



House Subcommittee Talks Railway Funding

By Erin Vogel-Fox

WASHINGTON, DC—The House Committee on Transportation subcommittee met Thursday, June 22, to discuss modernizing railways in the United States—specifically, the allocation of funds to make improvements to the Amtrak Northeast Corridor route and the construction of California’s high-speed rail project.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and the 2010 Omnibus funding bill distributed funds for railroad infrastructure and an intercity and high-speed rail system.

House Transportation Subcommittee Chairman Representative Jeff Denham, R-California, feels the dissemination of funds for rail improvements has been “scattershot.”

“Rather than investing these funds strategically to achieve specific outcomes, the Obama administration distributed the funds widely, making about one hundred fifty grants to thirty-four states, the District of Columbia, and Amtrak. The result is that mostly incremental improvements

were made across the country,” Denham said in his opening statement.

The congressman also stated that “\$1 billion of the \$8 billion in ARRA funds” will return to the US Treasury if not spent by September.

Thursday’s hearing was an effort to hopefully prioritize projects that need an increase in funding. Member of the subcommittee Representative Peter DeFazio, D-Oregon, said President Donald Trump’s budget cuts will take away from these existing projects. “This is becoming absurd. So, I hope today we can begin to talk today about the real needs of Amtrak and where we are really going to find the investment money that Amtrak needs for the Northeast Corridor and the national system,” DeFazio said.

Amtrak states that more than half of its trains operate at a top speed of one hundred miles per hour, according to President and Chief Executive Officer of Amtrak Charles “Wick” Moorman.

In comparison, the Eurostar that travels to the United Kingdom, France, and Belgium operates at an average speed of one hundred eighty-six miles per hour, according to the publication *Railway*



Technology. The Italian Frecciarossa 1000 reaches speeds of two hundred forty-eight miles per hour, Trenitalia states on its website.

During Thursday’s hearing, Moorman said Amtrak’s Northeast Corridor line accommodates

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IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM NEW YORK STATE CERTIFIED M/WBE AND SDVOB SUBCONTRACTORS/VENDORS FOR THE

Long Island Railroad Expansion Project from Floral Park to Hicksville
MTA LIRR Contract No. 6240
Bid Date: July 20, 2017

Description of project:
The LIRR Expansion Project from Floral Park to Hicksville is a strategic component in Governor Andrew Cuomo’s comprehensive plan to transform New York’s vital transportation infrastructure while improving the economy, environment, and future of Long Island. The Expansion is decades in the making. Residents and commuters along the Main Line corridor have long sought a mass transit solution to reduce congestion, improve safety and the environment, and provide an appealing alternative to driving, with minimal disruption to existing services and without residential property takings. The new plan includes construction of a 9.8 mile third track between the Floral Park and Hicksville stations, the elimination of 7 grade crossings to improve safety and reduce road traffic, and upgrades to infrastructure, stations, and parking along the route.

Subcontracting opportunities include, but are not limited to:
Civil Work, Professional Services, Mechanical Work, Architectural Work, Metals, Electrical Work, and Design Services.

If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact: info@skanskakiewitposillico.com

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 29, 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 & wear 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)
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Morris Locomotive Shop and Employee Facility
MTA LIRR Contract No. 6241
Bid Date: June 2017

Description of project:
The LIRR intends to construct a new locomotive repair shop to replace the existing 125-year-old Morris Park Round House, which has outlived its useful life and is presenting an additional maintenance burden on operating resources. The new facility will be better equipped to maintain the LIRR’s current fleet of diesel locomotives used in revenue service, as well as the fleet of diesel work locomotives. In addition, the project will provide new electrical service to the facility for lighting and shop equipment. The work shall include, but is not limited to: Shop Facilities—Front Shop Which Includes the Following: Four Service Tracks, One Release Track, Drop Table Tracks, and Inspection Pits.

Many bidding opportunities available.

If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska’s Outreach Coordinator: Matthew.DeGudicibus@skanska.com



NORTHEAST EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

2017

Business Planning Seminar
Tuesday, July 11, 2017, 9:30 am–11:00 am
Steuben County IDA, 7234 State Route 54, Bath, NY
Main Sponsor(s): Corning Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
Contact: Susan Buchanan, 607-937-6861, sbdc@corning-cc.edu
Fee: Free; registration required
A business plan is not one size fits all—it depends on your business strategy, goals, and financial resources. As a rule, your small-business plan should be flexible and proceed through affordable steps. Take into account customer acceptance, revenue and cash-flow growth, and the market for the product/service itself. An effective plan includes a timeline for implementing your business model. This workshop is designed for those who are thinking of starting their own small business or an existing business owner seeking financing. Topics discussed will include federal and state legal requirements and how to write a business plan. There will be time for questions and answers.

SBA Summertime Morning Mixer
Thursday, July 13, 2017, 9:00 am–12:00 pm
Tip O’Neill Building, 10 Causeway Street, Auditorium, Boston, MA
Main Sponsor(s): Small Business Administration
Contact: David Polatin, david.polatin@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required
Get an edge partnering and doing business with public agencies, municipalities, large primes, and universities. Light refreshments served. Space is limited and you won’t want to miss out! Marketing your products and services to decision-makers in the procurement and supplier diversity markets can be difficult. Learn how to put together a winning strategy, get connected to purchasers, and get certified. Learn how to partner instead of selling to leading purchasing officers. Understand the steps to take before winning a contract. Come for networking and meet small business liaisons. Meet representatives from United States Army Corps of Engineers, Environmental Protection Agency, Natick Army, Department of Transportation, General Services Administration, Procurement Technical Assistance Center, Harvard University, Mass Office of Supplier Diversity, Colt, City of Boston, and more.

Working in the Cloud, a Guide for Small Business
Tuesday, July 18, 2017, 6:00 pm–8:00 pm
New Canaan Library, 151 Main Street, New Canaan, CT
Main Sponsor(s): Small Business Administration, SCORE Fairfield County
Contact: SCORE business mentor, 203-831-0065, score.fairfieldcounty@gmail.com
Fee: Free; registration required
It is estimated there are 6.4 billion Cloud connected things. Are you one of them? This revolutionary change in computing continues to change our small business way of life. In this workshop, we will review Cloud computing concepts and help you assess what Cloud offerings are right for your business. SCORE, America’s premier source of free and confidential small business advice for entrepreneurs and small businesses, is a nonprofit resource partner with the Small Business Administration.

