P.O. Box 12688, Oakland, CA 94604-2688 or are available for viewing by appointment only at Shimmick Construction's Office: 8201 Edgewater Drive, Suite 202, Oakland, CA 94621.

Subcontractors and Suppliers interested in this project may contact Greg Adams by phone at (510) 777-5040.

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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King's Forgotten Manifesto

■ Continued from page 1

administration must have the insight to see that today the nation cannot exist half-segregated and half-free."

Mr. Jones assembled a team of legal scholars to compose a proposal, while King publicized his idea in churches, in newspapers and in the White House itself. During an intimate tour with the president through the Lincoln Sitting Room in October 1961, King paused to ask Kennedy for a proclamation "outlawing segregation." Kennedy said he would consider it, and asked King to submit a draft of the proposal.

Two months later, King sent Kennedy a personal telegram from the midst of his protest campaign in Albany, Ga., again urging the president to prepare a "second Emancipation Proclamation." The New York Times and other papers covered this developing story, even debating the constitutionality of such an executive order outside of wartime.

King and his lawyers, who now included members of the Gandhi Society for Human Rights, scheduled the debut of the document for May 17, 1962, the eighth anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education decision.

The preamble, most likely written by King him-

self, referenced numerous cultural precedents of American freedom, including Bruce Catton's popular Civil War books, Woody Guthrie's "This Land is Your Land," the Gettysburg Address, Frederick Douglass's autobiography and Kennedy's own "Strategy for Peace."

Citing hundreds of legal precedents, especially Harry S. Truman's military desegregation order in 1948, as well as the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and, of course, the Emancipation Proclamation, the document demanded that the powers of the executive office be used to eliminate all forms of discrimination.

"The time has come, Mr. President," it declared, "to let those dawn-like rays of freedom, first glimpsed in 1863, fill the heavens with the noontide sunlight of complete human dignity."

Kennedy balked, however, at the opportunity to issue the second Emancipation Proclamation and noticeably avoided all centennial celebrations of emancipation. While he did issue an executive order banning discrimination in federal housing in November 1962, and introduced an omnibus civil rights bill a few months later, the demands of the second Emancipation Proclamation were not fulfilled until President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

Though King's manifesto failed to spur a second Emancipation Proclamation from the White House, it was an important and emphatic attempt to combat the structured forgetting of emancipation latent within Civil War memory.

As we commemorate the sesquicentennial of the war, the legacy of the second Emancipation Proclamation lives on in a million conversations about the lasting meaning of the Civil War.

It also lives in our political agony over narrowly partisan doctrines of states' rights and individualism, and over whether we are still a "house divided," half-free or half-equal: in the right to vote, to marry the person we choose, to be educated, to have health insurance, to imagine immigrants' dreams — to assume we have a secure and fair place in the modern social contract, which Lincoln introduced with those words: "then, thenceforward, and forever free."

David W. Blight is the author of "American Oracle: The Civil War in the Civil Rights Era" and a professor of history at Yale, from which Allison Scharfstein is graduating this month.

A version of this op-ed appeared in print on May 17, 2012, on page A27 of the New York edition with the headline: King's Forgotten Manifesto.

Source: The New York Times.

WASHINGTON STATE SUB-BID REQUEST AD

Sub-Bids Requested From Qualified DBE Subcontractors & Suppliers:

WSDOT – SR 99 – AWW S HOLGATE ST TO S KING ST

STAGE 3 – ATLANTIC ST BYPASS

Contract No.: 11A004,

FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO.: BR-0099(119)

Location: KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Bid Date: MAY 23, 2012 – 11:00 AM PST

Quotes requested for supplies and services including, but not limited to:

AC Sidewalk, Baker Tanks, Bearing Pads, Bridge Railing - Welded Wire Fabric, Casing Pipe, Cement Conc Pavement, CIDH Pile Shaft, Construction Signs, Crushed Surfacing Base Course, Curb & Gutter, Curb / Curb and Gutter, Demolition of Structures & Misc. Demo, Dewatering, Directional Boring, Dispose Contaminated Material, Electrical, Embankment, EPS Geofoam Lightweight Fill, Erosion Control, Erosion Control Blanket, Erosion Control Plastic, Export Contaminated Soils, Fencing, Fire Protection System, Geomembrane - Gas Resistant, Geosynthetic Retaining Wall, Geotech Instrumentation, Geotextile, Gravel Borrow, High Visibility Fence, HMA Paving, Import Borrow, Joint Seal, Mineral Aggregate Type 17, Misc. Metals, Pavement Markers, Portable Storm Water Treatment Facility, Portable Toilets, Post-Tensioning, Precast Concrete Wall Panels, Precast RR Crossing Panels, Precast/Prestressed Bridge - Girder/Slab, Preconstruction Survey Services, Quarry Spalls, Readymix Concrete, Rebar, Roadside Restoration, Roadway Excavation, Root Barrier, Sand Drainage Blanket, Sanitary Sewer, Security Services, Shotcrete, Shuttle Bus Service, Shoring, Sidewalk, Sign Structure, Signals and Lighting, Signs, Silt Fence, Storm Sewer, Storm Water Treatment Facility, Striping & Pvmnt Marking, Structure Backfill, Structure Excavation, Surveying, Sweeping, Television Inspection Services, Temp Erosion Sediment Control, Temp Noise Walls, Topsoil, Traffic Control Devices, Trucking, Water line.

SKANSKA

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Contact: **Ron Leach** • Email: ron.leach@skanska.com

Plans and Specifications are available for view at the Washington Department of Transportation. They can be reached by calling 360-705-7835

Skanska is interested in soliciting in Good Faith all subcontractors as well as certified DBE companies for this project. Please call if you need assistance in obtaining bonding, lines of credit, insurance, necessary equipment, materials and/or supplies. Skanska's insurance requirements are Commercial General Liability (GL): \$1M ea. occ., \$1M personal injury, \$2M products & completed operations agg. & general agg.; \$1M Auto Liability; and \$5M Excess/Umbrella. Workers' Comp must be provided whether by state program or LNI. Endorsements or waivers required are Additional Insured End., Primary Wording End., and a Waiver of Subrogation (GL & WC). Other insurance requirements may be necessary per scope. Subcontractors may be required to furnish performance and payment bonds in the full amount of their subcontract by an admitted surety and subject to approval by Skanska. Skanska will pay bond premium up to 1%. Quotations must be valid for the same duration as specified by the Owner for contract award. Conditions or exceptions in Subcontractor's quote are expressly rejected unless accepted in writing. Skanska is signatory to Operating Engineers, Laborers, Cement Masons Carpenters unions and Teamsters. Subcontractors must provide weekly, one (1) original and (1) copy of all certified payrolls, including non-performance, and fringe benefit statement if required by law or by the Prime Contract. Subcontractor scope (including any conditions or exceptions) is required 24 hours prior to bid deadline to allow proper evaluation. In order to assist DBE subcontractors and suppliers, we will divide total requirements into smaller packages, tasks or quantities and establish delivery and construction schedules which will permit maximum participation when feasible. All interested subcontractors, please indicate all lower tier DBE participation offered on your quotation as it will be evaluated with your price. Skanska is an equal opportunity employer

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Requested For:

**City and County of San Francisco –
Public Utilities Commission**

**Bioregional Habitat Restoration, Sheep Camp
Creek**

Contract No. WD-2666

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Contract Documents are available from SFPUC – Contract Administration Service Desk 1155 Market Street, 1st Floor, San Francisco, CA (415)551-4603 or may be viewed at Shimmick Construction's Office by appointment only after confidentiality agreement is signed. (Address below)

Subcontractors and Suppliers interested in this project may contact Tyler Shell by phone at (510) 777-5074.

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