

Can Sustainable Building Materials Help The Environment?



Photo credit: pixabay.com

By Chris Coxon,

There is no doubt that choosing to build eco friendly homes can help protect the environment. The home is a big offender when it comes to carbon emissions because of the building materials used in construction and also the ongoing fuel consumption used to heat and cool the house. If each and every house did a little bit more to protect the environment that would add up to a lot of help and would significantly reduce carbon emissions across the world. If you want to find out what building materials should be used to build houses instead of the traditional bricks and cement then you should read on. Here you will find out how you can build an environmentally friendly home.

As with food, it is more environmentally friendly to choose materials that can be sourced locally. This way you know there is less fuel used to move the materials from A to B which can equate to a lot of carbon emissions. It is also very eco friendly to find second hand items or reuse materials found nearby. There are often scrap yards and salvage yards that you may not know about located in your area and it can be very worthwhile visiting to see if there is something there that can be reused or some building materials that have a bit more life in them.

Wood is a renewable source, however you need to be careful what type of wood you choose. Hard wood trees such as oak take a very long

time to grow and do not grow again once they have been cut down. This makes these types of wood inappropriate to use because it is unsustainable. Pine on the other hand is fast growing and makes a good, durable wood. Pine is very much sustainable. Another type of wood that is catching on around the world is that from bamboo. This doesn't take very long to grow and keeps growing even once cut down. One plant can keep on producing wood for decades. Because there is just a couple of years needed for bamboo to grow to a good size it offers total sustainability. Bamboo flooring is extremely durable and hard wearing too and requires little maintenance.

Another material that is very sustainable is cork. Cork flooring is another sustainable alternative to bamboo. It too is durable and stays looking very good in the home for many years. Cork is produced on tree trunks and is stripped away. Like bamboo it keeps on growing back, year after year. Another great feature of cork is that it is fire-resistant and therefore perfect for use in the home.

Often bricks and concrete are used to build houses, but neither of these materials are good for the environment. They take a huge amount of energy to produce and that makes them unsustainable. It isn't just the building materials however that make a house bad for the environment either. Heating the home needs fuel, and if you have a house that is not insulated then you will need to use more fuel. Insulation in the roof is important

and having insulated windows and doors makes a big difference too with cavity closures made of uPVC.

Ensuring your home is built and run in an environmentally friendly way is extremely important in today's world as the threat of global warming is so serious. As well as ensuring sustainable building materials are used in the place of concrete and bricks, you must also ensure your ongoing fuel consumption is low. This is achieved primarily through efficient heaters and cookers as well as plenty of insulation in the roof and in the walls too if possible. Choose recycled building materials where possible will save you money and help your eco credentials too. Cavity wall closures should always be used to make the windows more insulated.

SOURCE:

<http://www.articlesphere.com/Article/Can-Sustainable-Building-Materials-Help-The-Environment-/256422>

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California Sub-Bid Request Ads



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P.O. BOX 100 • Folsom, CA 95763
Phone: (916) 351-0457 • Fax: (916) 351-1674
Estimator: Jim Hunt - jimh@srco.com

Sub-Bids Requested From **MBE, DBE, WBE** Subcontractors & Suppliers for:

Owner: County of Sacramento - Public Works & Infrastructure Agency - Department of Transportation
McKenzie Road Bridge Replacement Over Laguna Creek
Contract # 4369

Location: Sacramento County, McKenzie Rd App 1 mile S of Arno Road over Laguna Creek
BID DATE: October 25, 2018 @ 2:00 PM

Trades Solicited:

SAND & GRAVEL, ASPHALT, PILINGS, CONCRETE & CEMENT, REINFORCING BAR SECTION, LUMBER, FENCING, GUARD RAILINGS & BARRIERS, CONSTRUCTION AREA SIGNS, REMOVE BRIDGE ITEM, CLEARING & GRUBBING, DEVELOP WATER SUPPLY, ROADWAY EXCAVATION, STRUCTURE EXCAVATION, STRUCTURE BACKFILL, DITCHES EXCAVATION, IMPORTED BORROW, AGGREGATE BASE, PAVEMENT REINFORCING FABRIC, FURNISH & DRIVE, PILING, CAST-IN-DRILLED-HOLE CONCRETE PILING, REINFORCING STEEL, ROADSIDE SIGN, FENCING, OBJECT MARKER, CONCRETE BARRIER, THERMOPLASTIC TRAFFIC, STRIPE & MARKING, TRUCKER, SANDBLASTING, CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT RENTAL

If a portion of the work is too large for you to handle, contact us and we will try and break it into smaller portions

Subcontractors and suppliers must be licensed to conduct business in the state of California. Must be able to provide payment and performance bonds provided by approved surety company. SRC will pay bond premium up to 1.5% of subcontract amount and will assist with insurance compliance. SRC will work with subcontractors on joint check agreements. Plans and specs are available for viewing at our Folsom office and upon request will provide FTP site for electronic viewing of project.

Bonding, insurance, lines of credit and any technical assistance or information related to the plans or specifications for the work will be made available. Assistance with obtaining necessary equipment, supplies, materials, or related assistance or services for this project will also be offered.

Request For Qualified **DBE**
Subcontractors, Consultants and Suppliers For:

Caltrans Contract 04-4G8804
Seismic Retrofit, Replace Approach Slabs and Erosion Control
In Alameda County in Fremont at
Crandall Creek Bridge

Bid Date: October 25, 2018 at 2:00 PM

Requesting quotes for but not limited to:

Lead Compliance Plan, Construction Area Signs, Traffic Control System, Portable Changeable Message Sign, Prepare Water Pollution Control Program, Temporary Cover, Temporary Drainage Inlet Protection, Temporary Fiber Roll, Temporary Gravel Bag Berm, Temporary Fencing, Street Sweeping, Temporary Concrete Washout, Water Quality Sampling & Monitoring, Remove Thermoplastic Striping, Erosion Control, Hot Mix Asphalt, Micropile, Bar Reinforcing Steel (Bridge), Column Casing, Rock Slope Protection Fabric, Marking and Striping, Trucking, Materials and Supplies.

CEC is willing to breakout any portion of work to encourage DBE participation.

Plans and specs are available for viewing at our Pleasanton office.

They may also be viewed and downloaded from the Caltrans Website:
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/des/oe/weekly-ads/all-adv-projects.php>

100 % Payment & Performance Bonds will be required from a single, treasury-listed surety subject to our approval.

CEC will pay bond premiums up to 1.5%. Subcontractors awarded on any project will be on CEC's standard form for subcontract without any modifications. Please call for assistance in bonding, insurance, lines of credit, technical info, equipment and supplies or if any other assistance is needed.

California Engineering Contractors, Inc.
20 Happy Valley Road, Pleasanton, CA 94566
Phone (925) 461-1500 Fax (925) 461-0510
Email: estimator@cecmain.com
Estimator-Jeff Hollfelder

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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
An Equal Opportunity Employer

DeSilva Gates Construction (DGC)
is preparing a bid as a Prime Contractor
for the project listed below:

**CALTRANS ROUTE 185 – CONSTRUCTION ON
STATE HIGHWAY IN ALAMEDA COUNTY**

**IN AND NEAR SAN LEANDRO, FROM ORA
LOMA DITCH TO HESPERIAN BOULEVARD**

**Contract No. 04-1K3404, Disabled Veteran
Business Enterprise Goal Assigned is 5 %**

OWNER:

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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

BID DATE: OCTOBER 9, 2018 @ 2:00 P.M.

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

**CONSTRUCTION AREA SIGNS, CRACK SEALING,
ELECTRICAL, MINOR CONCRETE, STRIPING,
SWPPP/WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLAN
PREPARATION, TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEMS,
TRUCKING, WATER TRUCKS, STREET SWEEP-
ING, HOT MIX ASPHALT (TYPE A) MATERIAL,
RUBBERIZED HMA (GAP GRADE) MATERIAL,
ASPHALT OIL.**

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:17pa55wd@pub.desilvagates.com> (if prompted the username is [ftp@desilvagates.com](ftp://ftp%25desilvagates.com) and password is [17pa55wd](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 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/PublicWorks.html

If you need DVBE 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 DVBE 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.



California Sub-Bid Request Ads



Graniterock

5225 Hellyer Avenue, Suite #220
 San Jose, CA 95138
 Phone (408) 574-1400 Fax (408) 365-9548
 Contact: Bryan Jones
 Email: estimating@graniterock.com

REQUESTING SUB-QUOTES FROM QUALIFIED DBE Firms SUBCONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS/TRUCKERS FOR:

Light Rail Track Intrusion Prevention Contract C18099F
 Owner: Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
 Engineers' Estimate: \$3,500,000.
BID DATE: October 11, 2018 @ 2:00 PM

Items of work include but are not limited to: Traffic Control, Remove Striping & Markings, Concrete Barrier Wall, Slurry Seal, Chain Link Fence & Swing Gate, Metal Picket Fence & Sliding Gate, Signs, Striping & Markings, Electrical, Irrigation and Trucking.

Granite Rock Company 'Graniterock' is signatory to Operating Engineers, Laborers, Teamsters, Carpenters and Cement Masons unions. 100% performance and payment bonds will be required from a qualified surety company for the full amount of the subcontract price. Bonding assistance is available. Graniterock will pay bond premium up to 1.5%. In addition to bonding assistance, subcontractors are encouraged to contact Graniterock Estimating with questions regarding obtaining lines of credit, insurance, equipment, materials and/or supplies, or with any questions you may have. Subcontractors must possess a current contractor's license, DIR number, insurance and worker's compensation coverage. Subcontractors will be required to enter into our standard contract. Graniterock intends to work cooperatively with all qualified firms seeking work on this project.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer



Kiewit

Kiewit Infrastructure West Co.
 4650 Business Center Drive Fairfield, CA 94534
 Attn: Victor Molina · norcal.bids@kiewit.com
 Fax: 707-439-7301

Requests sub-bids from qualified California Unified Certification Program (CUCP) certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE), Subcontractors, Consultants, and/or Suppliers seeking to participate in the Construction of Walerga Road Over Dry Creek Bridge Replacement Project.

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/obeo/index.html>

Subcontractors and Suppliers for the following project:

Walerga Road Bridge Replacement Project
 Contract No. 000988
Federal-Aid Project: TCSP-E2CA(018)
 Owner: County of Placer
Bid Date: November 1, 2018 at 11:00 A.M.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) wanted for the following scopes, including, but not limited to:

AC Paving, Aggregates, Bat and Bird Exclusion Device, CIDH Piling, Clear and Grub, Cold Plane AC Pavement/Dike, Concrete Pumping, Concrete Reinforcement, Concrete Supply, Concrete Washouts, Concrete Accessories, Concrete Staining, Bridge Railing, Block & Rock Wall, Demo, Earthwork, Erosion Control, Fencing & Gates, Field Office, Grind Existing Bridge Deck, Grind Existing Concrete Pavement, Guardrail, K-rail, Hydro-seed, Joint Seal, Landscaping, Minor Concrete, Misc. Metals, Pavement Markings, Piping and Valves, Polyester Concrete Overlay, Precast Concrete, Prepare Bridge Deck Surface, Rock Slope Protection, Sawcutting, Signage, Structural Concrete, SWPPP, Survey, Traffic Control, Tree Removal, Trucking & Hauling, Sweeping, Water Trucks.

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 certified, DBE 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
October 26, 2018 and Quotes

NO LATER THAN October 30, 2018 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 and to be able to receive bidding information, view plans and specifications

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

Performance Bond and Payment Bonds may be required for subcontractors and a suppliers bond for suppliers.

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 Buy America Requirements Apply
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Kiewit

Kiewit Infrastructure West Co.
 4650 Business Center Drive Fairfield, CA 94534
 Attn: Victor Molina · norcal.bids@kiewit.com
 Fax: 707-439-7301

Requests sub-bids from qualified California Unified Certification Program (CUCP) certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE), Subcontractors, Consultants, and/or Suppliers seeking to participate in the Construction on State Highway in Modoc County near Adin at Butte Creek Bridge and at Ash Creek Bridge Project.

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/obeo/index.html>

Subcontractors and Suppliers for the following project:

SR-299 Modoc County Bridges Project
 Contract No. 02-4F2104
Federal-Aid Project: ACSB1ST-P299(204)E
 Owner: Caltrans
Bid Date: October 11, 2018 at 2:00 P.M.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) wanted for the following scopes, including, but not limited to:

AC Paving, Aggregate Supply and Install, Bridge Removal, Bat and Bird Exclusion Device, CIDH Piling, Clear and Grub, Cold Plane AC Pavement, Concrete Barriers, Concrete Pumping, Concrete Reinforcement, Concrete Supply, Concrete Washouts, Concrete Formliners, Concrete Staining, Crash Cushions, Bridge Railing, Earthwork, Erosion Control, Grind Existing Bridge Deck, Grind Existing Concrete Pavement, Guardrail, K-rail, Hydroseed, Joint Seal, Message Signs, Minor Concrete, Misc. Metals, Pavement Markings, Polyester Concrete Overlay, Precast Concrete, Prepare Bridge Deck Surface, Remove/Relocate/Install Sign Structures, Roadside Signs, Structural Shotcrete, Traffic Control, SWPPP, Survey, Biologist, Noise Monitoring, Environmental Compliance, Trucking & Hauling, Sweeping, Water Trucks.

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 certified, DBE 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
October 5, 2018 and

Quotes NO LATER THAN October 10, 2018 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 and to be able to receive bidding information, view plans and specifications.

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

Performance Bond and Payment Bonds may be required for subcontractors and a suppliers bond for suppliers.

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California Sub-Bid Request Ads

TAFT ELECTRIC COMPANY
1694 EASTMAN AVENUE, VENTURA, CA 93003
Phone: (805) 642-0121 • Fax: (805) 644-1542

Contact: Arnold Tostado • Email: atostado@taftelectric.com

Invites sub-bids from qualified DBE businesses for the following project:

Agency: The City of Palmdale
Upgrade Existing Un-Signalized Crosswalks with Ladder Style Crosswalk, Markings, Striping, & Signage and ADA Curb Ramp Construction HISPL-5378(043)

Location: City of Palmdale, CA
BID DATE: October 23, 2018

Trades Seeking: Traffic Control, Stripers, Concrete

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer and intend to seriously negotiate with qualified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise subcontractors and suppliers for project participation.

Payment and performance bonds may be required. Please contact us at the above listed number for further information regarding bidding on this project. To the best of our abilities we will help with bonds/insurance/credit. Plans are available for viewing at our office.

We Are An Equal Opportunity Employer

Project: State Hwy Santa Ana-Anaheim Grand Ave
Project # 12-0C8904

OWNER: CALTRANS – DBE GOAL 13%

BID DATE: OCTOBER 18TH, 2018 BID TIME: 2:00 P.M.

****Please respond by 5:00 p.m., OCTOBER 17TH, 2018****

Coffman Specialties, Inc. (CSI) is requesting quotes from all qualified subcontractors and suppliers for the following items of work, including but not limited to:

- TRUCKING, BASES ASPHALT
- EQUIPMENT RENTAL
- LEAD COMPLIANCE PLAN / ADL WORK
- SWPPP / WPC
- SURVEY / QC
- CONSTRUCTION AREA & ROADSIDE SIGNS
- PAVEMENT MARKING / STRIPING
- TRAFFIC CONTROL
- WATER TRUCK
- EARTHWORK / GRADING / ROADWAY EXCAVATION
- EROSION CONTROL
- METAL BEAM GUARD RAIL (MBGR) / FENCING
- CONCRETE SAW & SEALING
- STREET SWEEPING
- DISPOSAL OF SOILS, PAVEMENTS & DEBRIS
- CONCRETE / MINOR CONCRETE
- ASPHALT / ASPHALT PAVING / ASPHALT DIKE
- COLD PLANING / PULVERIZING
- CLEAR & GRUB
- ELECTRICAL
- LANDSCAPING
- AGGREGATE SUPPLY / AGGREGATE BASE
- CONCRETE BARRIER

Coffman Specialties, Inc. is signatory to Operating Engineers, Laborers, Teamsters, Cement Masons and Carpenters unions. 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/advise with obtaining Bonds/Insurance/Credit/Equipment/Materials and/or supplies.

****Subcontractors must provide a current contractor's license number and Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) current registration number with their quote.**

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 negotiate with qualified firms.

**Please send quotes via email to estimating@coffmanspecialties.com or via fax to (858) 586-0164

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Gus Rios or Marty Keane @ (858) 536-3100



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



SKANSKA • TRAYLOR • SHEA

Skanska-Traylor-Shea JV of 5055 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA requests sub-bid quotes from certified DBE's for Tunnel Gyroscopic Surveys (RFP No 072WS) and Concrete Masonry Unit (RFP No 059WS) on the Westside Subway Extension Section 1 project. Owner: LACMTA (Metro). Contract No. C1045 Bid Date: Oct 19, 2018 at 2:00pm.

Plans & Specs can be viewed at our office Monday - Friday 8am to 4pm (call for appointment) or downloaded free at:

072WS Tunnel Gyroscopic Surveys: <https://skanskausa.sharefile.com/ii/a3bb60da43d421ca>

059WS Concrete Masonry Unit: <https://skanskausa.sharefile.com/ii/5b738f3b9bf4e80a>

Should you have any questions or desire to quote on this project, please contact Teresa Maxwell, DBE Coordinator at 213.598.2237 or teresa.maxwell@skanska.com. Assistance in bonding, insurance, lines of credit or obtaining equipment, supplies and materials is available upon request. This advertisement is in response to Metro's DBE program. Skanska-Traylor-Shea JV intends to conduct itself in good faith with DBE firms regarding participation on this project. More info about this project is available at www.skanska-traylor-shea.com.

Skanska-Traylor-Shea JV is an EEO/AA/Vet/Disability Employer.



Proven Management, Inc.
225 3rd Street, Oakland, CA 94607
Phone: 510-671-0000 • Fax: 510-671-1000

PMI is requesting proposals/quotes from all qualified & certified Small & Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (SBE & DBE) subcontractors, material suppliers, and truckers for the following project:

L TARAVAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
SF ZOO TO SUNSET BOULEVARD, SF
SFMTA Contract No. 1306

Bids: 11/14/2018 @ 3 pm

10% SBE; 5% DBE; 5% WBE Participation Goals

Sitework; Demo; Temp Tree & Plant Protection; De-watering; Excavation Support Systems; Earthwork; Trenching & Backfill; AC Planing & Paving; Concrete Paving; Unit Pavers; Portland Cement Concrete Paving; Reinforced Concrete Pipes; Water Utility Distribution Piping; Polyethylene Encasement of Ductile Iron Pipe & Fittings; Repair & Replacement of Side Sewers for Water Work; Cured-in-Place Pipe for Water Work; Sewerage Systems; Tree Removal & Stump Grinding; Decorative Mosaic Tile; Site Furnishings; Planting; Volumetric Boulders; Concrete Reinforcement; Drilled Concrete Anchors; CIP Concrete; CIP for Sewer Work; Special Paving Area – Etched Text; Misc Metals; Handrails & Barrier Railings; Tapered Steel Trolley Poles & Accessories; Special Trackwork; Rail Welding; CIP Detectable Surface Tiles; Anti-Graffiti Coating; Painting & Coatings; Platform ADA Signage; Cathodic Protection; Electrical; Raceways; Wire & Cable; Traction Power Cable; Pull Boxes; Traffic Signals; Street Lighting; Overhead Contact System

Bonding, insurance, lines of credit and any technical assistance or information related to the plans & specifications & requirements for the work will be made available to interested SBE & DBE certified suppliers, subcontractors, and truckers. Assistance with obtaining necessary equipment, supplies, materials, or related assistance or services for this project will also be offered to interested SBE & DBE firms. PMI is signatory to the Operating Engineers, Carpenters & Laborers Collective Bargaining Agreements.

100% Payment & Performance bonds will be required from a single, Treasury-listed surety company subject to PMI's approval. PMI will pay bond premium up to 1.5%. Subcontractors awarded on any project will be on PMI's standard form for subcontract without any modifications. For questions or assistance required on the above, please call.

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