

# SBE TODAY

Vol 32, Edition 31

June 14, 2016

Diversity in Action Publish by SBE certified SBE/DBE/MBE

## China Will Not Build L.A.-to-Vegas Rail Line as U.S. Partner Calls Deal Off



The planned XpressWest high-speed train is depicted at a station in Las Vegas in this artist's rendering. (Source: XpressWest.com)

By Julie Makinen

Nine months after announcing that China would help build a high-speed rail line from Los Angeles to Las Vegas, the private U.S. company behind the plan said late Wednesday that the deal was off.

XpressWest said the decision to terminate the relationship with China Railway International was based "primarily upon difficulties associated with timely performance and CRI's challenges in obtaining required authority to proceed with required development activities."

XpressWest indicated that its "biggest challenge" was a federal government requirement that high-speed trains must be manufactured in the United States to secure regulatory approvals.

"As everyone knows, there are no high-speed trains manufactured in the United States," the company said in a statement. "This inflexible requirement has been a fundamental barrier to financing high-speed rail in our country. For the past 10 years, we have patiently waited for policymakers to recognize high-speed rail in the United States is a new enterprise and that allowing trains from countries with decades of safe high-speed rail experience is needed to connect the Southwest region and start this new industry."

The news broke in China on Thursday, a public holiday, and China Railway International representatives were not immediately available for comment.

China launched its domestic high-speed rail service in 2007 and has the world's most extensive network of such trains, covering more than 12,000 miles. In 2011, two trains collided near the city of Wenzhou, killing 40 people, raising doubts about the quality and safety of China's trains and operating system, though there has not been a crash since then.

The country is now trying to export its rail technology, vying for contracts in Mexico, Southeast Asia and elsewhere. The L.A.-to Vegas route would have been China's first such contract in the United States.

China's high-speed rail lines are owned and operated by the China Railway Corp., a state-run entity formerly called the Railway Ministry.

The XpressWest-China venture was announced suddenly in September just days ahead of President Xi Jinping's visit to the United States. But details were scant.

XpressWest, formerly called DesertXpress, said it had formed a joint venture with China Railway International USA, a consortium led by China Railway. China Railway International stated that it would provide initial capital of \$100 million.

Yang Zhongmin, chairman of China Railway International, said in September that the deal would be a "landmark in overseas investment for the Chinese railway sector and serve as a model of international cooperation."

A Los Angeles -to- Las Vegas bullet train has long been discussed. XpressWest had been talking about a 185-mile route that would run adjacent to heavily traveled Interstate 15 from Las Vegas to Victorville, 85 miles northeast of downtown Los Angeles.

But in wake of the September announcement, Chinese officials described the project as a 230-mile route with an additional stop in Palmdale and eventual service throughout the Los Angeles area using some of the same track that would be used by the publicly backed California high-speed rail project.

"The team at XpressWest is optimistic CRI and its affiliates will one day succeed in establishing a viable presence in the United States rail market; however, our ambitions outpace CRI's ability to move the project forward timely and efficiently," XpressWest said Wednesday after terminating the deal. "XpressWest is undeterred by this development and remains dedicated to completing its high-speed passenger rail project."

XpressWest would now "aggressively pursue" other available development partnerships and options "expected to result in a more efficient and cost-effective project implementation experience," Chief Executive Tony Marnell said.

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# California Sub-Bid Request Ad

## Fine Line Construction

42 Dore Street • San Francisco, CA 94103

For more information, please call Phone: (415) 512-7677

Fax: 415-512-7688 • Email: flc@finelineconst.com

Please Submit your proposals by fax, email or delivered to our office

Is requesting proposals from all certified DVBE/LBE/SBE Subcontractors & Suppliers for the following project:

**PROJECT: Alemany Housing - 938 Ellsworth Street, San Francisco, CA 94110**

**BID DATE/TIME: June 16th, 2016 @ 3:00 PM**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Work of this contract comprises of improvement to Alemany Housing an existing 24 building housing complex. The buildings are a mixture of two and three story buildings containing flats and townhouses. Units consist of one, two, three, and four bedroom apartments. Typical Unit Scope consists of: demolish (e) flooring throughout; demolish (e) lavatory, bathroom accessories, and tub surrounds; demolish (e) kitchen casework, countertops, and appliances; new flooring throughout; Provide new: lavatory, bathroom accessories, tub surrounds, and bathtub surround; new kitchen casework, countertops, appliances, and washer/dryer hookups; new ventilation stack and electrically powered ventilation; reconfigure utilities to individually meter electricity; remove unit backyard fences, provide storage shed; provide clothesline and 48" fence at unit backyards. Accessible Units: Units 830, 844, 861, 875, 900, 914, 916, 930, shall be reconfigured to serve residents with mobility disabilities. Units 987, 991, 993, 995 shall be constructed to serve residents with mobility disabilities. Units 902, 906, 927, 942, 945, 952, and 957 shall be modified to serve residents with audio or visual disabilities. Roof: remove (e) roofing; remove (e) downspouts; new roofing, plywood sheathing, insulation, and downspouts. Common/Administrative Space: reconfigure (e) offices, community space as indicated on plans; add new community building with community room, offices, kitchen and bathroom; reconfigure (e) laundry room to accommodate 15 washers and 15 dryers. Building Demolition: demolish buildings 9 and 13. New Residential Building: provide new residential building with four mobility units. Site: new accessibility ramps; new accessible parking spaces; new drought tolerant landscaping; new trash enclosures; restripe all parking spaces; remove all play structures, provide (n) play structure at new community building.

### PREVAILING WAGE RATES • PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENT

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Pursuant to San Francisco Administrative Code (SFAC) Section 6.25,

"Clean Construction" is required for the performance of all work.

Plans are available to view at the Fine Line Construction office by appointment OR at the following drop box link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/wj2lkkknxc7gtp/AAAeuci8G5GV1LIC17zcMOVNa?dl=0>

Plans are also available at the following plan rooms:

Builders Exchanges (San Francisco; Peninsula; Marin; Alameda, Contra Costa, Stockton, Central CA, North Coast, Sacramento Region, Valley Contractors).

ARC San Francisco in the public plan well (<http://www.e-arc.com/ca/sanfrancisco/bryant>).

Trades Needed (but not limited to): SWPP; HAZ MAT; DEMOLITION; CONCRETE; MASONRY; METALS; WOOD PLASTICS & COMPOSITES; THERMAL & MOISTURE PROTECTION; OPENINGS; FINISHES; SPECIALTIES; EQUIPMENT; FURNISHINGS; SPECIAL CONSTRUCTION; CONVEYING SYSTEMS; FIRE SUPPRESSION; PLUMBING; HVAC; ELECTRICAL; IT/TELE; FIRE ALARM; CIVIL EARTHWORK; EXTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS; UTILITIES.

\*\*Subcontractors bids MUST be accompanied by a 10% Bid Security in the form of: (a) Certified or Cashier's check made payable to Fine Line Construction or (b) With an Original Bid Bond executed by the bidder. Payment and Performance may be required of selected subcontractors. Please provide bonding rate on scope letters.\*\*

Fine Line Construction is a signatory to the Carpenter's and Laborer's Collective Bargaining Agreements. Successful Subcontractor will be expected to execute a standard Fine Line Construction Subcontract Agreement.

\*\*Certified LBE subcontractors/suppliers are encouraged to submit quotes Minimum 20% SBE Goal.\*\*

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## Graniterock

120 Granite Rock Way, San Jose, CA 95136

Phone (408) 574-1400 • Fax (408) 365-9548

Contact: Bryan Jones

Email: [estimating@graniterock.com](mailto:estimating@graniterock.com)

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

**Lower Silver Creek Flood Protection and Creek Restoration Project at the Dobern Bridge Crossing**

**Contract No.: C0618**

**Owner: Santa Clara Valley Water District**

**Engineers' Estimate: \$2,500,000.**

**BID DATE: June 8, 2016 @ 2:00 PM**

Items of work include but are not limited to: Crushed & Broken Stone, Sand & Gravel, Landscape, Granite & Marble, Asphalt, Piling, Reinforcing Bar Section, Steel, Lumber, Fencing, Guard Railings & Barriers, Pavement Markers, Electrical, Construction Area Signs, Traffic Control, Highway Planting, Hydroseeding, Erosion Control, Finishing Roadway, Aggregate Base, Asphalt Concrete Dike & Misc, Clean & Seal Pavement Joints, Furnish & Drive Piling, Cast-in-Drilled-Hole Concrete Piling, Joint Seal - Water Stop, Reinforcing Steel, Roadside Signs, Drainage Pumping Equipment, Metal Railing, Concrete Barrier, Metal Beam Barrier, Message Signs and Surveyor.

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, 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.

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# California Sub-Bid Request Ads



**Kiewit**

**Kiewit Infrastructure West Co.**

4650 Business Center Drive Fairfield, CA 94534  
Attn: Victor Molina · norcal.bids@kiewit.com

Requests sub-bids from qualified Subcontractor, Consultants, and/or Suppliers seeking to participate in the City of Auburn, 2016 WWTP Secondary Treatment Improvements Project in Auburn, CA.

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

Subcontractors and Suppliers for the following project:

**2016 WWTP Secondary Treatment Improvements Project**

**Project No. SP05**

**Owner: City of Auburn**

**Bid Date: June 16, 2016 @ 3:00 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 Businesses wanted for the following scopes, including, but not limited to:

Asphalt Paving, Aggregates, Blasting, Concrete, Concrete Pumping, Concrete Ready-mix, Concrete Reinforcement Supply & Install, Precast Concrete, Cast in Place Concrete, Clear & Grub, Conveying System, Grouting, Demo, Dewatering, Access Doors & Windows, Electrical, Equipment, Erosion Control, Grading, Filter Fabric, Finishes, HVAC, Masonry, Metals, Paintings & Coatings, Piping & Valves, Quality Control, Saw-cutting, Surveying, Shoring, Specialties, Street Sweeping, SWPPP, Temp Facilities, Thermal & Moisture Protection, Cathodic Protection, Pre-Engineered Metal Buildings, Storage Tanks, Wood & Plastics, Trucking & Hauling.

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 Scopes are due**

**June 10, 2016 and Quotes**

**NO LATER THAN June 15, 2016 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, Plans and Specifications

Performance Bond and Payment Bonds may be required for Subcontractors and Supply Bond for Suppliers on this project.

Clean Water State Revolving Fund Provisions apply  
Buy American Iron & Steel (AIS) requirements apply

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**CAHILL CONTRACTORS, LLC**

Colby Smith at [estimating@cahill-sf.com](mailto:estimating@cahill-sf.com)  
(415) 986-0600.

**CAHILL CONTRACTORS, LLC requests DESIGN-BUILD bids from Certified SBE Subcontractors and Suppliers for the following TRADES:**

Piling & Shoring / Exterior Building Maintenance / Solar Photovoltaic System / Solar Hot Water System / Fire Sprinkler

**EDDY & TAYLOR -**

**DESIGN-BUILD BID - SELECT TRADES**

**227 Taylor Street, San Francisco, CA 94102**

This is a CMD project with construction workforce and prevailing wage requirements.

**BID DATE: 7/11/16 @ 2PM**

Voluntary Pre-bid Meeting/Job-Walk: NONE

BID DOCUMENTS: Please contact Colby for access to documents on BuildingConnected.

**D'Arcy & Harty Construction, Inc**

(415) 822-5200 Phone • (415) 822-0747 (Fax)  
Estimator : [willie@darcyhart.com](mailto:willie@darcyhart.com)

**Rodeo Sanitary District  
Sewer Year 2B Improvements  
Rodeo, CA**

**Bids: 6/27/2016 at 2:00 PM**

**UDBE sub-bids requested for:  
Traffic Control, Saw-cutting, Trucking  
Paving and Concrete sidewalk**



## St. Louis, MO. Sub-Bid Request

### MBE BIDDING OPPORTUNITY

**MBE firms must be certified as follows:** To constitute a Minority Business Enterprises, MBE for the purpose of meeting the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD or District) **17% MBE (African American) utilization goal**, those MBE firms which have been certified for the industry type of service and/or material for which they are contracted by one or more of the following agencies **on or before the date of the bid opening:** Missouri Office of Equal Opportunity, City of St. Louis, St. Louis Minority Business Council. **MSD does not accept reciprocity certifications from other certifying agencies.**

Shea-McNally Joint Venture invites qualified contractors, specifically MBEs (African American) certified by the agencies and requirements listed above, to contact Shea-McNally JV (Prime Bidder/Contractor listed below) regarding subcontracting services and material supply opportunities in connection with the **Deer Creek Sanitary Tunnel Clayton Road to RDP) 11731-015.1project.**

The Work under this contract is located in the Greater Metropolitan Area of St. Louis, MO. The MBE (African American) utilization goal is 17% of the total contract price. The Engineer's Cost Estimate is \$205,192,000. The Work consists of the construction of a deep rock tunnel, large diameter shafts, drop shafts and structures, sanitary sewers and appurtenances, diversion structures, junction chambers, manholes, paving, fencing, dog park improvements, grading, electrical and other associated work. Plans and Specifications are available for free electronic download. Please go to MSD website, <http://www.stlmsdplanroom.com/other.php?job=736&jobName=11731-015.1+DEER+CREEK+SANITARY+TUNNEL+%28CLAYTO+N+RD.+TO+RDP%29>

**Owner: Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District  
DEER CREEK SANITARY TUNNEL (CLAYTON RD. TO RDP)**

**Letting No. 11731-015.1**

**BID DATE: July 21, 2016 AT 2:00 PM**

Opportunities to participate exist in the following specific areas of soil and rock excavation, hauling, excavation support systems, mechanical rock excavation, 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, 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, slide gates, electrical and controls work, landscaping, dewater pump station, pest control, IT services, waste disposal, cleaning services, and security services.

Any business seeking to participate as MBE (African American) must submit current valid certification documents with proposal. Shea McNally JV have set up an FTP site where you can view all plans and specifications for your convenience. Please contact Brett Campbell at (909) 594-0982 ([brett.campbell@jfshea.com](mailto:brett.campbell@jfshea.com)) to receive instructions on accessing the FTP Site.

### Shea McNally JV

(J.F. Shea Construction, Inc. – McNally Tunneling Corporation)  
667 Brea Canyon Road, Suite 22, Walnut, CA 91789  
909-595-4397, 909-869-0827 (fax)

# More Sleep May Not Be Making You as Productive as You Think



It has long been thought that the amount of time spent in different stages of sleep was responsible for how well people were able to remember things.

But a new study done by researchers at the University of California and University of Padua shows that we may have been missing something.

The autonomic nervous system (ANS) appears to be a key player in the brain's ability to perform memory consolidation during sleep.

ANS is made of three parts. The sympathetic system is responsible for the body's "fight or flight" reaction, the parasympathetic system controls the body during rest with functions like heart rate and temperature, and the enteric system controls how your gut works.

This new study, the first of its kind, suggests that the central nervous system and ANS communicate with each other. They also think that dynamics of REM (rapid eye movement sleep, when most dreams occur) combined with increased parasympa-

thetic activity promote creative associative memory processing.

The researchers used heart rate variation during REM to predict memory performance and found that no enhancement of memory while awake meant that the specific effects of ANS were associated with sleep-related consolidation of memory.

ANS was found to be an important predictor of associative processing in the brain. It showed a dissociation between time spent in REM sleep and brain activity, leading researchers to believe that REM may be dose-dependent and that too much of it can disrupt memory performance.

Counterintuitively, they actually found that subjects with higher levels of REM sleep had a higher rate of forgetfulness.

But REM sleep still proves to be an important factor in memory consolidation and creativity. REM facilitates schema disintegration, meaning that subjects were able to break up associations of

words they previously thought of and come up with new combinations.

REM was found to allow individuals to make connections between disparate ideas, which is the definition of creativity. This, combined with vagal activity (from stimulation of a cranial nerve) may lead to optimal brain state and enhance plasticity (adaptability of the brain), which was measured by heart rate variation. They also found a constant dialogue between cardiac and central brain structures via vagal stimulation were responsible for cognitive and emotional processing.

Increases in overall ANS activity and REM sleep proved to be the two main components of memory consolidation during sleep. As it's starting to turn out, like most functions of the body, memory is a lot more complicated than anyone originally expected.

Source: [www.entrepreneur.com](http://www.entrepreneur.com)

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## China Will Not Build L.A.-to-Vegas Rail Line as U.S. Partner Calls Deal Off

■ Continued from page 1

A ridership study is underway and should be finished in August, the company said.

Federal railroad records indicate that XpressWest had secured approvals and permits from a number of federal agencies for the 185-mile route. Additional permits, approvals and environmental analysis would be needed if the 230-mile proposal were to move forward.

XpressWest said it is awaiting the completion of the final environmental work required for the development of the line connecting the project to Los Angeles through Victorville and Palmdale, with approvals expected no later than September. Once that is finished, the company said, it would renew its request to the federal government for support.

"We are hopeful policymakers in Washington, D.C., will allow the Federal Railroad Administra-

tion to adopt a more flexible and realistic approach to support high speed rail," the company said. "The real question is: do those in Washington, D.C., have the courage and vision to proceed or is our leadership going to force projects throughout the United States to seek financial support for infrastructure in our country from foreign governments?"

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