Tuned mass rail dampers use steel and rubber plates to reduce vibration. Photo by JT Long

By JT Long

Tight space constraints along a 4.3-mile light-rail expansion for the Sacramento Regional Transit District, or Sacramento RT, required engineers to modify plans and adopt new rail-damping technology to reduce noise in residential areas.

And crews with joint-venture contractor Balfour Beatty and Teichert must meet a strict time line to complete the work. Planned for more than a decade and delayed by funding challenges, the $270-million double-track extension of Sacramento RT’s Blue Line to Cosumnes River College must be completed by September or risk losing federal funds.

On a section of track between Cosumnes River Parkway and Union House Creek, stakeholders, such as the city of Sacramento and the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, opposed planned sound walls because they could impede access, detract from aesthetics and impact pedestrian safety. To reduce noise without the walls, Sacramento RT originally explored using wheel dampers, but they were too bulky, says Darryl Abansado, director of civil and track design for Sacramento RT.

Instead, the agency opted to install 10,000 broadband-tuned mass rail dampers, using sandwiched composite course steel and rubber plates, clamped together between the rail head and base. Carefully calibrated torque isolates noise and keeps vibration from attenuating out.

The dampers address “the sound at the source, rather than at the sound wall,” explains Paul Kampfraath, founder of Netherlands-based Kampfraath International, the supplier for the technology. The Sacramento project will be the first full-scale deployment of the dampers in the U.S., he says. Transit contractors successfully implemented the technology in Australia, and San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit is currently in testing.

Kampfraath says the dampers also slow rail corrugation by changing the mass of the rail and impacting the wheel-rail interface.

Tests conducted in 2009 showed the rail dampers reduced noise by 2 to 3 decibels; however, the goal was a 5-dB reduction. Sacramento RT plans to implement acoustic rail grinding and track greasing, combined with regularly trued wheel maintenance, to reduce noise by up to 6 dB. Regular follow-up testing will ensure the measures reach their goals.

Sacramento RT also looked at adding skirts to the trains and installing mini 2-ft sound walls, but both proved cost-prohibitive or had maintenance impacts.

Timothy Schmidt, senior associate director of Lockwood, Andrews & Newnam Inc. (LAN), the prime consultant and civil and track designer, says rail dampers are a good option to use when acoustic walls aren’t viable. “If possible, home-owners tend to prefer walls,” he adds.

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Shimmick Construction Company, Inc.  
DBE Subcontractor/Supplier Bids Requested For:  
Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District  
Main Electrical Substation Replacement  
Contract No. 4269  
Bid Date: July 2, 2015 at 2:00 PM  
Fax all quotes to 510-777-5099

Requesting qualified DBE certified Subcontractor and Supplier Quotes on: Low Voltage Systems Contractor, Electrical Contractor

Bid Plans and Specifications may be purchased from the County of Sacramento, Site Improvement and Permits Section 827 7th Street, Room 105 Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 874-6544.

Subcontractors and Suppliers interested in this project may contact Greg Adams by phone at (510) 777-5040 or gadasm@shimmick.com.

100% Performance and Payment bonds with a surety company subject to approval of Shimmick Construction Company, Inc. are required of subcontractors for this project. Shimmick Construction will pay bond premium up to 1.5%. Subcontractors will be required to abide by terms and conditions of the AGC Master Labor Agreements and to execute an agreement utilizing the latest SCCI Long Form Standard Subcontract incorporating prime contract terms and conditions, including payment provisions. Shimmick Construction’s listing of a Subcontractor is not to be construed as an acceptance of all of the Subcontractor’s conditions or exceptions included with the Subcontractor’s price quote. Shimmick Construction requires that Subcontractors and Suppliers price quotes be provided at a reasonable time prior to the bid deadline to enable a complete evaluation. For assistance with bonding, insurance or lines of credit contact Scott Fairgrieve at (510) 777-5000

Shimmick Construction Company Inc.  
8201 Edgewater Drive, Suite 202 • Oakland, CA 94621  
Phone (510) 777-5000 • Fax (510) 777-5099  
An Equal Opportunity Employer

Sub Bids Requested From Qualified DBE, MBE, WBE Subcontractors & Suppliers for  
East Bay Municipal Utility District  
Camanche Water Transmission Pipeline  
Location: Ione, CA  
Project No. 2093A  
Bid Date: July 1, 2015 @ 1:30 PM

McGuire and Hester is seeking qualified subcontractors in the following trades: trucking and divers.

We will pay up to and including one and one-half percent (1-1/2%) of your bonding cost. Certification assistance is available, as well as viewing plans and specs.

McGuire and Hester  
9009 Railroad Avenue • Oakland, CA 94603  
Phone: (510) 632-7676 • Fax: (510) 562-5209  
Contact: Jim Falk  
An Equal Opportunity Employer

Turner Construction Company (Turner) is seeking RFQs for the following Trade Packages for: Moffitt Library Renovation Replacement Project University of California, Berkeley Alameda County

Moffitt Library Renovation Replacement Project University of California, Berkeley Alameda County  
RFQ Period: June 8, 2015 – June 25, 2015 (Extended)

Turner has been awarded the above referenced project. This project includes the following three (3) components:

1. Moffitt Library 4th & 5th Floors Renovation – Project No. 12643A
   This segment of the project will begin as a Design Assist and convert to a Design-Bid-Build (lump sum) delivery method and includes the renovation of approximately 34,360 SF of existing interior. The major components include the renovation of the interior work spaces, the relocation of 4th & 5th floor restrooms to the NW corner of the building, added fire protection to both floors, enclosing the east balconies on 4th & 5th floors, and modifications to the existing stairs to meet Campus Fire Marshal specifications.

2. Moffitt HVAC Central Plant Replacement – Project NO. 12486A
   This segment of the project will be a Design-Build delivery method and includes demolition, removal and installation of designated equipment and controls.

3. Moffitt Roof Replacement – Project NO. 19533B
   This segment of the project will be a Design-Build delivery method by some Design-assist components and includes demolition, removal and installation of replacement roofing system and supporting infrastructure.

PREQUALIFICATION OF PROSPECTIVE SUBCONTRACTORS: The University has determined that Subcontractors who submit bids on this Project must be prequalified. After submitting your prequalification VIA www.turnerconstruction.com, please email your Turner issued prequalification number to mguzman@tcco.com and jamassey@tcco.com. The Design-Build subcontractors must utilize professional engineers licensed in the state of California to assume the responsibilities of the Bid Package Designer of Record.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Building Information Modeling (BIM) will be utilized by the design team. All design-build trades will be required to use BIM to complete the Construction Drawings.

This project is seeking a LEED Gold certification or higher, whenever possible, and shall achieve a USGBC LEED-NC “Silver” certification at a minimum.

SCORING: Subcontractors who meet pre-qualification criteria to perform work on their respective trades will be invited to submit a bid. Trade Subcontractors who do not submit the pre-qualification information and are not pre-qualified will not be allowed to bid the project.

CONTACT INFORMATION: For information on how to Pre-Qualify with Turner, please contact Marlene Guzman (510-267-8105 or mguzman@tcco.com)
Dampers Help Sacramento Light Rail Keep It Quiet

Continued from page 1

system or a 50-ft setback, revised from the previous standard of 20 ft. That put the tracks even closer to the backs of a number of homes, despite easements purchased by Sacramento RT. To limit road closures and speed up construction, crews built two bridges—the largest at 1,317 ft long and 40 ft tall—and a $31.5-million parking garage, while plans were still being modified for the rail portion.

“Having those structures complete first eliminated risk and allowed us to keep moving ahead,” says Ed Scofield, Sacramento RT’s director of project management.

By partnering with utilities that “were willing to work with us, we should be able to open a little bit ahead of the scheduled date,” Scofield adds. “Without that cooperation, the schedule would be shot.”

Source: http://california.construction.com

Advertise your Sub-Bid Requests in the Small Business Exchange.

With a monthly readership of 75,000, SBE reaches a diverse audience, cutting across ethnic and gender lines as well as traditional industry segments.
is seeking subcontractors to participate in a prequalification process where sub-trade RFQs can be downloaded at link. Clark Construction Group and San Francisco Public Works will prequalify trade subcontractors that would receive an invitation to bid The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner project. Currently pre-qualifying for Coolers, Drywall and Plaster, Fencing, Flooring, Laboratory Casework, Landscaping, Painting, Resilient Flooring, Signage, and Site Asphalt and Concrete Paving.

• RFQ Due Date, July 21st, 2015
A Pre-Qualification conference will be held at the Contractors Assistance Center, located at 5 Thomas Mellon Cir, San Francisco CA, 94134, on July 1st, 2015 1:30pm

Documents Can be Downloaded at: https://clarkconstruction.sharefile.com/d-s4cf1d823555435fca

Clark Construction Group-California, LP
Contractor License #839892
180 Howard Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, CA 94105
Phone: 415/767/7019 · Fax: 415/767/7099
Contact: Hector Torrez
hector.torrez@clarkconstruction.com

(An Equal Opportunity Employer)

No contractor or subcontractor may be listed in a bid or awarded a contract for a public works project unless registered with the DIR as required by Labor Code section 1725.5 [with limited exceptions from this requirement for bid purposes only under Labor Code section 1771.1(a)].

This Project shall incorporate the required partnering elements for Partnering Level 1. Refer to Section 01 31 33 for more details.

Pursuant to San Francisco Administrative Code (SFAC) Section 6.25, “Clean Construction” is required for the performance of all work.

The Specifications include liquidated damages. Contract will be on a Lump Sum Bid Items With Unit Prices basis. Progressive payments will be made.

The Contract will be awarded to the lowest responsible responsive bidder.

A bid may be rejected if the City determines that any of the bid item prices are materially unbalanced to the potential detriment of the City.

Bid discounts may be applied as per SFAC Chapter 14B. Subcontracting goal is 25% LBE. Call Selormey Dzi-kunu at 415-558-4059 for details. In accordance with SFAC Chapter 14B requirements, all bidders, except those who meet the exception noted below, shall submit documented good faith efforts with their bids and must achieve 80 out of 100 points to be deemed responsive. Bidders will receive 15 points for attending the pre-bid conference. Refer to CMD Form 2B for more details. Exception: Bidders who demonstrate that their total LBE participation exceeds the above subcontracting goal by 35% will not be required to meet the good faith efforts requirements.

A pre-bid conference will be held on July 7, 2015; 1:30 p.m., at 1680 Mission Street, 3rd Floor.

For information on the City’s Surety Bond Program, call Jennifer Elmore at (415) 217-6578. A corporate surety bond or certified check for ten percent (10%) of the amount bid must accompany each bid. A corporate surety bond or certified check for ten percent (10%) of the amount bid must accompany each bid. A corporate surety bond or certified check for ten percent (10%) of the amount bid must accompany each bid. No contractor or subcontractor may be listed in a bid or awarded a contract for a public works project unless registered with the DIR as required by Labor Code section 1725.5 [with limited exceptions from this requirement for bid purposes only under Labor Code section 1771.1(a)].

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Class “A” license required to bid.

In accordance with San Francisco Administrative Code (SFAC) Chapter 6, no bid is accepted and no contract in excess of $40,000 is awarded by the City and County of San Francisco until such time as the Mayor or the Mayor’s designee approves the contract for award, and the Director of Public Works then issues an order of award. Pursuant to Charter Section 3.105, all contract awards are subject to certification by the Controller as to the availability of funds.

Minimum wage rates for this project must comply with the current General Prevailing Wage as determined by the State Department of Industrial Relations. Minimum wage rates other than applicable to General Prevailing Wage must comply with SFAC Chapter 12P, Minimum Compensation Ordinance.

This Project is subject to the requirements of the San Francisco Local Hiring Policy for Construction (“Policy”) as set forth in Section 6.22(G) of the SFAC. Bidders are hereby advised that the requirements of the Policy will be incorporated as a material term of any contract awarded for the Project. Refer to Section 00 73 30 of the Project Manual for more information.

Bidders are hereby advised that the Contractor to whom the Contract is awarded must be certified by the Human Rights Commission as being in compliance with the Equal Benefits Provisions of Chapter 12B of the City’s Administrative Code within two weeks after notification of award.

If a bidder objects on any ground to any bid specification or legal requirement imposed by this Advertisement for Bids, the bidder shall, no later than the 10th working day prior to the date of Bid opening, provide written notice to the Contract Administration Division, Department of Public Works, setting forth with specificity the grounds for the objection.

Right reserved to reject any or all bids and waive any minor irregularities.