



# How Trains Link East Coast Megalopolis

**By David Aiff, SUNY at Buffalo**

Over nearly two centuries, the tracks linked rival port cities to create the Northeast Corridor. It's a bond that will only strengthen with new federal investments in passenger service.

The Northeast Corridor is America's busiest rail line. Each day, its trains deliver 800,000 passengers to Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, and points in between.

The Northeast Corridor is also a name for the place those trains serve: the coastal plain stretching from Virginia to Massachusetts, where over seventeen percent of the country's population lives on less than two percent of its land. Northeasterners ride the corridor and live there too.

Like "Rust Belt," "Deep South," "Silicon Valley," and "Appalachia," "Corridor" has become shorthand for what many people think of as the Northeast's defining features: its brisk pace of life, high median incomes, and liberal politics. In 1961, Republican Senator Barry Goldwater of Arizona wished that someone had "sawed off the

Eastern Seaboard and let it float out to sea." In 2016, conservative F. H. Buckley disparaged "lawyers, academics, trust-fund babies, and high-tech workers, clustered in the Acela Corridor."

As a scholar of language and literature, I'm interested in what words can teach us about places. My new book, *The Northeast Corridor*, shows how America's most important rail line has shaped the Northeast's cultural identity and national reputation for almost two hundred years. In my view, this bond between transit and territory will only strengthen as new federal investments in passenger service draw more Northeasterners aboard trains.

**Forming a Great Chain**

The first American railroads were strap-iron curiosities that hauled marble, granite, and coal in winter months when canals froze. It was not until 1830 that the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad opened the nation's first public passenger line.

Railway mania ensued. Within a few years, trains were crisscrossing the Eastern Seaboard. A



new periodical, *The Railroad Journal*, predicted that tracks would one day form a "great chain which, in our day to stretch along the Atlantic coast, and bring its chief capitals into rapid, constant, and mutually beneficial relation."

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## Sub-Bid Requests

**George Harms Construction is seeking DBE vendors, suppliers, subcontractors**

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**IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM NEW YORK STATE DBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND VENDORS**  
**Amtrak Design-Build Airo Facilities Sunnyside, New York**  
Amtrak Contract  
Bid Date: June 6, 2024

**Description of project:**  
Sunnyside Yard Airo Inter-city Trainset Facility Project (known as "Airo Project") which consists of new, and renovate existing, trainset maintenance facilities within Amtrak's Sunnyside Yard (SSY) to accommodate trainset activities for existing and new fleet equipment; and crew base facility (CBF) with Parking Garage Project (known as "CBF Project") which consists of new facility to consolidate existing yard groups/departments located in trailers and other functions within SSY and a new employee parking garage. Both projects shall include site improvements, pathways and roadway improvements, and storm water mitigation.

**Many bidding opportunities are available:** utilities, masonry, structural steel, miscellaneous metals, precast panels, wall panels, roofing, spray fireproofing, painting, waterproofing, precast parking garage, plumbing, HVAC, millwright work (industrial), fire suppression, electrical, signaling, communications.

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

**SKANSKA**  
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**IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM NEW YORK STATE DBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND VENDORS**  
**Kensico Tunnel, Shafts, and Rock Excavation KENS-EAST-1 Project**  
NYC DEP Contract No. KENS-EAST-1  
Bid Date: June 27, 2024

**Description of project:**  
Work includes the construction of the KEC tunnel, shafts 1C and 2C, and the rock excavation to construct the SC structure. Civil work includes soil and rock excavation, stockpile removal, new permanent South Access Road, utility relocation, site grading, erosion and sediment control, stormwater management. Mechanical work includes well pipes for unwatering, chemical feed pipes, conduits for flow meters. Electrical work includes a temporary substation for construction power and electrical connection for future and existing facilities at Kensico.

**Many bidding opportunities are available:** geotechnical instrumentation, haul and dispose soil and rock, rodent control, photography, rebar fabrication, electrical sub, soil and water sampling, landscaping, office trailers, fencing, curbs and sidewalks, site work, rock blasting, security guard service, steel fabrication.

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

**J.F. Shea Construction, Inc.**  
*Caring since 1881*  
**J. F. SHEA CONSTRUCTION, INC.**  
**BIDDING OPPORTUNITY**  
**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, geotextile 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](mailto: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](mailto:aimee.remo@jfshea.com)

**SKANSKA**  
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**IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM NEW YORK STATE DBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND VENDORS**  
**Design-Build Services for LIRR West Side Yard Flood Mitigation Measures**  
MTA Construction and Development Contract No. 6401  
Bid Date: July 26, 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](mailto:Aislinn.Speranza@skanska.com) • EOE/M/F/Vet/Disabled

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**TUTOR PERINI CORPORATION, AN EEO EMPLOYER**  
**IS CURRENTLY SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM QUALIFIED AND CERTIFIED DBE SUBCONTRACTORS, VENDORS, SERVICE PROVIDERS**  
**NJ TRANSIT-Delco Lead, County Yard Improvements, Storage and Inspection Facility GC.02 Superstorm Sandy Recovery Program Project**  
NJ TRANSIT IFB No. 000004  
Bid Date: August 8, 2024

**Brief description of project:**  
The Delco Lead and County Yard Expansion is a multifaceted project that would address the operations, storage, and resiliency needs along the NEC and provide a safe haven for cars in the event of a major storm or flooding event. The project is the reconstruction of the existing Delco Lead track and the construction of adjacent track from County Yard to North Brunswick for the storage of NJ TRANSIT trains in the event of severe weather.

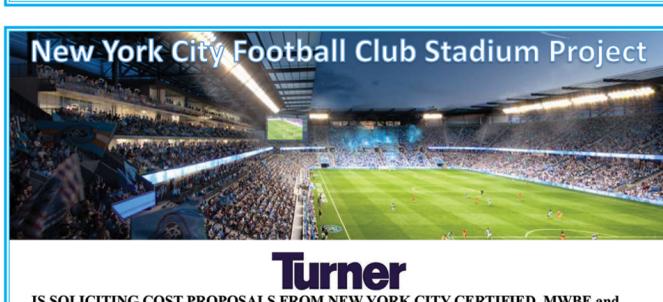
The project consists of 3.20 miles of rail and catenary construction in an area adjacent to the Northeast Corridor called the Delco Lead ("Delco") and another 1.27 miles containing a new electrified rail yard with five 2,200-foot-long storage and inspection tracks along with a 1,250-foot-long Service and Inspection facility building called County Yard ("Yard").

**Invitation to Bid for DBE Participation 12%**  
**ALL QUOTATIONS ARE DUE BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS Thursday, July 25, 2024.**  
Administrative and proposal bid date August 8, 2024, time 2:00 pm. For further information concerning subcontracting and/or purchasing opportunities, and to register as a subcontractor or vendor, please respond to [solicitations@tutorperini.com](mailto:solicitations@tutorperini.com) or contact Arlene McBayne at (914) 739-1908. Come and join our team!

**Tutor Perini**  
**TUTOR PERINI CORPORATION, AN EEO EMPLOYER**  
**IS CURRENTLY SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM QUALIFIED AND CERTIFIED MBE, WBE, SDVOB, AND ALL LBE SUBCONTRACTORS, VENDORS, SERVICE PROVIDERS**  
**AirTrain Newark Replacement Program—Guideway and Stations Project**  
in the City of Newark, New Jersey  
PANYNJ RFP No. 6000001763  
Bid Date: August 9, 2024

**Brief description of project:**  
The New AirTrain will replace the existing AirTrain, which opened in 1996, has outlived its useful life, and does not currently provide customers with the modern customer service amenities and service reliability expected of a world-class automated people mover (APM) system. The New AirTrain will include three new stations, and connect to the new modern Terminal A, the future Terminal Two (currently Terminal B), the Airport's new ConRAC facility, and the Northeast Corridor Rail Link Station, linking AirTrain customers to regional rail and light rail networks, and thereby encouraging customers and Airport employees to use public transit to and from the Airport. The New AirTrain will be designed to maximize customer convenience with seamless connections to other forms of transportation and provide modern amenities in AirTrain stations and in vehicles (e.g., high-speed Wi-Fi, count-down clocks, and real-time flight information) to enhance the customer's end-to-end journey.

**Invitation to Bid for M/W/SDVOB/LBE Firms: MBE 20%, WBE 10%, SDVOB 3%, and LBE 10%**  
**ALL QUOTATIONS ARE DUE BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS Friday, August 2, 2024.**  
Administrative and technical proposal bid date August 9, 2024. For further information concerning subcontracting and/or purchasing opportunities, and to register as a subcontractor or vendor, please respond to [solicitations@tutorperini.com](mailto:solicitations@tutorperini.com) or contact Arlene McBayne at (914) 739-1908. Come and join our team!



**Turner**  
**IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM NEW YORK CITY CERTIFIED, MWBE and LOCAL CONTRACTORS AND CONSTRUCTION SUPPLIERS. PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A UNION PROJECT.**

**Construction Services for the New York City Football Club Stadium Project**

**Description of Project:** The project consists of an over 600,000 GSF open-air soccer stadium with an approximate 25,000-seat capacity including State-of-the-art video, scoreboards, & sound system. The stadium will be located adjacent to Citi Field in Flushing Queens, NY. The Stadium will also be the location of the NYCFC and City in the Community Non-Profit Headquarters. This project will include concrete, structural steel, HVAC, Electrical, Fire Protection, and much more.

**Available Opportunities and Bidding Dates:**

- Exterior Wall Trades – Package to be released April 2024
- MEP Trades – Package to be released 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2024
- Architectural Trades – Packages to be released 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2024

If you are interested in getting involved in the construction portion of this project, please scan the below QR code and fill out the attached form. All questions should be directed to [NYCFC@TCCO.COM](mailto:NYCFC@TCCO.COM)

*Building the Future*

**Turner PROJECT INTEREST**

If you have any interest in working on the New York City Football Club Stadium Project, please scan the QR Code and fill out the form.

**Prime Contractor**

- Large volume contractor
- Prior experience handling packages of this size and complexity

**Sub-Tier**

- Lower volume contractor
- Contractor looking to perform work under a prime contractor

**Supplier**

- Construction supplier that can deliver materials to Queens New York

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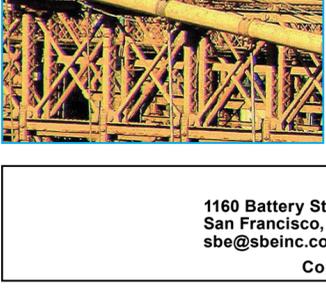
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**NORTHEAST EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS 2024**

**8(a) Orientation and SAM Registration Webinar Wednesday, June 12, 2024, 10:30 am–11:30 am Online**  
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration  
Contact: SBA Illinois District Office, 312-353-4528, [ilinfoe@sbagov](mailto:ilinfoe@sbagov)  
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 additional 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-51898961947>

**Federal Contracting: Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Program Webinar Thursday, June 20, 2024, 10:00 am–11:00 am Online**  
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration  
Contact: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/welcome-to-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, July 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](mailto:george.tapia@sba.gov)  
Fee: Free; registration required  
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