

Government Construction Bidding Insights

By Sydney Paschall

Federal government construction contracts are a great way for commercial construction firms to make money. The total construction spending from all government levels totaled \$476 billion in 2023. That's almost a twenty-five percent increase from \$383 billion in 2022.

Government contracts are the main source of income for many construction firms. Other firms bid on a mix of public and private jobs. However, there are rules when it comes to public construction contracting. These rules differ between agencies. It is important to know the rules for public construction contracts.

How Government Construction Contracts Work

Winning a public contract is determined by cost. There are different delivery methods for contracts. Most common is "Design-Bid-Build." This happens after the architect and plans have been selected. Then, the project is advertised and general contractors can submit bids and proposals. For public projects, the "lump sum" contract is used most. General contractors receive bids from trade contractors and submit the full project bid for a set price. Bids and proposals must be sealed and submitted by the bid date. Then, all submitted bids are opened and read aloud.

The winner of a government construction project for bid is the lowest responsive bidder. A responsive bidder has met all the legal conditions and specifications. They have the skills, ability, and finances to complete the project. The "Design-Bid-Build" method is number

The "Design-Bid-Build" method is number one for government building contracts. However, there are other ways to win public building jobs. These include procurement, contracting, and project delivery.

Government Contract Prequalification

Public agencies sometimes want general contractors to be prequalified for a job. Prequalified means one must qualify in advance to take part in something. This rule applies on a project-by-project basis. Rules differ among public entities and states. It is important to know and follow the rules.



- Get security approvals for your workers
- Register with System for Award Management
- (SAM) before bidding
- Know your North American Classification System (NAICS) code

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Design-Build Services for LIRR West Side Yard Flood Mitigation Measures MTA Construction and Development Contract No. 6401 Bid Date: April 15, 2024

Description of project:

Design, furnish, construct, and install concrete perimeter flood walls, seepage cut-off barriers below the concrete flood walls, flood gates, deployable flood barriers, sump pumps, a tide gate chamber, drainage system improvements, workable aisles and a diesel generator, an automatic transfer switch, ancillary electrical equipment, and required communications.

This project will develop flood protection solutions for the West Side Yard in order to prevent and mitigate flooding of the LIRR Tunnels. The flood protection along the WSY perimeter will be accomplished via a combination of permanent flood walls and deployable flood barriers.

Many bidding opportunities are available: deep foundations, minipiles, jetgrout, sheeting, rebar installation, concrete supply, site work, electrical work, painting, paving, curb and sidewalk, site utilities.

If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska's Diversity and Outreach Coordinator: Aislinn.Speranza@skanska.com • EOE/M/F/Vet/Disabled

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Gateway Development Commission (GDC), with the following certifying authority: UCP of New York and New Jersey

Inviting qualified contractors, specifically firms within New Jersey and New York State, to contact J. F. Shea Construction, Inc. (prime contractor listed below) regarding subcontracting services and material supply opportunities in connection with Palisades Tunnel Project in North Bergen and Hoboken, New Jersey

GDC Contract Bid Date: April 25, 2024

Opportunities to participate exist in the following specific areas of soil/rock excavation, hauling, excavation support systems, deep foundation system (slurry walls or secant piles, soldier beams), dewatering systems, structural steel, engineering, survey, geotechnical instrumentation and monitoring services, materials testing, demolition and site preparation, tree removal, aggregates and fill, traffic control, sewer tap and sewer bypass pumping, A/C paving, environmental investigation, utility relocation, paving, fencing and gates, planting and seeding, retaining wall, cured in-place concrete structures, cast-in-place pipe lining, reinforcing steel, ground stabilization, shotcrete, concrete finishing, miscellaneous metals, mechanical steel pipe, ventilation HVAC, precast concrete shaft covers, temporary office buildings/services, temporary electricians, waterproofing, service utilities, grouting, electrical/I&C, river bank stabilization, drilled shaft, pest control, IT services, waste disposal, cleaning services, and security.

Any business seeking to participate as a DBE in the contract that is not currently certified as set forth above is encouraged to contact the Unified Certification Programs (UCPs), New York UCP—https://nysucp.newnycontracts.com and New Jersey UCP—https://njucp.dbesystem.com to obtain current certification.

J. F. Shea Construction, Inc., has an FTP site where you can view all plans, specifications, and addendums for your convenience. Please contact Aimee Remo at (909) 594-0990, aimee.remo@ jfshea.com, to receive instructions on accessing the FTP site.

J. F. Shea Construction, Inc. 667 Brea Canyon Road, Suite 22 Walnut, CA 91789

Phone: 909-594-0990 Fax: 909-869-0827 Send Inquiries/Certifications to Aimee Remo: aimee.remo@jfshea.com

J.F. Shea Construction, Inc.

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City of Valhalla, New York, with the following certifying authority: SBA, DOT, New York State, New Jersey, Connecticut

Inviting qualified contractors, specifically firms within New York State, to contact J. F. Shea Construction, Inc. (prime contractor listed below) regarding subcontracting services and material supply opportunities in connection with Tunnel and Shafts Project in the City of Valhalla, New York NYC DEP Contract No. KENS-EAST-1 Bid Date: June 27, 2024

Opportunities to participate exist in the following specific areas of soil/rock excavation, hauling, excavation support systems, deep foundation system (slurry walls or secant piles, soldier beams), dewatering systems, structural steel, engineering, survey, geotechnical instrumentation and monitoring services, materials testing, demolition and site preparation, tree removal, aggregates and fill, traffic control, sewer tap and sewer bypass pumping, A/C paving, environmental investigation, utility relocation, paving, fencing and gates, planting and seeding, retaining wall, cured in-place concrete structures, cast-in-place pipe lining, reinforcing steel, ground stabilization, shotcrete, concrete finishing, miscellaneous metals, mechanical steel pipe, ventilation HVAC, precast concrete shaft covers, temporary office buildings/services, temporary electricians, waterproofing, service utilities, grouting, electrical/I&C, river bank stabilization, drilled shaft, pest control, IT services, waste disposal, cleaning services, and security.

Any business seeking to participate as a DBE in the contract that is not currently certified as set forth above review is encouraged to contact the certifying authority for SBA, New York State, State DOT, New Jersey, or Connecticut to obtain current certification.

NYC DEP has an FTP site where you can view all plans, specifications, and addendums for your convenience. Please contact Aimee Remo at (909) 594-0990, aimee.remo@jfshea.com, to receive instructions on accessing the FTP site.

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For more info contact Valerie Voorhies at vvv@sbeinc.com

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8(a) Orientation and SAM Registration Webinar Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 10:30 am–11:30 am Online

Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration Contact: SBA Illinois District Office, 312-353-4528, illinois.do@sba.gov

Fee: Free; registration required

Join the Small Business Administration (SBA) Illinois District Office for a virtual workshop providing an overview of the 8(a) Business Development program, eligibility requirements, and program benefits. Also learn how to increase your potential for federal contract opportunities through System for Award Management (SAM) registration, including information that you need for the registration process. SBA presenters will offer addional tips, address FAQs, give directions on where to get further assistance, and answer your other questions. To register for this free webinar, visit https://www.eventbrite. com/e/8a-orientation-sam-registration-tickets-518989961947

Federal Contracting: Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Program Webinar Thursday, April 18, 2024, 10:00 am–11:00 am Online

Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration Contact: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/welcometo-wosb-webinar-tickets-482397041537 Fee: Free; registration required Welcome to the WOSB webinar series! Are

you a woman owner of a small business? The federal government's goal is to award at least five percent of all federal contracting dollars to woman-owned small businesses each year. Join us for training on how to register for SBA's Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) program, which helps eligible small businesses to qualify for federal contracting opportunities. The monthly sessions will include an overview of the self-certification process, as well as a discussion of the NAICS codes that qualify as WOSB or EDWOSB. Register for this free webinar at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/welcome-to-wosb-webinar-tickets-482397041537

Selling to the Federal Government Webinar Thursday, April 25, 2024, 1:00 pm-4:00 pm Online

Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration Contact: George Tapia, 610-382-3086, george.tapia@sba.gov

Fee: Free; registration required

Did you know that the federal government is the largest purchaser of goods and services in the world? Interested in learning how your business can market your services or goods to the federal government? Register on line at https://www. eventbrite.com/e/how-to-sell-to-the-federalgovernment-tickets-21790713611 SBA helps to ensure small businesses get fair opportunities to share federal government prime contracts. Topics will include: How to Register, Small Business Certifications, Finding Opportunities, Marketing Your Firm, Federal Supply Schedules, Getting Paid, Tips to Prepare Your Offer, How to Seek Additional Assistance. All training sessions are held via Microsoft Teams Meeting. Participants must ensure Microsoft Teams is functioning.

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